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The Leader.

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, COMMERCIAL AND FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,
AND
RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

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THE EUROPEAN ASSURANCE SOCIETY,
2, WATERLOO PLACE, PALL MALL, LONDON.
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TO PERSONS CONNECTED WITH INDIA.

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ESTABLISHED 1841.
Empowered by Special Act of Parliament.
Capital £500,000 Sterling.
HEAD OFFICE, 25, PALL MALL, LONDON.
With Agencies throughout the United Kingdom, and in some of the Principal Towns on the Continent of Europe, and Branches and Agencies throughout India and Ceylon.

FOR GRANTING ASSURANCES ON LIVES, ENDOWMENTS AND ANNUITIES.

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THIS OFFICE has resumed active operations in all parts of Her Majesty's Dominions in India, at ordinary rates of premium on approved lives. Life Assurance has the following among other advantages:—

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By order,
P. M. TAIT, Secretary.
Calcutta, April, 1859.

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FIVE PER CENT. on sums for fixed periods, or at seven days' notice, or Three per Cent. at CALL.
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Offices, 6, Cannon-street West E.C.

LONDON CHARTERED BANK OF AUSTRALIA.
INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.
PAID-UP CAPITAL, 700,000.
CHAIRMAN—DUNCAN DUNBAR, Esq.
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OFFICES—17, CANNON-STREET, E.C.
LETTERS of CREDIT and BILLS of EXCHANGE are granted to the Branches of this Bank at Sydney, Melbourne, Geelong, Maryborough, Ararat, and Ballarat.
DRAFTS on the Australian Colonies negotiated and sent for collection.
By order of the Court,
G. M. BELL, Secretary.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY
Request attention to the report of the Company for the year 1858. A printed copy can be obtained on application at the Company's offices in London, Edinburgh, or Dublin, or to any of the agents in England, Scotland, or Ireland. The following results are stated in the report:—
The new assurances effected during 1858 exceed £500,000, and the amount during the last 10 years exceeds £5,000,000.
The income of the Company is upwards of £275,000; and The accumulated fund exceeds considerably £1,500,000.
The Standard was established in 1825, and the profits realised have been divided on five occasions, 1835, 1840, 1845, 1850, and 1855.
The sixth division of profits will take place next year, and there is an advantage in joining the Company before the close of the books in the present year, as the benefit of two years' entry to the profit scheme will be secured.
Attention is specially directed to the fact that the Company have lately introduced into their policies certain terms and conditions which make them of increased value as the basis of marriage settlements, family provisions, and all transactions where it is essential that the contract should be, as far as possible, a complete security against all contingencies.
WILL. THOS. THOMSON, Manager.
H. JONES WILLIAMS, Res. Sec.
London: 82, King William-street, City.
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Insurance data show that ONE PERSON in every FIFTEEN is more or less injured by Accident yearly.
An Annual Payment of £3 secures
A FIXED ALLOWANCE OF £6 PER WEEK IN THE EVENT OF INJURY, OR
£1,000 IN CASE OF DEATH FROM ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
By a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,

Which has already paid in compensation for Accidents £37,000.
Forms of Proposal and Prospectuses may be had at the Company's Offices, and at all the principal Railway Stations, where, also, Railway Accidents alone may be insured against by the Journey or year.
NO CHARGE FOR STAMP DUTY.
CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.
Railway Passengers' Assurance Company,
Offices, 3, Old Broad-street, London, E.C.

THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY

have never contemplated transferring their Business to any other Company whatever, but continue to insure against every description of Accident resulting either in Death or Injury.
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THE SURPLICE SHIRT.
(Acknowledged as the most comfortable and durable Shirt ever yet produced), made to measure, 6s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 8s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. Cards for self-measurement. JOHN SAMPTON, Hoistor, 123, Oxford-street, W.

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WHEREAS DAVID BAIRD NISH, late Clerk and Cashier to George Wink, Esq., Accountant, West George-street, Glasgow, stands charged with BREACH OF TRUST AND EMBEZZLEMENT, and a warrant has been issued for his apprehension. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a REWARD OF TEN POUNDS will be paid to any person who shall give such information as shall lead to the apprehension of the said David Baird Nish. Information to be given to the Procurators Fiscal, County-buildings, Glasgow.

OPORTO.
AN OLD BOTTLED PORT of high character, 48s. per dozen, Cash. This genuine Wine will be much approved.
HENRY BRETT and CO., Importers,
Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C.

CADIZ.
A PURE PALE SHERRY, of the Amontillado character, 38s. per dozen, Cash. We receive a regular and direct shipment of this fine wine.
HENRY BRETT and Co., Importers,
Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn, E.C.

UNSOPHISTICATED GENEVA,
A Gin of the true Juniper flavour, and precisely as it runs from the still, without the addition of sugar, or any ingredient whatever. Imperial gallon, 13s.; or in one dozen cases, 20s., bottles and case included. Price currents (free) by post.
HENRY BRETT, and CO., Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn.

EAU-DE-VIE.
This pure PALE BRANDY, though only 16s. per gallon, is demonstrated, upon Analysis, to be peculiarly free from acidity, and very superior to recent importations of veritable Cognac. In French Bottles, 31s. per dozen; or securely packed in a case for the country, 35s.—HENRY BRETT and CO., Old Furnival's Distillery, Holborn.

MAPPIN'S "SHILLING" RAZORS
Warranted good by the Makers.
MAPPIN'S 2s. RAZORS Shave well for Three Years.
MAPPIN'S 3s. RAZORS (suitable for Hard or Soft Beards) Shave well for Ten Years.

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Gentleman's Leather Dressing Case, fitted.....	£1 1 0
Gentleman's Solid Leather Dressing Case, fitted.....	£2 2 0
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Do. do. do. with addition of Writing Materials, Patent Ink, and Light, complete.....	£5 0 0
Gentleman's very large, 18 in. Bag, with Dressing and Writing Materials, 21 Articles, Outside Pocket.....	£7 0 0
Gentleman's 17 in. Writing and Dressing Bag, Plated Fittings, best Glass, fitted with 20 Articles, complete.....	£11 10 0
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Levant Leather Lady's Writing and Dressing Bag, 15 in., fitted with 30 Articles, Outside Pockets, complete.....	£13 0 0
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Manufactory—Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

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TRY J. SMITH, 38, LOMBARD STREET, EC4.
FERRINO TROUSERS, all Wool, of the Newest Designs, in endless Variety, to order, 10s.—Observe the Address,
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REGULATOR (Geylin's Patent). The only one in the world by which the flame from Argand, Fish-tail, and all other burners remains invariable under all variations of pressure, and the cost of each light is less than one farthing per hour.

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BEDSTEAD (Geylin's Patent) combining the advantages of Metallic Bedsteads with the comfort of a Spring Mattress at less than half the cost. Certified by medical men as the best and most comfortable Bedstead ever invented; invaluable for hot climates; cannot possibly harbour vermin.

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LOUNGING CHAIR, the most luxurious and cheapest ever manufactured. Self-propelling Bath, Brighton, and every other description of chair for in and out-door use. Mechanical Chairs and Beds of every description; Perambulators, &c. (the largest assortment in the world), always on hand for sale or hire. Agents:—Messrs. Smith, Taylor, and Co., Bombay, Batavia, Singapore, and Samarang; Messrs. F. W. Browne and Co., Calcutta. Sole Patentee and Manufacturer, J. WARD, 5 and 6, Leicester-square, W.C. Established 99 years.

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See the Prospectus of the PUBLIC LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, 47, Charing Cross, London, which describes the way to obtain 10,000l. Consols payable during life; or 5,000l. Consols payable at death, for a Premium of One Guinea. No other charge nor liability.

No medical examination. No references to friends required. Male and female lives admitted on equal terms.

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AND TABLE CUTLERY.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, King William-street, London-bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK of ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE and TABLE CUTLERY in the World, which is transmitted direct from their Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Table with 4 columns: Item, Fiddle Pattern, Double Thread, King's Pattern, Lily Pattern. Lists various cutlery items like Table Forks, Spoons, Dessert Forks, etc.

Complete Service£10 13 10 15 16 6 17 13 6 21 4 6

Any article can be had separately at the same prices. One Set of Four Corner Dishes (forming 8 Dishes), 8l. 18s.; One Set of 4 Dish Covers—viz., one 20 inch, one 18 inch, and two 14 inch—10l. 10s.; Cruet Frame, 4 Glass, 24s.; Full-Size Tea and Coffee Service, 9l. 10s. A Costly Book of Engravings, with prices attached, sent per post on receipt of 12 stamps.

Table with 4 columns: Item, Ordinary Quality, Medium Quality, Best Quality. Lists items like Two Dozen Full-Size Table Knives, 1 1/2 Doz. Full-Size Cheese ditto, etc.

Complete Service£4 10 0 18 6 9 16 6

Messrs. Mappin's Table Knives still maintain their unrivalled superiority; all their blades, being their own Sheffield manufacture, are of the very first quality, with secure Ivory Handles, which do not come loose in hot water; and the difference in price is occasioned solely by the superior quality and thickness of the Ivory Handles.

MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William-street, City, London; Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

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LUMBAGO, RHEUMATISM, GOUT, INDIGESTION, FLATULENCY, NERVOUSNESS, DEBILITY, STRICTURE, &c.—Dr. DE ROOS' COMPOUND RENAL PILLS are a most safe and efficacious remedy for the above dangerous complaints, discharges, retention of urine, and disease of the kidneys, bladder, and urinary organs generally, which frequently end in stone, and a lingering death. For depression of spirits, blushing, incapacity for society, study or business, giddiness, drowsiness, sleep without refreshment, nervousness, and insanity itself, when arising from or combined with urinary diseases, they are unequalled. They agree with the most delicate stomach, improve the health, and in three day will effect a cure in all those cases where capivi, cubeba, and medicines of that class have utterly failed. 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., and 33s. per Box, through all Medicine Vendors, or sent on receipt of the amount in stamps, by the Proprietor, 10, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London.

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No. 52, FLEET-STREET, has introduced an entirely new description of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires or ligatures. They so perfectly resemble the natural teeth as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will never change colour or decay, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots or any painful operation, will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication. Decayed teeth stopped and rendered sound and useful in mastication.—52, Fleet-street, London.—At home from Ten till Five.

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—Consisting of Guinea Coat and Vest, Twenty Shilling Trousers and Vest, and Thirty-eight Shilling Whole Suits; well designed from uniform patterns.

LONDON: 86, Oxford-street. BIRMINGHAM: 21, 22, and 23, New-street. LEEDS: 42, Briggate.

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PAGET JACKETS.—The best possible garments for gentlemen's customary in-door or out-door wear. Price 12s. 6d., 16s. 6d., 21s., 25s., and 31s. 6d.

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COATS, in West of England Wool-dyed Black Cloths, Invisibles, Saxony Broad Cloths, Woaded Fabrics, &c. Price 25s. to 63s.

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in Venetian and Llama Cloths, Undressed and Mixed Tweeds, Lustres, Merinos, Cashmerettes, &c. Price 16s. 6d., 21s., 26s., and 35s.

HYAM and CO'S JUVENILE COSTUME,

displaying faultless adaptation to early age, habits, and growth. Children's Belt Suits in new and beautiful materials. Price 10s. 6d., 15s. 6d., and 21s. Light Overcoats and Capes, 8s. 6d., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d.

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RUGBY SUITS. Three new styles, becoming in design, serviceable for school or dress wear, and admirably adapted for young gentlemen. Price 15s. 6d., 21s., 25s., and 31s. 6d.

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designed in every variety of Novel Fabric. French and English Cutters employed.

HYAM and CO'S True-fitting TROUSERS.—

To order, on a self-adjusting and shape-retaining system. Price 17s. 6d.; Vests to match, 8s. 6d.

CAUTION.

HYAM and CO. are connected only with the following Establishments:—

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MAKER OF THE

SIXTEEN SHILLING TROUSERS,

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(Knight of the Order of Leopold of Belgium)

LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL

Administered with the greatest success in cases of CONSUMPTION, GENERAL DEBILITY, RHEUMATISM, INFANTILE WASTING, AND ALL THE DISORDERS OF CHILDREN ARISING FROM DEFECTIVE NUTRITION,

Is the most efficacious, the most palatable, and, from its rapid curative effects, unquestionably the most economical of all kinds. Its immeasurable therapeutic superiority over every other variety is attested by innumerable spontaneous testimonials from Physicians and Surgeons of European reputation.

OPINION OF R. M. LAWRENCE, Esq., M.D.,

Physician to H.R.H. the Duke of Savoy Cobourg, and Gotha Ophthalmic Surgeon to the Great Northern Hospital, &c., &c.

"I have frequently tested your Cod Liver Oil, and so impressed am I with its superiority, that I invariably prescribe it in preference to any other, feeling assured that I am recommending a genuine article, and not a manufactured compound, in which the efficacy of this invaluable medicine is destroyed."

Sold ONLY in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 0d.; Quarts, 8s., capsuled and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE IS GENUINE; IN THE COUNTRY by respectable Chemists,

IN LONDON BY HIS SOLE AGENTS,

ANSAR, HARFORD, & CO., 77, STRAND, W.C.

CAUTION.—Intrusive recommendations of other kinds of Cod Liver Oil should be strenuously resisted, as they solely proceed from interested motives, and will infallibly result in disappointment.

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BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. Messrs. GABRIEL'S (the old established dentists) improvement in VULCANISED INDIA RUBBER, & GUTTA PERCHA as a foundation or lining to

GABRIEL'S MINERAL TEETH

renders them unapproachable in point of comfort and durability. There are no springs or wires, no extraction of roots, while the fit is of the most unerring accuracy. Success is guaranteed, even in cases where others have failed. It is much lighter, more durable, and congenial to the mouth, and is entirely free from either taste or smell. Messrs. Gabriel are enabled to offer the advantages of first-class materials and workmanship (from being manufacturers of every speciality appertaining to the profession) at charges lower than any advertised. Only at their establishments—33, LUDGATE HILL (observe number particularly); West-end branch, 110, REGENT STREET (established 1804); and at DUKE STREET, LIVERPOOL. American Mineral Teeth, the best in Europe, from 3s. 6d. per tooth; sets, £1 4s.

ECONOMY.

A 10-gallon cask (equal to 5 dozens) of the finest SOUTH AFRICAN SHERRY, for Four Guineas, or 20s. per dozen; best Port, 24s. per dozen. Cask or bottle, and case included. Three dozens carriagefree. Cash.—HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO., Importers, 22 and 23, High Holborn. Established 1831.

HENEKEYS' COGNAC, a pure French Brandy,

pale or brown, 20s. per gallon, 42s. per dozen. Packages to be returned within three months, or charged 1s. per gallon. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid.

HENEKEYS' LONDON BRANDY, Pale or

brown, 14s. per gallon, 30s. per dozen. Three dozens carriage free.

HENEKEYS' LONDON GIN, as from the

still, and the strongest allowed, sweet or dry, 12s. per gallon, 26s. per dozen. Six gallons, the cask included and carriage paid. Country orders must contain a remittance.

HENEKEYS' PRICES CURRENT of

WINEs and SPIRITS sent post-free on application. HENEKEYS, ABBOTT, and CO., Gray's Inn Distillery, 22 and 23, High Holborn, W.C. Established 1831.

WINE NO LONGER AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.

WELLER & HUGHES' SOUTH AFRICAN WINES.—Port, Sherry, and Madeira, 20s. and 24s. per Dozen; Amontillado, 24s. and 28s. per Dozen.

Extract from Dr. Letheby's Analysis of our Wines:—"I find your Wine pure and unadulterated, and have no doubt of its being far more wholesome than the artificial mixtures too often sold for genuine sherry."

(Signed) "HENRY LETHEBY, M.B., London Hospital."

A Pint Sample of any of the above for Twelve Stamps. Colonial Brandy, Pale or Brown, 15s. and 18s. 6d. per gallon, or 30s. and 37s. per Dozen. We deliver free to any London Railway Terminus, or to any Station in England for 1s. per Dozen. Terms, Cash.

WELLER AND HUGHES,

Importers of Foreign and Colonial Wines and Spirits, 27, Crutched Friars, Mark Lane, London, E.C.

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(the consumption of which has now nearly reached 400,000 dozen per annum—vide Board of Trade Returns), a case containing four samples, sealed and labelled, will be forwarded on receipt of 30 postage stamps, viz., half-pint bottle each of best South African Sherry, Port, Madeira, and Amontillado, bottles and case included. Colonial Brandy, 15s. per gallon.—Address ANTHONY BROUGH, 20, Strand, W.C.

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Unbranded and nutty, 28s., 34s., 40s., 46s. PURE PORT vintage 1851, 36s.; 1847, 42s. per dozen. VIN ORDINAIRE, ROUSSILLON and MARSALA 24s. per dozen. Champagne Vin d'ay, 42s. per dozen. A large stock of fine old bottled Ports, Amontillado, Solera and B. I. Sherries, &c. &c., 48s. to 90s. per dozen.

Wine Importers' Association, 15, and 10, Adam-street, Adelphi. R. B. BARNES, Manager. N.B. A small bin of very fine Old Port, 18 guineas per doz.

WINES FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

DENMAN, INTRODUCER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PORT, SHERRY, &c., Twenty Shillings per Dozen, Bottles included.

A pint Sample of each for twenty-four stamps. Wine in Cask forwarded free to any railway station in England.

(Extract from the Lancet, July 10th, 1858.)

"THE WINES OF SOUTH AFRICA.—We have visited Mr. Denman's stores, selected in all eleven samples of wine, and have subjected them to careful analysis. Our examination has extended to an estimation of their bouquet and flavour, their acidity and sweetness, the amount of wine stone, the strength in alcohol, and particularly to their purity. We have to state that these wines, though branded to a much less extent than Sherries, are yet, on the average, nearly as strong; that they are pure, wholesome, and perfectly free from adulteration; indeed, considering the low price at which they are sold, their quality is remarkable."

EXCELSIOR BRANDY.

Pale or Brown, 15s. per gallon, or 30s. per dozen. Terms, CASH. Country orders must contain a remittance. Cross cheques "Bank of London." Free Lists, with Dr. Hassall's Analysis, forwarded on application.

JAMES L. DENMAN,

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BRECKNELL, TURNER, AND SONS'

HAND CANDLESTICKS,

With Registered Glass Shades, entirely prevent the guttering of candles when carried about.

Brecknell, Turner, and Sons, wax and tallow chandlers and soap and oil merchants, at the Beehive, 31 and 32, Haymarket, S.W.

THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

FROM the French capital, this week, there is little intelligence of interest or importance. The Emperor and his fair consort are at St. Sauveur, seeking that repose, both of mind and body, which the turmoil of recent events has rendered an imperative necessity. The camp of St. Maur is broken up, and the regiments which composed its population have been distributed among the various military commands into which fair France is now divided. Paris is at length deserted by all except the shopkeepers, the police, and the English and German excursionists whom the cheap trains of the season bring, to taste its gaiety and its dissipation.

Whatever motives may have influenced the ruler of the French in his late declaration of amnesty for political offences, that measure can scarcely be considered a successful stroke of policy; nor has it apparently, as far as we can at present judge, in any way strengthened his position, or increased his popularity. The vague and ambiguous terms in which it is couched have aroused the suspicions of those whom it was intended to conciliate; and the most respected and influential of the refugees, in this country and in Belgium, refuse to accept the proffered boon at the hands of the man who has so deeply injured them, or to place any confidence in his promises, until he gives some satisfactory guarantee for their fulfilment. Louis Blanc, Victor Hugo, Pyat, and other leaders of the constitutional and republican parties, have published their rejection of the Emperor's overtures in eloquent and spirited language, which cannot fail to have a powerful effect upon their less celebrated fellow exiles. Louis Napoleon is defeated in his great object, which was, doubtless, to induce the return of these distinguished Frenchmen to their native land under his rule, a course which would seem to imply a tacit admission of the permanence of his dynasty; and the adulation of M. de la Guéronnière and similar eulogists, will ill compensate for the rebuff which has been bestowed upon his apparently humane and conciliatory offers. M. Louis Blanc's second letter upon this subject, which has appeared in the English newspapers this week, gives the Emperor full credit for the motives which seem to actuate his policy. "He could hardly have done more for us in the present conjuncture," says M. Louis Blanc, but he repeats that the exiles have no certainty of safety if they return; and that while they cannot serve their country at home, it is their duty to serve her abroad, where they are under the ennobling protection of the law, and can speak their mind freely. Victor Hugo, in brief but emphatic terms, declares it impossible for him to acknowledge any other duty than that of absolute and inflexible protest against the wrongs of France, or to re-enter his native country until the cause of liberty is again in the ascendant.

The *Moniteur* has officially declared that the disarmament of the French army is to commence

upon the 20th of September, but the measures which are announced to be taken with that object are neither very extensive nor very re-assuring to those neighbouring States who regard with anxiety the gigantic military power of France. The extent of the reductions seems to be the discharge of those soldiers whose term of service has expired, and who would have been released from service if they wished it, as a matter of course, without any regard to the war or peace footing. Meantime the activity in the French dockyards is unceasing, and every resource of which modern science can boast is brought to bear upon the construction, for the imperial navy, of iron-plated frigates and floating batteries, which it is supposed, when armed with the most destructive artillery yet invented, will make France as terrible at sea as her most ambitious sons can possibly desire.

The affairs of Italy seem to be rapidly approaching a crisis. The will of the people has been expressed by their representatives in the parliaments of Tuscany, Modena, and Parma, without a dissentient voice; and the forfeiture of all claim to their sovereignty by the Hapsburg-Lorraine princes, unanimously declared. This has been followed by a resolution of union with the kingdom of Victor Emmanuel on the part of each of these States; in which also the provisional junta of Bologna has joined. A central league of defence has been formed; the energetic and patriotic Garibaldi has been placed at the head of the united forces of the duchies, and has reviewed the various corps, who have received him as their commander, with an enthusiasm that bodes well for success if a struggle be at hand. At Modena, Farini has been re-invested with the dictatorship which he wielded so ably, and so gracefully laid down at the meeting of the National Assembly. All this looks well; but the friends of Italy anxiously inquire what part the Emperor Napoleon will take in the arrangement of her affairs. He is said to have declared that he cannot interfere to prevent the armed intervention of Austria to enforce the provisions of the Villafranca treaty, according to which, the Austrian princes are to be restored. He has also said that it is impossible that the State of Tuscany can become a part of the kingdom of Northern Italy; and the arrival of General Bourbaki at Parma, at the head of a French division, is a very significant fact. Active intriguers are at work in Tuscany to bring about the restoration of the young Grand Duke, with the promise of constitutional government, and an offer to erect Venice into an independent State under another Austrian arch-duke. These meet with small encouragement, however; and Prince Poniatowski, who has been sent to succeed the unsuccessful Reiset, and to feel the way for the establishment of the meditated kingdom of Etruria under Prince Jerome Napoleon, has been greeted with a similar coldness. We can but hope that Louis Napoleon does not intend by force to establish in Central Italy a puppet sovereign contrary to this avowed determination. If this unhappily be his intention a sanguinary contest must follow, the extent and results of which it is impossible to foresee. Victor Emmanuel makes no sign at present, further than a vague appeal to the Italians to "have faith in him," and an assurance that he will do all in his power to promote the welfare of Italy.

At home our members of Parliament, as if their wont when deprived of the arena of Westminster, contrive to pour their eloquence and wisdom into the willing ears of provincial audiences. At Winchester has been a gathering of parliament men to dine and talk to their constituents. The speeches were characterised chiefly by taunts and abuse of their political adversaries; that of a minister, however, Mr. T. Baring, contained some plausible promises of parliamentary-reform measures to be introduced by Lord Palmerston's Government. At Tynemouth, Mr. Lindsay addressed some sensible remarks to the working-men who had presented him with a testimonial. His text was the strikes; and he showed in what degree combinations injured, and how much they benefited, the workman. Judge Haliburton, who was also present, in a short speech combined wit and wisdom in his usual happy manner, and remarked that the possibility of men remaining out on strike for three months together was an evidence of the wealth of England; in America, added he, the "strikers" would be starved out in a week—an assertion which is novel, to say the least of it.

While on this subject we regret to say that the dispute in the building trade still remains unarranged; though both parties are heartily tired of the stoppage of business. The operatives continue to carry matters with a high hand; successful appeals have been made to their fellows in the country to support them, and a considerable sum has been subscribed for their assistance. Rumours have been again current this week of an approaching reconciliation, and we hope they will prove to be well founded. The Tyne shipbuilders have gained their point and returned to work at increased wages, and the Birmingham gun-smiths have dropped the disputed points and have, many of them, recommenced their labour.

The latest Indian mail brings the intelligence that from eight to ten thousand British soldiers have accepted the discharge which the tardy justice of the Government has proffered them, and are on their way towards home; and thus is satisfactorily closed another disagreeable chapter in our Indian history. The skirmishing with rebels in detached parties continues with the same unvarying result of slaughter and dispersion of the wretched outcasts.

Volunteering still goes on with some display of spirit in certain parts of the country; in many localities, however, it is flagging, and it is to be feared that the results will be miserably insignificant. Too much attention appears to be paid to neat uniforms and smart accoutrements; while a great error has been committed in fixing the amount of subscription in most cases at too high a rate. In connexion with the subject of national defences we observe the *Gazette* of yesterday contains the Royal proclamation of the commission to inquire into this subject.

The conflicting character of the evidence at the trial of Dr. Thomas Smethurst has rendered the public dissatisfied with his conviction of the crime of murder, and great excitement has been the result. Memorials have been numerous signed to obtain a commutation, if not an entire annulment, of the sentence; and we hear they have been so far successful that a reprieve has been granted, for the purpose of making a strict inquiry into the facts and the medical evidence.

Home News.

THE STRIKES.

The strike in the building trades, and the "lock-out" by the master builders continue. We hope, however, that the struggle between the contending parties will ere long be brought to a close. Both parties seem tired of the existing strife, and yet neither appear inclined to give way. During the past week, however a variety of circumstances has led to the belief that within a short time a solution to the present difficulties and differences will have been arrived at.

Many of the master builders who have closed their shops are, we understand, desirous of re-opening them, but the general feeling of the members of the Central Association appears to be that they ought not to throw open their establishments until the Messrs. Trollope shall have obtained a full complement of men. At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Association held on Tuesday last the Messrs. Trollope reported that they had then at work 127 men belonging to the building trades, exclusive of their decorators and cabinet makers, who took no part in the strike. At this meeting it was urged by some that 127 men being at work at the establishment of the Messrs. Trollope, it might be considered that their operations had been resumed, and that consequently the employers who had locked out their men should at once re-open their establishments. After some further discussion, however, it was resolved that the shops should remain closed for the present.

The men—especially the skilled artizans—say they are resolved to hold out to the very last, and express their readiness to submit to any privations rather than sign the "odious document." The reports received from the delegates who have been sent to rouse the provinces are represented to be most favourable. Meetings have been either held, or are about being held, in Oxford, Warwick, Birmingham, Portsmouth, Plymouth, and other towns. Committees have been formed for the collection of funds, and meetings are to be held to dissuade the workmen of the provinces from coming up to take the places of their brethren in London.

THE GUN MAKERS.

The strike in the gun trade seems to be gradually smouldering out, the men at some of the shops having returned to work, and the strong feeling formerly manifested having in some measure subsided.

THE SHIPWRIGHTS.

The long and tedious strike of the Tyne shipwrights was brought to an end on Tuesday by the principal dock owners complying with the terms demanded, and re-opening their yards to them. The advanced wages is 5s. per day. The men have been backed up by other trades, and by the shipwrights in employment in other parts of the country, and have been receiving 5s. per week each man.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

On Monday, the Queen, with the Prince Consort, Prince Alfred, and other members of the royal family, arrived at the camp at Aldershot from Osborne, to pay her final visit for the season. The programme supposed that the Aldershot division had received orders to oppose the progress of an enemy advancing on London from the coast by Farnham. It was the supposition of this most alarming emergency which led to taking up a formidable line on Hungry-hill, where the enemy's advanced guards were to be checked, while powerful fatigue parties threw up intrenchments for further defence. The evolutions extended over two days. The affair of Monday was a mere preliminary skirmish, to enable the men to intrench, but during Tuesday the decisive battle was fought. The result is, we presume, as usual, in the total repulse and destruction of the enemy. The force intrusted to hold this natural fortress consisted of the whole strength of the camp. Her Majesty was expected on the ground soon after two o'clock, but it was past three before the royal cortege left the Pavilion. Her Majesty drove to the ground in a carriage and four; the Prince Consort rode on horseback in the undress uniform of a Field Marshal; and with his Highness was Prince Alfred, in the uniform of a midshipman of the Royal Navy. On Monday evening the Queen entertained General Knollys, and the principal officers at dinner, at the Royal Pavilion; and on the following day, after witnessing the bloodless victory, her Majesty returned to Osborne.

Eight out of the eleven vessels forming that portion of the Channel fleet at Spithead left that anchorage under steam on Saturday, and a more magnificent sight could not be imagined than the ships presented as they steamed round the east end of the Wight in the order named:—The Flying Fish, screw, 6; the Royal Albert, 131, screw, bearing the flag (red

at the mizen) of Rear-Admiral Sir Charles Howe Fremantle, K.C.B.; the Algiers, 91, screw; the James Watt, 91, screw; the Agamemnon, 91, screw; the Hero, 91, screw; the Diadem, 32, screw; and the Emerald, 51, screw. The Mersey was detained at Spithead on her experimental screw trials. The ships at present at Spithead comprise the Trafalgar, 91, screw; the Mersey, 40, screw; and the Scout, 21, screw, the above three vessels belonging to the Channel fleet; the Sidon, 22, paddle, and the Pioneer, 6, screw, both ordered for foreign service, and the Gorgon, 6, paddle.

Notice has been given from the India-house that ships are required for the conveyance of 4,691 troops to India; and also for emigration ships for the conveyance of females to the number of 7,000—it is understood the wives of soldiers serving in India, in accordance with the recent resolution of augmenting the number allowed to the troops in garrison.

Information has arrived from St. Petersburg of the successful essay of the *canon rayé*. The experiment was made at Krasnoe Selo in presence of the Czar. The cannon has been entirely executed by Russian workmen, under the superintendence of an artillery officer, by name Constantino, who having visited Vincennes for the express purpose of witnessing the effect of the *canons rayés*, immediately sent in his report insisting on the necessity of their introduction into the Russian service. The Czar was delighted with the result of the experiment, and he decorated Major Constantino with the Grand Cordon of St. Stanislaus, and he has ordered the immediate adoption of the *canon rayé* by the Russian artillery.

A Paris letter says:—"It may be useful to Mr. Sidney Herbert to know what a French soldier has to carry packed inside and strapped outside. On the outside:—1. The tente abri and the tent pole. 2. A blanket. 3. A waterproof cape, with hood. 4. A water bucket, also used as a camp kettle. 5. A round loaf of black bread. 6. A tin pan. 7. A quart measure. Inside:—1. A pair of gaiters. 2. Two shirts. 3. A pair of shoes. 4. An order book. 5. A small canvas bag, containing an awl, five stout needles, a skein of scarlet thread, a skein of yellow thread, a skein of black thread, a thimble, shoe, clothes, and musket brushes, a small box containing the tools necessary to take a musket to pieces, and put it together again, a grease box, a wax ditto. 6. Two pocket handkerchiefs. 7. 50 rounds of ball cartridge. And 8. Anything else he can find room for. These things, together with the gun, bayonet, and sword, weigh 87 lbs. English. Ten minutes is considered long enough to put a whole camp in motion; and within that period every man and everything is expected to be in its place.

A series of experimental trials have been carried on during the past fortnight at Portsmouth, with a view of ascertaining the amount of resistance offered by iron and steel plates of various manufactures when opposed to heavy ordnance at a short range. The trials are understood to have reference to the future coating of the steam ram now in course of construction. The results of the experiments have demonstrated in the clearest possible manner that at 200 yards range no iron or steel plate that has yet been manufactured can withstand the solid shot from the 95 cwt. gun at a short range. Three or four shots striking the plate in the same place, or in the immediate neighbourhood, would smash it to pieces. The trial proved that a steel-clad ship could be far more easily destroyed than a wooden-sided one, and that on the smashing in of one of the steel plates the destruction of life on the armed ship's decks, supposing the broken plate to be driven through the ship's side, would be something dreadful to contemplate, from the spread of the splintered material. At from 600 to 800 yards iron-clad ships would be in comparative safety, but it must be borne in mind that the effects of concentrated firing have yet to be ascertained on the sides of an iron or steel-clad ship. The experiments would appear to prove that an iron or steel-clad ship, on receiving a concentrated broadside from a frigate, armed in a similar manner to the Mersey, and struck near her waterline, must sink then and there, with her armour on her back.

MR. RAREY'S SYSTEM IN THE ARMY.

The Commander-in-Chief, feeling convinced that the system of this clever American is founded upon rational and judicious principles, has determined upon introducing it into the British cavalry regiments, and Mr. Rarey has been for some time at Aldershot, instructing riding-masters, farriers, and rough-riders. The intelligent and resolute men with whom he had to deal were not afraid to attempt anything with any horse in the world, but it took some time to teach them—and the teaching is as yet only in progress—that delicacy of manipulation, and tact, so to speak, in approaching the horse, form a very full half of the whole secret. However, they were last week consi-

dered to be so far advanced as to permit of an exhibition of their progress before competent judges, and accordingly, the whole class went through their lesson before a committee of cavalry officers in the School at Aldershot, on Saturday last. The officers present were Gen. Sir J. Scarlett, Col. E. C. Hodge, Colonel R. Parker, and Lieut.-Col. Maude, Mr. J. Wilkinson, veterinary surgeon, attended to note the effect of the "casting" in accelerating the pulse of the horses. The first animal experimented upon was a brown mare belonging to the 10th Hussars. Her habit had been to snort and jump frantically if any stranger went near her, and to the attentions of the farrier she had a strong objection, which rose to a perfect frenzy if he ventured to approach her with his leather apron on. When first brought out on Saturday her nervous and fidgety nature was soon made manifest by sundry snortings and tremblings, but a gentle pat on the neck soon pacified her, after which the farrier approached, slowly and deliberately, holding the obnoxious leather apron in his hand. He allowed her to smell it, touched it with her nose, and afterwards to feel it rubbed gently along her neck, after which all that was necessary was to put it on and go to work. The whole action of shoeing was then simulated with hammer and nails, and the hitherto fractious mare submitted to the process with the greatest steadiness and propriety. Two other mares, a bay and a chesnut, both belonging to the same regiment, were subsequently exhibited. The first had a similar prejudice as to shoeing, and the other had a habit of kicking violently when being saddled or mounted. Both had now evidently been reduced to a perfect state of docility. After this some horses, new to the process, were very successfully thrown with the strap by different riding-masters. Mr. Day, of the 5th Dragoon Guards, had a tough tussle with a powerful bay, but ultimately overcame all resistance, and floored his horse in a very satisfactory manner. Mr. Hessey, of the 1st Life Guards, followed with a black, and with much speedier success. His horse was down in a moment, and it was remarked in both cases that the horses, on resuming their legs, did not exhibit the slightest symptoms of distress. Mr. Wilkinson felt the pulses of both immediately after their tumble, and found the acceleration to be by no means considerable. A few more trials were subsequently made with varying success according to the nerve and dexterity of the pupil tumbler; and, finally, the first horse, who had so strong an objection to being shod, was taken to the forge and had shoes actually nailed on in presence of the committee, who required this test in order to assure themselves that the treatment was successful. Mr. Rarey was present during the whole of the experiments, but he did not in the slightest degree interfere with the riding-masters or rough-riders, both of whom he considers to have exhibited extraordinary aptitude in learning his system.

VOLUNTEER CORPS.

An article in the *Daily News* points out as a model for a volunteer militia the volunteers of the Channel Islands, which have existed as an efficient force ever since the days of Edward III. The corps includes every male inhabitant between the ages of fourteen and sixty, without regard to rank, or indeed any other qualification beyond the capability of bearing arms. The force comprises both artillery and infantry. They are called out for parades and field-days at the discretion of the Lieutenant-Governor, who bears the rank of a major-general in the regular army. During the French revolutionary war these troops were kept constantly drilled, gave their labour for the repair of the numerous defences along the whole line of coast, and kept constant watch and ward. Their efficiency and soldier-like bearing were attested in high terms. On the last visit of the Queen, thirteen years ago, her Majesty's arrival not having been expected or notified in any way till late in the evening, when day broke every soldier, fully equipped and armed, was found at the rendezvous, at which he had been directed to attend, and punctually, too, at the precise hour specified. They are trained in accordance with the improved musketry drill now taught at Hythe, so that a most excellent body of marksmen is here kept thoroughly trained. They have given evidence in modern times of their utility, by aiding the regulars in repelling the invasion attempted by De Ruttecourt in 1781.

All we have to report of the London Rifle Brigade this week is the adoption of a "very tasteful uniform," and that Lord Grosvenor, M.P., and Alderman Sir Peter Laurie have joined the council. It is to be hoped that we shall soon hear of the drills and practice of this corps as well as of the London Scottish Volunteers. Of other metropolitan corps we learn that the St. George's meet at Burlington-gardens several hundred strong for drill; and that the Railway Rifles have met and selected their uniform. The movement, we regret to say, proceeds very slowly.

and the manly spirit of sixty years ago must be looked for in vain as far as London is concerned.

At Sheffield a corps is drilling which musters 240 men. The great town of Leeds has produced 63 volunteers; and Colchester boasts 60; Cambridge can show 56. Bridport has subscribed 1,000 and musters 100 men as the 1st company of the Dorset Volunteers.

It is evident that a great mistake has been committed in fixing upon uniforms and subscriptions to these corps, which place them quite beyond the means of working men and clerks: and if it should ever be found necessary to look to the volunteers for the defence of the country, a vast alteration must be made in the regulations, to bring together efficient men in sufficient number.

LAW, POLICE, AND CASUALTIES.

AN enormous system of fraud extending over many years is alleged to have been discovered in the Carron Iron Company. This company was established eighty years ago under special charter, and has done a very large business in manufacturing iron. One Joseph Stainton was manager of the company from 1786 till his death in 1825. He was succeeded by his nephew, Mr. Joseph Dawson, while another nephew, Mr. William Dawson, became managing clerk. Joseph Dawson died in 1850, and William became the head of the company. The managers of the company are also partners and form a family party for if we take Mr. Joseph Stainton, the first manager, to be the uncle, we not only find the central administration at Carron falling into the hands of the two nephews, but we have a third nephew, Mr. Henry Dawson, who governs the affairs of the company at Glasgow, and a cousin, Mr. Thomas Crossthwaite, who does the same at Liverpool, while the uncle's brother, Mr. Henry Stainton, was agent at London. Suspicion having been aroused by some means, Colonel Dundas Maclean, a former shareholder, brings an action against the company, which seems to be only one of a series of accusations that affect the management, all of which may have to be investigated. The colonel says that the managers did systematically, and for a long number of years, falsify their balance sheets so that the profits of the company might appear to be much less than they really were, and that in consequence of this falsification he sold to the managers twenty shares belonging to himself for 14,000*l.*, a price greatly below their real value. On this account he demands restitution, and names 20,000*l.*, with legal interest, as the sum which the company should pay to him. Other individuals have similar claims arising from similar proceedings, and it is held that Mr. Joseph Dawson, the deceased manager, and Mr. Henry Stainton, the London manager, now also dead, and Mr. William Dawson, the present manager, conspired to promote these frauds, and managed, among themselves, to conceal and misrepresent the true state of the affairs of the company, in order to carry out their design of acquiring for themselves and relatives the shares of the other partners, at sums far below their real value. Sir J. G. Craig, the lawyer of the company, declared in 1846 that the debts of the company were overstated to the amount of 130,000*l.*, while the assets were understated to a larger amount. It is said that letters have come to light from one manager to another which prove these allegations. It seems also that after the death of Mr. Joseph Dawson, a dissension arose between the Staintons and the Dawsons, and the company gained a sum of 496,000 by this quarrel, for it brought out the fact that there was a "Secret Reserve Fund," to that extent, of which the company knew nothing and which was fed from two corrupt channels. Colonel Maclean says that in ten years the profits kept back from the shareholders amounted to at least 175,000*l.* The case is now before the Scottish Court of Session.

At the Court of Bankruptcy adjudication of bankruptcy has been made against John Edward Buller, a solicitor and scrivener, carrying on business at 56, Lincoln's-inn-fields, and residing at Enfield. His liabilities are stated at about 100,000*l.*, of which it appears that 50,000*l.* are in respect of breaches of trust, but this, it is supposed, is only a portion of the bankrupt's delinquencies. The assets are at present unascertained. A warrant has since been granted for his apprehension.

At the Surrey Sessions the chairman said that the number of prisoners for trial this session was less than half what is usual, and for the past year the number did not exceed seven hundred, whereas for former years the average was a thousand. Some part of this reduction, however, is attributable to the working of the new Criminal Justice Act, which empowers magistrates to convict in certain cases. Still, the diminution of crime in the district, as shown by the calendar, is considerable.

A man named Walter Beardon has been arrested

on suspicion of having been concerned in the murder of Mr. Broughton near Leeds. The man was brought before the magistrates, and identified as one of two seen in the field about the time of the murder; and, which is of much more importance, it is shown that he pawned the watch of the murdered man shortly after the crime had been committed.

The Queen has been pleased to commute the death penalty in the case of Ellen Rutter, the woman who murdered her husband under the excitement of his exasperating conduct. The jury who tried her have been anxious that she should escape the penalty of death.

A very serious charge was preferred at Guildhall against a man named Barlow, an organist living at Blackfriars. Some disturbance had arisen, and a mob collected, when the prisoner attacked several persons with a formidable life preserver, having a blade fixed in one end of it. One woman especially received a stab in the chest extending to nearly six inches in depth. The prisoner was remanded till Wednesday next, and bail refused.

An old man named Pannier, and described as a clerk and schoolmaster, was committed for trial at Marlborough-street, on a charge of forgery. The document alleged to be forged was a cheque for 31*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* on the London and Westminster Bank, taken from the vestry-room of St. Ann's, Soho.

On Wednesday a poulterer was examined before the Lord Mayor on a charge of selling black game out of season; but as sufficient proof of the sale was not forthcoming the summons was dismissed. A gentleman in court stated that any person who purchased game from a street hawker was liable to a fine of five pounds.

The lady whose piteous complaint as to the loss of her husband, "the nobleman," was poured into the ears of Mr. Norton last week, has recovered him by the aid of the police, but only to lose him again, as he is claimed by another dame. We read that a very limp and dirty individual, of shabby-genteel appearance, was placed in the dock, charged with bigamy. He gave his name as William Denbigh Sloper Harrison. The lady who made the application the other day, and the other wife of the prisoner were both present. Their marriage certificates were handed to the magistrate, and from them it appeared that the prisoner, who gave the name of William Denbigh Sloper Marshall, described himself as late captain in the army, bachelor, and son to Francis Marshall, shipowner, had been married at Paddington Church to Sophia Frost Dawson, widow, on the 3rd of July, 1858, and that on the 28th of June in the present year he was married at St. George's, Hanover-square, to Jane Hayes, widow, in the name of William Denbigh Sloper Harrison, described as a bachelor, and captain in the army, son of Francis Harrison Lord Denbigh, shipowner. Being asked whether he acknowledged the double marriage, he meekly replied, I do, sir. I know it was very wicked. Inspector Emmerson, said his real name was Sloper, and not Marshall, nor Harrison, and that he was the illegitimate child of a woman who subsequently married a man named Marshall. This person was a dealer in bottles, and on one occasion the prisoner went with his stepfather to bottle some ale at the house of a nobleman, and became so intimate with one of the young ladies that an elopement was arranged, and would, in all probability have succeeded had not one of the letters of the lady fallen into the hands of the prisoner's grandfather, who forwarded it to the nobleman, her father. It is suspected that this distinguished individual has a wife or two more. He was remanded.

The result of the trial of Dr. Thomas Smethurst has produced a most extraordinary excitement; a great number of people considering that he has been convicted on insufficient evidence. His friends have commenced proceedings for the purpose of obtaining the remission of the sentence. His brother is the only person who has visited him since his conviction. Mr. Humphreys, who acted as the solicitor of Dr. Smethurst, being of opinion that the conviction was not justified by the evidence, intends to embrace the whole case in a memorial to the Secretary of State, Sir George Cornwall Lewis. Smethurst strongly protests his innocence, and, though evidently depressed, believes his sentence will not be carried into effect. Tuesday in the week after next is the day fixed for the execution. The daily journals are crowded with letters on the subject, principally in defence of the convict, and some go so far as to demand his unconditional pardon. One of the ablest of these says: "Bear in mind that no attempt was made to prove that Isabella Bankes was murdered. No instrument of murder was found in her remains. But it was supposed by the doctors that she died from the effects of poison. It has hitherto been considered essential to first prove that a murder has been committed, and from the murdered person to trace the murderer. But in this case it was first suspected, and then assumed that a murder was committed, and from that assumption the prosecution traced

the murder to Dr. Smethurst. Having assumed that he was the murderer, they interpreted all his acts in the light of that assumption. It is said he wanted her money. I answer that he had her money already, and there was no necessity that he should murder her to get possession of it. He had all the woman was possessed of. The last dividend due to her was paid to his credit in the bank. He actually sacrificed 150*l.* annually by her death, and in the event of the death of her sister, probably 300*l.* annually. He got the woman to make her will a very short time before her death, as thousands of men guilty of murder would have done. The very fact of the will being postponed to so late a period tells in his favour. Had she done so before she was taken ill it would have looked black. But "he got a lawyer to come to the dying woman's bed"—as thousands of innocent men have done before. "He induced the dying woman to sign her maiden name, and so to perjure herself;"—why, the document would not have been legal with any other name. "He gave the afflicted woman her medicine, food, &c.," and why? Because there was no one there to do it for him. "After he was taken into custody some of the food and medicine taken were not ejected by the dying woman. On the eve of dissolution this is very frequently the case, as there is not sufficient muscular power left to eject the contents of the stomach." Memorials against the sentence have been printed and largely distributed about the metropolis, and have received numerous signatures.

Intelligence has been received of the lamentable death of an English clergyman, last week, in the Pyrenees. He attempted to ascend the summit of the Col du Port de Venasque, refusing to allow the friends who were with him to accompany him in his perilous ascent, to which they reluctantly consented, and waited for him below, but he never returned, and on Monday last his body was found in a dreadfully mutilated condition at the bottom of an abyss into which he must have fallen.

A guard on the train between Liverpool and Manchester has met a shocking death. Having been missed at one of the stations search was made, when the poor fellow was found dead on the top of a carriage. His head had evidently come into contact with the arch of a bridge.

The last Indian mail brings intelligence of the loss of the ship Lady Rawlinson, bound from Rangoon to Calcutta. She experienced very severe weather after proceeding to sea, and capsized. She now lies stranded on the eastern bank at the mouth of the Rangoon river. The captain, his wife and child, the mate, and ten Lascars, with a native passenger, were picked up by a pilot schooner and brought to town on Saturday evening; but twenty-two of the crew, who put off in a boat, have never since been heard of. The wreck, with her cargo of teak timber, amounting to about 300 tons, and 610 bags of catch, was sold by auction for Rs. 6,100. The vessel was insured for 8,000*l.*, and the cargo at about 3,000*l.*

IRELAND.

THE deliberations and decisions of the Irish Roman Catholic hierarchy on the question of education have at length been given authoritatively to the world. The mixed system is condemned entirely, and a claim is put in for a separate grant to Catholic Schools, as in England. Intermediate mixed education is also condemned by anticipation, and the Queen's Colleges are put in the black list. This decision has already borne fruits. The Catholic members of the Board of National Education are withdrawing from it, and it is beyond doubt that the whole influence of the Catholic clergy in Ireland will be directed to the withdrawal of the children of their communion from the national schools.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

THE COURT.—The Queen, accompanied by the Prince Consort, Prince Alfred, and the Princesses Louisa and Helena, spent Monday and Tuesday at Aldershot, and witnessed some military operations by the troops there. The Queen gave a dinner to the principal officers at the Pavilion on Monday. The royal party returned to Osborne on Tuesday evening. Viscount Palmerston and the Duke of Nemours have been visitors to her Majesty this week. The Queen, and the rest of the royal family, at present at Osborne, will leave London for Balmoral on Monday. Her Majesty and court will proceed to Edinburgh via the Great Northern Railway, the directors of which have received instructions to have a special train in readiness to leave King's-cross station at 9 p.m., so that the royal journey will be made by night. This has been arranged to avoid the long journey in the heat of the day.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The report of the Registrar-General shows the health of London is improving, being below the average. The deaths during the

last two weeks have decreased from 1,605 to 1,188, but they still exceed by nearly 200 the weekly deaths in June. Last week there were registered in London the births of 917 boys and 864 girls, in all 1,781 children.

ELECTIONS.—There were two election contests on Saturday—for Hull, between Mr. Somes, Conservative, and Mr. Lewis, Liberal, the former being returned by a majority of 489; and for Berwick, between Mr. Hodgson, Conservative, and Mr. Marjoribanks, the latter gaining the seat by a majority of one. Mr. Osborne was returned for Liskeard without opposition. Tuesday's *Gazette* publishes the names of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the existence of corrupt practices at elections in the city of Gloucester and the borough of Wakefield. For the former they are Mr. J. Vaughan, Mr. L. H. Fitzgerald, and Mr. R. G. Welford, and for the latter, Serjeants Willes and Slade.

Vauxhall.—On Monday the "royal property" was brought to the hammer, the sale taking place in the gardens and attracting a numerous concourse of purchasers and visitors to take a last glance at this once popular place. Many of the lots bought as relics realised extremely high prices. The clearing of the ground for building purposes commences forthwith.

DISGRACEFUL BRAWLING IN A CHURCH.—At the now notorious church of St. George-in-the-East a worse row than usual took place last Sunday. The vestry have appointed a "low church" afternoon preacher, who week by week propounds doctrines of the "evangelical" and Calvinistic description, and piously alludes to the backslidings of the rector, the Rev. Bryan King, who is what is called "extremely high church." On Sunday last the Rev. Hugh Allen lectured, as usual, and proceeded to allude to "clergymen who did not preach the Gospel," and also to that unhappy Pope whom it would be so much better, if Christian love and Christian charity are at all desiderata among Christian men, to leave alone, at least in the pulpit. At the close of this service the churchwardens endeavoured to clear the church in order that preparations might be made for the ordinary four o'clock service, but upwards of one hundred persons refused to leave and crowded round the altar. At five minutes before four o'clock the doors of the church were thrown open, and an excited and riotous mob rushed in, shrieking and howling, towards the altar. In a few moments afterwards a clergyman entered accompanied by six or eight choristers. The clergyman was the Rev. Mr. Jennings, curate of Stepney. As soon as he appeared in the church there was a great uproar, cries of "Oh, oh," and hisses. The reverend gentleman, who appeared to be quite unmoved, proceeded with his choristers to the front of the altar, where they all knelt with their backs to the congregation. The Litany was intoned by the priest, and the responses were made by the choristers, while a set of people vociferated remarks which are not to be found in the Liturgy, and jeered the clergyman. At the close of the Litany service the clergyman rose and retired, at which time nearly the whole of the congregation hissed, yelled, and indulged in the most hideous noises. The Bishop of London has addressed a letter to the churchwardens (Messrs. Thompson and Dorset) pointing out to them that they are the persons upon whom devolves the duty of preventing such disturbances. Notice has been served upon them at the instance of the rector, intimating that if they do not maintain order during his afternoon service, they will be proceeded against in the Ecclesiastical Court.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.—The returns for the month of July show an augmentation in our commerce, although to a less extent than most of the preceding returns of the present year. In the declared value of our exportations there was an excess of 291,454*l.* compared with July, 1858. Compared, however, with the corresponding month of 1857, when the reckless operations which led to the panic in the autumn of that year were at their height, they present a falling off of 916,081*l.* Still, the entire returns thus far for the present year, viz., for the seven months from January to July, exhibit an increase even over the same months of 1857, when the export trade of the country reached a height never before attained. Owing to the demand for the East, cotton goods continue to figure for the heaviest increase, but the shipments of linens have also been unusually large. The aggregate value of our exports during the first seven months of the year has been 74,288,610*l.*, against 64,461,801*l.* in the corresponding period of 1858, showing an increase of 9,826,809*l.* or more than 15 per cent. Compared with 1857 there has been an increase on the seven months of 1,260,697*l.*, or rather more than 1½ per cent. With regard to imported goods, it appears that our low prices of grain and flour have at length caused a diminution in the arrivals of each description. The consumption of other articles of food and luxury shows an almost general increase, tea, sugar,

coffee, wines, spirits, fruits, and spices having all been largely taken.

FREEDOM OF ELECTION.—A meeting has been held at Carnarvon, in Merionethshire, to express the popular feeling on a subject arising out of the late general election. Certain tenants of a Mr. Price, who voted against the candidate favoured by that gentleman, were in consequence turned out of their holdings, and have, under the lead, apparently, of their dissenting ministers, met, and indignantly denounced this interference with the freedom of election.

THE NAVIES OF ENGLAND AND FRANCE.

The following remarks of a well-informed correspondent of a contemporary are worthy of consideration. He remarks that "The influence which Mr. Cobden exercises over public opinion is sufficient to make it of some moment to correct the erroneous inferences deducible from his recent observations at Rochdale respecting the navies of England and France. Mr. Cobden states that 'for every vessel France has added to her navy in the last seven years we have added ten;' but if he had looked into the matter a little deeper he would have seen that while the numerical addition to the English navy in the seven years amounted to 285, no fewer than 161 were gunboats, and 85 (sailing) mortar vessels and mortar floats,—total 246; while during the same period the additions to the French navy of these small and exceptional descriptions of vessels amounted to only 28; and everybody must know, except Mr. Cobden and his "highest scientific nautical men in Europe and America," that these small craft, of light draught of water, were built expressly for operations against Cronstadt, and are inapplicable to the general purposes of naval warfare.

"The invariable policy of this country for 200 years, until the 'craze' consequent on the long peace, which led certain wiseacres to the conclusion that wars had become impossible, was to maintain a navy twice as large as that of France; but what were the relative proportions of the two navies in effective sea-going ships of war at the beginning of this year, when the blue-book was laid before Parliament,—and the term 'effective' of necessity limits the comparison to steam-vessels only? England had afloat 33 line-of-battle ships; France had 31; and, if Parliament had not sanctioned the extraordinary estimates, the number of French line-of-battle ships would actually have exceeded the number of English by the end of the year. England had afloat 28 frigates; France, 37. England had afloat 126 corvettes, sloops, and other smaller vessels of war, exclusive of gunboats; France, 101. Thus, even according to Mr. Cobden's own admission, we had at the commencement of the year a deficiency, comparing the navy of England with that of France, of 13 line-of-battle ships, of 27 frigates, and of 25 smaller vessels of war.

"Contrast the naval force we possessed at the beginning of the year with that which we not only possessed but were compelled to call into requisition in the maritime wars which have occurred during the last 100 years. In the year 1760, in addition to a crowd of sloops and smaller vessels, we had actually in commission 113 line-of-battle ships and 101 frigates. In 1783 we had in commission 126 line-of-battle ships and 112 frigates. In 1799 we had in commission 120 line-of-battle ships and 145 frigates. In 1809 we had 113 line-of-battle ships in commission and 155 frigates.

"These were the forces we could dispose of at the times when we could bid a haughty defiance to all threats of foreign aggression and foreign combinations; but if we had assumed such airs with a force of 33 line-of-battle ships and 28 frigates, Mr. Cobden might indeed have told us that we had made ourselves "the laughing-stock of the [newspaper press," not only of "America," but of the world."

It may not be out of place here to give a description of the new French iron-cased men-of-war, which are now building at Loulon. A French correspondent says:—"The *Gloire* and *Invincible* steam-frigates, cased in iron—*frigates blindées*—of which we have heard so much, are rapidly approaching completion. Little more remains to do than to lay the decks and put on a portion of the outer scantling. As they are sister ships I give the few dimensions I could take of one of them. Length 252 ft.; beam, 45 ft.; breadth between ports, 8 ft.; thickness of sides on the main deck, independently of iron facing plates, 26 6-8 in. The timbers are of the largest dimensions, such as are used in line-of-battle ships. The beams for the main deck—the only ones I had an opportunity of measuring—were 16 in. by 17 in. square, and were partly supported by columns of rolled iron, of small diameter, stepped on the keelson. I noticed what appeared to be an experiment. On a portion of the main deck, on the port side of the main hatchway, the timber beams were replaced by iron girders, with apparently great economy of

space, and equal if not greater strength. The vessel was pierced with twenty ports on a side, and I presume would be classed as a 44-gun frigate, although she is stated to carry no guns on the upper deck. The iron plates for sheathing her sides were lying about, having just been brought in. They appeared to be of rolled iron, 4 6-8 in. in thickness, 3 ft. 7 in. wide, by 4 ft. 6 in. long. This would make the weight of each plate nearly 1 ton 6 cwt. The plates are to be bolted to the frigate's sides from the line of flotation up to a level with the upper deck, and their weight, I should imagine, must make her enormously topheavy. The rivet-holes in the plates had not yet been drilled. Besides the side plates, the frigate is to have her upper deck covered with iron plates 6-8ths of an inch in thickness. They are to be bolted between two decks or horizontal layers of timber, with a view to making her bomb-proof. This additional weight must tend to increase her topheaviness.

Foreign News.

LOUIS NAPOLEON'S AMNESTY.

It appears to be by no means clear to what extent the provisions of this imperial boon will benefit the proscribed who are now living in banishment. The "law of public safety" has some ugly provisions which will render a residence in France by no means desirable to some of these injured men. At the Tribunal of Correctional Police, the public prosecutor has announced that he had received instructions to discontinue all political prosecutions commenced prior to the amnesty. The Advocate-General stated to the court that it would have been his duty to have gone on with the prosecutions, but that he had ascertained that it was the intention of the Government that the amnesty should apply to all accusations as well as all condemnations. The only favourable inference, therefore, to be drawn from this case is that the Government will, in all probability, not press the law of public safety against any of the amnestied, but this yet remains to be officially announced.

THE DISARMAMENT.

The *Moniteur* announces that the promised disarmament will commence on the 20th of September. It appears that only those soldiers will be discharged whose period of service expires in 1859. Their number is comparatively small. Furloughs of three months only will be granted to those who are entitled to them by the regulations of 1832, and who form a more numerous class than the language of the *Moniteur* would lead us to suppose. Lastly, the same privilege is accorded to those who can show that they are "indispensable for the support of their families." The disarmament is more apparent than real. It is but temporary for the greater number of the men whom it will affect, and permanent in a small number of cases only where a discharge would have been obtained in the regular course of military service.

An Imperial decree of the 17th makes the following appointments:—Marshal Magnan, to the command of the 1st military arrondissement at Paris; Marshal de MacMahon, the 2nd at Lille; Marshal Canrobert, the 3rd at Nancy; Marshal de Castellane, the 4th at Lyons; Marshal Baraguay d'Hilliers, the 5th at Tours; Marshal Niel, the 6th at Toulouse; Brigadier General Edm. de Martimprey, the 7th at Algiers.

PARIS NEWS.—The Emperor and Empress have arrived at St. Sauveur, in the Pyrenees, where they will stay three weeks. A local paper states that two bath-rooms in marble have been constructed for their Majesties. They are contiguous to each other, but only communicate by means of an acoustic and speaking tube, so that the august couple may exchange ideas while taking their baths.—The French Government has adopted a very economical measure. All the horses and mules of the artillery, except those which are required for its effective force, will be lent out gratuitously to the agricultural population, in order to be serviceable in farming operations, on condition, however, that they be well fed and taken care of, and never be ridden or driven for mere pleasure, or employed in the postal service.

THE FRENCH "PEACE FOOTING."—It continues to be stated that Marshal Niel is to have a grand command at Lille, by way of a demonstration in answer to the fortifications of Antwerp. The force under him will consist of an army of 50,000 or 60,000 men. This does appear to be certain that the garrison of Lille is to be augmented immediately. Very considerable works are going on for what is called the "defence" of the French coasts. The French Government is delighted to have the authority of Mr. Cobden for turning the tables upon the alarm-

ists in England, and pretending that all its armaments are made solely with a view to protection against possible English aggression. The passage in Mr. Cobden's speech at Rochdale referring to this subject is conspicuously printed in the *Moniteur*.

ANNEXATION OF THE DUCHIES TO THE KINGDOM OF VICTOR EMMANUEL.

THE dictatorship which Farini abdicated on the meeting of the National Assembly of Modena, has been conferred on him again by the unanimous vote of that body. Another resolution of this National Assembly recommends the Dictator to use all efforts in order to effect the restitution of the political prisoners whom Francis V. carried away with him on leaving the country.

The National Assembly has by an unanimous vote declared the forfeiture of Francis V. and any other prince of the House of Hapsburg-Lorraine, to the ducal throne, and has also resolved to confirm and maintain the union of the Modenese provinces to the monarchical and constitutional kingdom of the glorious House of Savoy, under the sceptre of the magnanimous King Victor Emmanuel II.

The *Nord* remarks:—It is impossible not to perceive that the grand national movement in Tuscany and Modena has nothing demagogical in its character and spirit. The oldest, most powerful, and wealthiest families are at its head, and it would be absurd to accuse them of entertaining revolutionary principles. There is no hope for anarchy or disorder. Everything is done quietly, nor is there any violence in language even. People calmly express their sincere desires and profound convictions. All seem determined not to take back the fugitive princes. The stipulations of Villafranca will, therefore, prove unrealisable, so far as the duchies are concerned. But what will be the result? There seems to be only two alternatives—the annexation of the duchies of Tuscany and Modena to Piedmont, or the formation of a Central Italian kingdom, to include, perhaps, with the two duchies, the legations, and the cities of Parma and Piacenza.

LEAGUE OF CENTRAL ITALY.

THE defensive league between the provisional governments of Tuscany and Bologna and the dictator of Modena has been signed by the Marquis Ginori for Tuscany, the Marquis Coccapani for Modena, and Prince Astorre Hercolani for the junta of Bologna. The object of this league is thus defined by the Italian journals:—To prevent the restoration of the fallen governments; to maintain internal order; and to lay down the bases of the assimilation of institutions.

General Garibaldi passed in review on the 16th, on the exercise ground of Modena, a part of the eleventh division of the Italian army, and declared himself much pleased with its appearance. He afterwards visited the military hospitals, and spoke most kindly to several of the wounded soldiers. He has also dismissed the whole of the numerous, useless, gaudily-attired general *état major*, or staff, with which General Ulloa had too freely encumbered the Tuscan army. Poor *jeunesse dorée*!

THE HOLY FATHER AND HIS LATE SUBJECTS.

THE Pope is preparing for an attack upon his lost provinces of Romagna. The enlistment at Rome and in the Marches proceeds with unprecedented briskness. Every recruit receives a bounty of 300f. and the unheard-of pay of four pauls—nearly 2s.—a day. The runaway Swiss from Naples hasten to take service under the Papal standard. It seems very clear that the first aggression on the revolutionised States of Central Italy will be directed against the Romagnas. The Pope can rely on the all but open support both of the Most Christian and of the Most Faithful Sovereigns. Men and money to the full amount of his wants will be supplied to the Pope underhand by all the Powers of Catholic Christendom.

THE ZURICH CONFERENCE.

AT the banquet given by the Austrian Ambassador, in honour of the birthday of the Emperor Francis Joseph, Count Colloredo said that the fact of all the plenipotentiaries being present proved that the work of peace would be crowned with success. The negotiators have really made some progress towards the accomplishment of their task. We are now told that every detail of the terms upon which Austria gives up Lombardy to the kingdom of Sardinia is satisfactorily settled. The affairs of the Duchies will be treated of directly between the Courts of Vienna and Paris. The telegram of Thursday says:—"Count Colloredo had a slight attack of apoplexy yesterday evening, but is better to-day."

PONIATOWSKY'S MISSION.

LETTERS from Florence inform us that Prince Poniatowsky, who has arrived in Florence, has held very

strong language to the Tuscan Government in the name of the Emperor Napoleon. This latter, strongly bent, as he affects to be, on a reconciliation between the Tuscans and their Lorraine rulers, intimates through his envoy that, although he will abstain himself from all *voies de fait*, he at the same time will not oppose the armed intervention of Austria, should the Emperor Francis Joseph have a fancy to strike a blow for his Grand Ducal cousins. Ricasoli answered with great firmness that Tuscany is armed, and will abide her fate. The Tuscan Government, however, offers to come to terms with the Lorraine dynasty, upon the sole condition that Austria shall withdraw from all the Venetian territory, and that Venice, together with Lombardy, shall be annexed to Piedmont under the dynasty of Savoy. These rumours concerning Prince Poniatowsky's interview with Baron Ricasoli come from tolerably authentic sources. There are persons who confidently assert that Poniatowski is the bearer of two letters—one from the ex-Grand Duke Leopold II., announcing his abdication in favour of his son, and another from that son Ferdinand. The letter of the young "Pretender" is lavish of the most extravagant promises. If the Tuscans be willing to bend their stiff necks to the yoke, Austria, the would-be Grand Duke assures them, will appoint one of her myriad of archdukes to govern the ancient state of the Doge on a completely independent footing. Other quidnuncs who do not hesitate to connect the journey of Prince Poniatowsky with the intrigues which are undoubtedly afoot in favour of Prince Napoleon Jerome for the throne of Tuscany, and Montanelli repeats to those who wish, or do not wish, to hear it, that in his interview with the Emperor Napoleon III. at Paris, the mighty monarch assured him that the union of Tuscany with the North Italian Kingdom was a sheer impossibility.

The idea that the upshot of all these movements will be the creation of a kingdom of Central Italy in behalf of Prince Napoleon keeps many thinking men in a state of constant painful anxiety.

The National Assembly last Saturday unanimously voted the annexation of Tuscany to Piedmont amid shouts of "*Viva il Re*."

THE NEW AUSTRIAN MINISTRY.

A MINISTRY has been formed under Count Rechberg, which, from its composition, gives promise of an able and energetic administration of affairs. The new ministers are all staunch Conservatives, and little disposed to promote the liberal measures so loudly demanded by the popular voice. The most remarkable men in the new cabinet are the late Governor of Galicia, Count Golowchowski, who will undertake the Home Department; and the late ambassador at Paris, Baron Hubner, abandons the diplomatic career, and assumes the direction of the Police. The objects which occupy the attention of the Superior Council of Austria, in the way of internal reform, are—first, as respects the finances, then the free exercise of the Protestant religion, the regulation of Jewish affairs, and the regulation of municipalities. The subject of the representation of the provinces is reserved for the present. There appears to have been a fear in the court circle of too rapid progress being made in these measures of reform.

THE FORTIFICATIONS OF ANTWERP.

IN the Belgian Chamber of Deputies on the 17th, General Chazal, the Minister of War, concluded a speech which had lasted several days (!) in favour of the measure. He quoted the opinion of Napoleon the First, who, as early as 1804, had decided that Antwerp should be converted into a fortress of the first class. The project of law was carried. Several speakers improved upon the Government plan, and suggested that Brussels should be fortified as well as Antwerp. The feature of this debate was the distrust of France, implied rather than expressed by the majority of the speakers.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA.—The King continues to linger in the same hopeless state, but bulletins will henceforward be issued only once a day. The Opera has resumed its representations, and the Prince Regent has gone to Ostend. All symptoms indicate that no immediate change for the worse is expected.

RUSSIA: DAWN OF A NEW ERA (?)—A St. Petersburg letter says:—"On the 20th of September the Hereditary Grand Duke will enter his sixteenth year, and, according to the laws of the empire, will attain his majority and take part in the deliberations of the Council of the Empire, and be present at the Councils of Ministers. It is believed that on that day the general emancipation of the serfs of Russia will be proclaimed. The Grand Duke Constantine is to return to St. Petersburg for the occasion. Grand fetes are to be given in honour of the event."

AMERICAN POLITICS.

THE August elections have, as a whole, resulted favourably for the democracy. In the old Whig State of Kentucky the Opposition attempted to outbid the Administration for Southern votes. They took ground for a slave code for the "territories" and congressional legislation on the subject, and were in consequence soundly thrashed. In Tennessee, also, another Whig State, in the days when that party had an existence, they took the opposite ground, let slavery alone, and talked about local affairs, and did not deny that their sympathies were with the Republicans. They were beaten in the State by a reduced majority and gained some members of Congress. In Texas, also, General Houston, the independent democratic candidate for Governor, is reported to have prevailed over the regular candidate on the basis of hostility to negro agitation and the re-opening of the slave trade. Thus in the Southern States there seems to be setting in a conservative current of hostility to the new tests of the Southern wing of the party. It seems strange that, in the second half of the 19th century, men should be found to seriously advocate the reopening of the African slave trade. All the influences of nearly three generations of teaching and practice seem to have been of no avail against the powerful impulses of necessity and avarice.

SICKLES AT A DISCOUNT.—Europe, it seems, may have another distinguished visitor before the year ends. The notorious and Hon. D. E. Sickles has a trip to Italy in prospect, in case he should be defeated in the contest for the seat he now holds in the House of Representatives. It has been asserted that petitions from his constituents, asking him to resign his seat, were in circulation for signatures. None have been presented to him as yet, nor have meetings been held for the same object, though it has frequently been proposed to call them. Mr. Sickles had the good taste, however, to absent himself from the recent meeting of the State Democratic Central Committee, of which he is a member.

THE GOLD IN CENTRAL AMERICA.—Private letters, received within the last few days, give further information concerning the discoveries of gold at Chirigui, in New Grenada. These communications are dated at Bocodol Toro. They state that the cemeteries which contain these treasures, in the shape of golden images or idols, are the burial places of tribes long since extinct. These images are buried with their former owners, and are placed, not in the coffins, but under the bottom of the stone, beneath which the Indian's worldly wealth is deposited. The natives call them *sapos*, *calmomes*, *camaroues*, *bongueros*, &c., &c. Already fifty thousand dollars in pure gold had been extracted, and so great was the excitement, that all the inhabitants of one town had deserted their homes and gone to the places. It is said that the cemeteries where these images may be found are almost innumerable, and that they are scattered along the north and south sides of the Cordilleras. These discoveries, of course, start the inquiry as to where the gold was originally procured. California miners of experience have been sent for to ascertain where the mines from which it was taken are situated.

Original Correspondence.

GERMANY.

AUGUST 24th, 1859.—The active minded patriotic German is an object of compassion as well as respect. With the best reasons and noblest aims, he fails to inspire into the sluggish mass of his fellow countrymen a portion of his public spirit. Although the most intelligent men of every country in Germany have come forward at the risk of great personal loss, to agitate for union and representative institutions, which all know and feel are the only means of securing their country from invasion or revolution, yet the great body of the people stand idly by as if they were not in the least concerned in the matter. This painful indifference has already produced its disheartening effect, and many doubting of success are about to withdraw with the intention of confining their efforts to commercial reforms merely. I had expected to be able to report this week an extension of the agitation. Ten days ago it promised so well that I fully anticipated to see the people in every town actively supporting the movement. More animation may possibly be evinced in the course of time, but at this moment there are no grounds for the presumption. On the 17th a meeting representing all classes of the intelligent population was held at Gotha, at which a declaration similar to that of the Hanoverian deputies was accepted unanimously; it concludes thus:—"We proclaim our adhesion to the manifestation of Nassau, of Frankfort, of Eisenach, of Stutgardt, and of Hanover in favour of

central power under the leadership of Prussia. We do not proclaim this adhesion as if there existed in Germany opposite tendencies to combat, but simply to let all who share our sentiments know that we are ready to go hand in hand with them. We make this declaration fully conscious that unless we co-operate to bring about the union of all the States of our common country we shall have to endure the serious consequence to which a longer continuance in our present condition will most assuredly lead."

This meeting at Gotha was intended to be a grand demonstration and the signal for a universal agitation, but judging by present appearances it has proved to be only the last act of a play, and the spectators and actors are all off home and to bed.

Changes, but not to the extent anticipated, have occurred in Austria. Some persons have been shifted in the Ministry, and hopes are held out of certain reforms in consequence. The *Vienna Gazette* officially announces that Count Rechberg retains his place as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and becomes Minister President; Baron Hubner, Police; Mr. Von Goluchowski, Minister of the Interior; Freiherr Von Kemper is pensioned off, and Von Bach is appointed Ambassador to Rome. The Ministership of Trade is abolished, and the labours distributed among the the Interior, Foreign, and Finance offices. An article in the non-official part of the *Gazette* pretends to confirm the general and ardent expectations of the people, and is happy to inform them that the subjects which were under consideration at the Special Conferences (mentioned in my last) were—The establishment of a board of control for the Finances; the free exercise of the Protestant religion; the regulation of the position of the Jews; the carrying out of the Communal laws; and parliamentary representation at a later period in the crown domains. Timid hesitation, says the *Gazette*, as well as unreflecting haste, are equally to be avoided. It would occupy too much space were I to attempt to give even the briefest sketch of these subjects. Indeed it would be useless, for it is much sound, signifying nothing. The people themselves never trouble themselves about these sham questions, which are only put forth from time to time to make them believe that the Government is busy about some vast improvement. All pother about Communal laws may be calmed by quietly granting every one liberty to gain his bread the best way he honestly can, and allowing free ingress and egress from the country. Protestants and Jews merely require to be left alone. It is rather comical to hear that the Government is about to establish a control over the finances now that they have hardly any existence. The last promised reform is of all the most ridiculously prospective—"Parliamentary representation for the crown domains at an indefinitely later period has been under consideration." In this, at least, there will be no excessive haste.

The King of Prussia is sinking from one stage of imbecility to another, and his death is daily expected. The late attack having passed off, no further bulletins will be issued for the present, and the members of the royal family are released from their attendance. The Prince Regent has departed for Ostend. It is to be hoped that the present style of address, when speaking to or writing of the sovereign and the Princes in Prussia, will soon be abolished. No one possessed of a grain of common sense could do otherwise than smile on reading the reports of the King's illness. One would have supposed that some Almighty being was lying sick at Potsdam, instead of the indifferent chief magistrate of a third-rate power. Such terms of address as "Allergnädigste, Durchlauchtigste, König gund Herr," almost approach, in sound, at least, to blasphemy. But that it would seem like a mockery over the deplorable state of the unfortunate monarch, I would give you the last official report as a literary curiosity of the nineteenth century.

Lord John Russell is said to have addressed a dispatch to Lord Bloomfield, soon after the treaty of Villa Franca, expressing a desire to establish a complete accordance between the cabinets of Berlin and London in all European questions. The *Elberfeld Gazette* states that the friendly relations between Russia and Prussia, are now closer than ever, and that Prussia, far from being isolated, is more powerful than before for good, and sees in her alliance with England, in particular, a strong guarantee for the maintenance of peace.

It is reported by some journals, that Prussia has entered into an arrangement with the Dutch Government, according to which the latter has undertaken to set apart a portion of territory in one or the other of the Dutch colonies as a penal settlement for all Prussian criminals who have been condemned by the tribunals to ten years' imprisonment or more, and who are sufficiently robust to endure the fatigues of a long voyage. This, in plain language, I presume, means that Prussia has either sold, or made a present of all her criminals to Holland, who is willing to receive such as are sufficiently

strong and healthy to labour in those colonies which require a supply of hands. It is to be hoped that no persons condemned for political offences will be mixed up accidentally and sent off with common gaoled birds. Should this report be founded on fact it may prove not only a cheap and expeditious mode of getting rid of useless vagabonds and disagreeable persons generally in Prussia and even all Germany, but also prove a comfort to those countries—England for instance—which lie near and have no system of passports. The Americans have long ago adopted precautions against the economical views of certain Governments in Germany as regards their criminals.

A slight reduction has taken place in the postage between England and the Hanse towns Hamburg and Bremen. Letters pay now 5½d. instead of 8d., if sent by steamer and prepaid. Newspapers are, however, still charged by weight, which, as regards the English, owing to their size and the stoutness of the paper, is equal to an exclusion from circulation in Germany. Letters from this country to the United States are charged no more than 5d., while newspapers are charged only 1d. each, no matter what the size. Why such a difference should exist it is hard to understand. It would appear as if the English post-office authorities entered into postal treaties without considering the relative circumstances of the different nations. We can send a German newspaper to England for 1d., or at most 2d., whereas we cannot receive an English paper here under 3d., or at the very least 2½d. For the *Times* or *London News* the postage amounts from 3d. to 5d., which, considering the relative value of money, is equal to twice the amount in England. At any rate it is absurd that the postage from here to England should be as high as to America.

A statement, which I can hardly believe true, is making the round of the German papers to the effect that the English Government is engaging hundreds of carpenters, masons, and locksmiths from Berlin and its environs, upon very advantageous terms, to erect edifices for Government account in the Ionian Islands. A special contract, it is said, has been concluded with each. The engagement is for eighteen months, at the expiration of which each will be free to return at the expense of Government. Should this be true it may not be unworthy of notice by the English press, for several reasons, which I may advance on a future occasion.

P.S. The cholera is raging with such violence in Mecklenburg that the Government has made a semi-official appeal to the landowners not to abandon their estates in cowardly fear, but to do their duty to their unfortunate tenants, and assist the most afflicted districts in getting in the crops which are rotting in the fields for want of labourers.

MM. VICTOR HUGO AND LOUIS BLANC ON THE AMNESTY.

The following additional declarations have been published this week.

M. Victor Hugo, writing from Guernsey, says:—"No one will expect that, so far as I am personally concerned, I should give a moment's attention to the thing called an amnesty. While the state of France remains what it is, my duty will be to protest against it absolutely, inflexibly, eternally. Faithful to the engagement I have made with my conscience, I shall share to the last the exile of liberty. When liberty returns, I will return."

M. Louis Blanc expresses his opinion as follows:—"I have received communications from some of my countrymen who, finding themselves in a most painful condition, and being anxiously summoned home by their families, desire to know, in order to remove all doubts from their minds, whether, according to my views, persons situated as they are would do better not to take advantage of the amnesty. I need not point out to you the importance of the matter, both to the persons alluded to and others, who may be similarly circumstanced; and this makes me hope that my answer will be published in your columns.

"That the amnesty should be welcomed by hearty and unqualified satisfaction, as far as it extends to the unfortunate men who are to be rescued from their places of deportation or from their dungeons, that is—from a living death—is a matter of course. Who could think without emotion of so many mothers, wives, and children, whose hearts overflowed with joy at the unexpected news? But the amnesty may also be fairly hailed as a blessing by many among the exiles, whom their forlorn position in a foreign country, or family ties of a specially urgent character, justify in returning to their native land; for the solution of the problem is not one which depends upon the requirements of party compact, but rests on individual responsibility. Persons placed in different circumstances can hardly be expected to view a question of this kind in exactly the same light. Now, the amnesty being unconditional, no sort of stain whatever attaches to the act of

availing one's self of it, more especially if it be for the purpose of fulfilling domestic duties not less imperious and sacred than those arising from political convictions. No man, therefore, conscientiously influenced by such contingencies, is obnoxious or to blame for seizing the opportunity, though reluctant to receive the boon.

"On the other hand, there are those who, without being in the slightest degree prompted by the silly desire of setting up as martyrs, feel bound to subordinate all personal considerations to what they conceive to be a public duty consequent upon their position. If these persons have strong and obvious motives for believing that their return, besides being unsafe, would be of no avail either to their cause or to their country, they are, it seems to me, perfectly entitled to remain where they can speak out their mind, and enjoy the ennobling protection of the law. To serve France in France is for us now plainly impossible. To serve her abroad is the only chance we have left, at least so long as the policy of the empire remains unchanged.

"I have already acknowledged, which I am sorry to say was wilfully ignored by some of my critics, that Louis Bonaparte could hardly have done for us in the present conjuncture more than he has. But the amnesty is not the payment of the debt he owes to France, and in this payment lies the only means of imparting to the amnesty the character of a sincere and truly national act. Let the most odious practice be abolished which confiscates personal liberty on mere suspicion, and is, in fact, worse than the famous *loi des suspects*, enacted in the darkest days of the French revolution. Let the principle be laid down that no person henceforth shall be dealt with as a criminal who has not been previously convicted by a jury of his country. Let the press be un gagged by the withdrawal of the crushing system of warnings, which is meant to annul the jury, and to make the whole of a man's property responsible for a single word. Let a fairly elected representative body speak openly before the country, and no check be put on the publicity of their deliberations; let, in fine, all those rights be restored to France which constitute civil and political liberty—then the amnesty will be a clear, appreciable measure. Till this be done it remains open to the suspicion of insincerity, and may be taken as an indication of weakness rather than of strength. Whenever all this shall be done, then—and I urge the point, in order to prevent future misapprehension—it may become not only the desire but the duty of those now compelled to be in a state of self imposed exile to return to their country, not indeed to force their particular views upon an unwilling majority, but to have them tested by peaceful discussion, and either received or rejected on their own merits."

"JUSTICE TO ITALY."

UNDER this head Mr. Walter Savage Landor has written an eloquent letter to a contemporary. He says:—"It is now evident to the most ignorant of the English people, and the most incredulous and opiniative of the English Parliament, that the Italian nation is worthy of free institutions, and resolute to maintain them. No election in our smallest borough was ever conducted with more temperance and propriety than the Florentine revolution in last April. Modena, Parma, Siena, Pisa, Leghorn, and every other municipality, were equally with Florence, firm, tranquil, prompt, and courageous. The Legations rose also in perfect unanimity from under the heavy seat imposed on them by the stranger, and supported by a fat flounced priesthood. A shameful peace delivered up Venice, long half dead, to be strangled and dismembered by the Barbarian, who had despoiled and mutilated her. It now is manifest that a League of Kings is opposed to a League of Nations, and determined to throw every impediment to the progress of truth and freedom. They advance under the pretext of order in opposition to republicanism. And truly no greater curse can befall mankind than the strides of that hellish apparition. But it was no apparition that guided the Roman legions. It was no apparition that guided Cincinnatus from the furrow to the Capitol. Was Holland turbulent when she established her form of government? Was England turbulent when she called for her King the Statholder of a republic? Are the Italians, like the French, incapable of self-rule? Must they crouch for ever under masters and strangers? Venice was a republic; yet was there ever another government in all Europe which flourished in order and plenty a thousand years? Florence was a republic, and sometimes so turbulent as to exhaust her energies, never dangerous to surrounding princes. This little city, the rival of Athens, has produced more men illustrious in the Arts and Sciences, more men of exalted genius, than all the rest of the Continent in nineteen centuries."

Mr. Landor demands that the affairs of Italy should be left to Italians to manage, and points out

that an united and strong Italy must produce advantages to England. He continues:—*Qui sinit ille facit.* We interfere for the benefit of others. We conquered Algiers for the French, Navarino for Russia, the Crimea for the ancient allies of Turkey: we stood aloof from the agonies of Italy, when we might have afforded help to her without a war, and greatly to the benefit of our commerce.

"It would be unwise, if it were practicable, to establish the *status quo*. Rome was never more glorious than when her citizens were enrolled in her defence by Garibaldi: and never were these more tranquil and contented, until a fraudulent Power, under the pretext of amity and in the name of peace, bombarded her walls, massacred her defenders and proclaimed for her sovran a perjured and fugitive priest. *Quousque tandem?* Garibaldi, at the head of a united nation, will reply to these Roman words.

"The King of Lombardy, by his position, is Protector and President of the Italian United States. The Emperor of the French, holding his power by the votes of the people, can hardly assume the right to deprive the Italians of the power to form their own system. This system is not a novel one, but one under which the nation in ancient times was virtuous and flourishing; and in times more recent the better part of Italy was prosperous, while, under the despotism of kings and popes, her southern regions, once covered with potent cities, were depopulated.

FOREIGN INCIDENTS.

A NIGHT FETE IN ITALY.—A letter from Como, describing the rejoicings in honour of Victor Emmanuel in his new kingdom, says:—"The general illumination of the lake of Como took place last night. It is not in my power worthily to describe the splendour of the scene, which was offered by the famous lake on that night. From the harbour of Como to the Punta di Trameso, and from that heavenly spot to the Pliniana, all the villas and villages which dot the two banks of the lake were a blaze of painted lights. A myriad of coloured balloons were covering hundreds of boats, which, running from one point of that splendid mirror of waters to another, made of it a sort of fantastic and vast ball-room, where thousands of instruments were playing their celestial harmonies. Fancy the whole of this fairy scene animated by the gaiety and beauty of Italian women; fancy the harmony of their songs, the thrill and glow of their enthusiasm, and you will still form but a faint idea of what the Lake of Como was on that entrancing night. The ladies were almost all clad in light dresses of white muslin, with their ebon hair uncovered, singing the tender songs of their country. The goddesses of those villas, the Martinis, the Litta Bolognini, the Visconti Sansverinos, the Castebarcos, and hundreds of other fair Milanese ladies were in their rich and elegant boats, throwing flowers upon the rippling waters of the lake. It was a scene to be witnessed nowhere, except at Como; it was the combination of art and nature carried to the utmost of human perfection.

CHARIVARI PLEASANTRIES.—The *Charivari* amuses itself with the ship railway project for the Isthmus of Suez, says it is a clever attempt to inter M. de Lesseps' scheme, and that as it is well known the English engineers possess extraordinary ability—as, indeed, the *Times* says they can do anything—it suggests that the machines to be employed should be made just a trifle stronger, and, instead of lifting the ships over the isthmus, the projectors should move India over to the Mediterranean coast. In the same lively journal there is a sketch of a Zouave taking leave of his friends of the camp; he tells them that he is going home to get married, to which a chasseur replies, "Ah! you are tired of peace already, are you; and going to war on your own account?"

TRANSATLANTIC CRICKET.—Our American cousins are at length convinced of the wisdom of cultivating the athletic sports which contribute so much to the vigour of our own branch of the Anglo-Saxon race. A New York letter says:—"Cricket is absorbing an unusual amount of attention at present. This is owing in part to the expected arrival of the All England Eleven. The first match they engage in is to be played at Montreal, against the Twenty-two of that city. The second will be played at Hoboken, near this city, against twenty-two who are to be selected by the St. George's Club; the third will be played against twenty-two of the Philadelphia Club; the fourth will be the All England Eleven against eleven selected by the Montreal Club, and eleven selected by the St. George's Club of this city. This match will be played at Montreal. Some time during September a match will be played at Hamilton, C.W., against twenty-two of Upper Canada.

A TUSCAN MAGNATE.—The old Marquis Capponi, who was once styled by M. Thiers "the first citizen in Europe," came down to the Palazzo Vecchio the other day (says a Florence letter), to give his vote for the downfall of the House of Lorraine. He is stone blind, and as he walked along, leaning on the arm of his son-in-law, many members of the Assembly were affected to tears. It was remembered that this illustrious man said to the Grand Duke Leopold on the day when he revoked the statute: "Your highness, listen to the last counsels of a friend. Do not lean upon the house of Austria, for if you do you will surely fall with it."

A DEAF AND DUMB CONGREGATION.—An interesting philanthropic enterprise has recently been started in New York. A church for deaf and dumb mutes has been opened with appropriate services. It is the only edifice in the world set apart for the use of this unfortunate class. The congregation numbers 150 members. To make the enterprise self-sustaining, the friends of the deaf mutes were permitted to take part in it; and now the congregation considers itself strong enough to have a building of its own. The services are conducted in accordance with the Episcopalian forms, and are partly oral and partly in the sign language. When sermons are delivered by any one but the pastor, they are interpreted by him to the eyes of the congregation.

TOULON GALLEY-SLAVES.—There are in the arsenal and yard 4,500 *forçats* who do all the heavy work. The worst are attached in couples by heavy chains passing round the ankles and waists, and linked together. The better behaved are allowed to go singly, ironed in the same way, with the exception of the connecting chain. They are clothed in coarse canvas trousers and shirts, branded with their numbers, and a woollen jacket. Their faces, close shaven, bronzed by exposure to the sun, and brutalised by crime, are fearful to behold, and their repulsive appearance is heightened by their hair being notched short in lines running round the head, in order to facilitate their recognition should they escape. At night they lie down on inclined lengths of planking, without mattress or covering, in twenties or thirties, and an iron rod run through the leg chains of each, so that no one can move without the rest. Their food consists of brown bread not all wheaten flour, soup, and *haricots et feves* beans. The greatest obstacle to reformation is chaining the men in couples. Youths only sixteen may be seen chained to old men tainted with every vice. Waking or sleeping the *compagnons de chaîne* are never separated until freedom or death removes one of them. There were lately among the *forçats* Colonel de Cercy, who commanded a regiment at Marseilles in 1851, who was charged with the execution of the *coup d'état* in this town, and who was subsequently convicted of *escroquerie*; Captain Doineau, *chef d'un bureau Arab*, convicted of having conspired to murder an Arab chief; Lieutenant de Mercy, convicted of having unfairly and with premeditation slain another officer when tipsy in a duel; the chief army accountant (*chef comptable*), who was sent to the Crimea; the two managers of the bank at Toulon, and six *abbes* (and there are more who manage to keep their former calling secret). An eminent painter is chained to a distinguished member of the Paris bar, and between them they keep the accounts of one department of the prison, while of lawyers and notaries there is no end.

The accounts of the olives in Portugal are very bad, and a very short crop is expected. The vine disease is worse than ever, and the loss in money to the farmers and to the country generally will be very great. From Oporto, letters in which every credence can be placed describe the state of the vineyards as most disastrous.

The steam navigation on the Tigris, organised by Englishmen, is in full activity. A new steamer, the Bagdad, has commenced plying, and has numerous passengers.

A letter from Bologna, in the *Opinione* of Turin, says that Signor Alberto Mario and his wife (late Miss Jessy M. White) were travelling under the name of Martinez when arrested. They have been treated with respect, and will be set at liberty on condition of their quitting the country.

The Brussels *Independance* reports that General Changarnier does not intend to avail himself of the amnesty.

Busts of Cicero and Agrippina and a statue of Apollo, all in bronze, were found a few days ago in removing some earth for a road near Pompell, and were placed in the museum at Naples.

The *Milan Gazette* states, on the faith of some traveller, that upwards of seventy persons were arrested at Venice on the night of the 13th, suspected of political agitation.

INDIA, AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

NORTH-WEST PROVINCES OF INDIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF "THE LEADER."

July, 1859.

SIR,—Your articles on "India and Indian Progress" are perused in these parts with much interest, and it is therefore believed that a few lines upon the same subject may not be unacceptable.

You enumerate in your issue of 14th May, only about eleven places as adapted for European settlement in all the Himalayan range, 1,500 miles long, and in the smaller mountain systems of Southern India. Of these six only belong to the Himalayas. In fact, the circumstance that we possess no adequate room for colonisation in the great mountain districts of India, seems never to be dwelt upon sufficiently by the press at home. We have barely 200 miles in extent out of all the 1,500 miles from Assam to Peshawur; and it is believed to be the fixed purpose of the officials in India to take no advantage of honest opportunities of augmenting this British portion. 1,300 miles belong to the disaffected Nepaulese, to Bootam, to Cashmere, and to some petty rajahs. You talk of Simla and Sabathoo as suited for European settlers. Where? These stations—for they are nothing more—are like islands in a sea; they have only the ground within the limits jealously fixed and maintained by the native chiefs, in whose territories they are but specks. All around is a sea, so to speak, of hostility and aversion. Will Englishmen like to settle in native states? Will they be able to do so? I know, by long experience, that the civil service will not assist Englishmen who desire to lease or buy land within native states. Indeed, colonisation will make no progress whatever while the management of the measure lies in the hands of the Indian service. They detest all Englishmen of the industrial type worse than ever. The old hatred and jealousy of the interloper are exasperated by anger at the success of our representations against their inefficiency. You may write what glowing articles you please about the fitness of the mountain ranges for Englishmen—and you cannot write too warmly for the facts—but all will end in failure while the work is left to the local service. Send out commissioners of colonisation, and then you will see India going ahead. Look at your railways. Had the local service been debarred from meddling with these, the grand trunk lines would have been finished long since. Now no progress can be reported. Squabbles with insolent and ignorant officials have delayed the works, and driven back to England the best of your railway engineers; while the needy Government have been using the money paid up on calls by shareholders. Your colonies will get on like your railways. Send us out commissioners of colonisation and of railway construction, with independent powers, and India will soon sparkle as the brightest and most valuable jewel in the British crown.

I have said that our local authorities do not desire to take advantage of honest opportunities of augmenting the British territory in the Himalayas. A glaring instance of this wilful lache has just occurred. The Rajah of Teeree or Gurwhal lately died, and as he left no legitimate heir, his property fell by treaty to the English Government. To prevent this accession of territory suitable for the colonist, the officials are quietly straining every nerve to send an illegitimate son of the late Rajah in his father's place, and they will most probably succeed, unless a power greater than themselves at home stop this terrible shock to British colonisation.

The territory is upwards of 4,500 square miles in area; it contains every variety of climate, from perpetual snow to the sweltering tropic; thousands of rivers rush along, with a force equal to all the horse power now employed in machinery throughout the world, and every animal and every vegetable on earth might be profitably cultivated in one or other part of the vast expanse.

The present population is said to be about 100,000 miserable, inert, degenerate human beings, or about twenty-two to the square mile. Three or four millions of Englishmen might find homes within the same territory; yet this chance is to be thrown away to preserve the civilians in ease and importance. They will sacrifice India, rather than make her truly British.

It is useless to enlarge on this shameful abuse of trust. In England you listen to nothing but rebellion or mutiny. Your mismanagement brought about the sepoy outbreak; it has brought about the European soldiers' mutiny, just subsiding; how will you look when you provoke a general Christian

mutiny? Give us a little share in self-government. Your Indian council has not a man but Sir J. Lawrence that would command a single independent vote amongst the settlers, the rest of the council are all official men, who will look after official rights, but not after the national rights of India. It is but natural. As for this country, I have already given my opinion of the officials here. They are, of course, mistrusted and despised. How would you like in England to be governed by a few official Hindoos in Calcutta? Yet, your treatment of us is precisely similar. There are not two men in the Government that either know our wants, or care to satisfy them. That sort of Government can have only one termination,—we shall turn to and help ourselves.

AN INTERLOPER.

LATEST INDIAN INTELLIGENCE.

By the arrival of the overland mail we have received letters and papers from Bombay to the 21st ult.

With regard to the European levies of the late company there is every reason to believe that eight or ten thousand of these troops will demand their discharge, in terms of the general order that has been published. It is impossible to say whether a new bounty would have led these men to re-enlist or not. "It was surely imperative, however, says the *Bombay Overland Times*, "for Government to have ascertained that fact beforehand, and if a bounty would have retained them, it was sheer madness to refuse it. We have lighted upon evil times in India, and there is no man in the country who seems to understand the epoch but Sir Charles Trevelyan, whom the Madrassee are ready to immolate for his uncomplimentary minute upon Indian juries."

Further information has arrived of encounters with the few remaining bodies of the rebel army. On the 22nd and 23rd of June, Lieut. Roome, of the 10th N.I., fought two actions with two bodies of rebels, the first numbering 2,000 men, among whom were 800 sepoy. Roome's little column advanced carefully, but rapidly, upon the position which the rebels had fortified, to find it abandoned. Lieutenant Blair with the cavalry went in pursuit, and cut up a hundred of the enemy. The column was fired upon on its return at the village of Gooriepoora, when Roome gave orders to storm it, an operation which was performed without loss, and the supplies of an army collected therein destroyed. Information was afterwards brought into Dasondah that another leader, Surferaz Khan, with 300 sepoy, was again encamped at Gooriepoora; and Roome marched at twelve o'clock that night upon the rebels. The cavalry were at once let slip, but the rebels made for and secured the hills. A few only were cut up. These were all Bengal sepoy, and showed a good deal of discipline in their tactics, for after the first charge they took up a position in the rocks, where the horses could not follow, and kept up a steady fire of musketry and abuse upon the assailants. The infantry finally dislodged them from the ground they had taken, killing a large number of them, and capturing all their horses and baggage animals. Among the dead were sepoy who had fought at Mooltan and Guzerat, as were evidenced by the medals that were found upon them. The effect of these operations has been to reduce the district to the semblance of loyalty.

A letter from Rajpootana dated July 2, says:—Nixon goes towards Nuggur Parker. It appears that Colonel Evans and Lieut. Tyrwhitt thought the business was over, and dismissed almost all the troops, retaining only two levies and a couple of companies. On the night of the 20th Nuggur Parker Rana made a successful attempt to escape, overpowered and cut down Evans's and Tyrwhitt's guards, cut the tent ropes, seized the treasure, and liberated the prisoners. The new levies bolted. The two companies of Beloochees, however, must have stuck to it, for they were fighting till sunrise, when Johnson's Beloochees returned and cleared the place, pursuing the rebels into the hills, with severe loss, and killing many of the liberated prisoners. Another field force has gone out from Deesa, and they will be obliged to maintain a force at Nuggur Parker for some time to come.

Rebel sepoy are frequently brought in by the patrols in a state of almost perfect prostration from disease. They report that at least one-seventh of their number are in the same dying and helpless condition.

The disarmament of Oude continues. Up to the present time, nearly 800,000 arms of all descriptions besides about 700,000 miscellaneous weapons, have been collected, including 642 cannon of various calibre.

The *Mofussilite* has heard that the Sikh cavalry at Allahabad have followed in the wake of the Europeans in demanding bounty, but on what ground is incomprehensible. They are reported to be "disaffected," and their officers cannot control

them efficiently. There seems to be no end to the combustibles in the mine upon which we are standing.

The *Bombay Gazette* says that for some time rumours have prevailed to the effect that the seat of Government will be removed, so soon as arrangements now pending are completed, from Bombay to Poona.

The reports that have long obtained as to the sympathy of the Court of Neapaul with the rebel cause continue. At all events, the rebels seem to use Neapaul as a sort of fortress whence to sally forth and attack their enemies' territories at pleasure. In the early morning of the 12th July, a body of about fifty, all Rajpoot sepoy, attacked and looted the house of a gentleman at Goruckpore, carrying off 100 rupees, horses, &c.

THE BEGUM AND THE NANA.

Upon a Budmash, who surrendered at Sepree Ghaut, were found some urzees (petitions) tied up in a rag, and a pass with Mummoo Khan's seal. The Begum, it seems, with Mummoo Khan, Beni Madho, Rajahs Daoie Bux and Jurroop Sing, and the whole of their party, were desirous to surrender at once, and implored the men to whom the urzees were addressed to present the matter to the Chief Commissioner without delay. Another fellow, who also surrendered, gave the following detailed information:—"The Begum and Khan Bahadoor Khan are at Bootwal in a fort: they have about 100 men with them. The Begum has money, and supplies all the rebels with clothing and money to purchase supplies. Khan Bahadoor Khan is very ill, and cries day and night; he has no followers with him. The Nana is about eight koss from Bootwal, with 2,000 men. They are regular sepoy, and are very strict in doing duty, and keeping guard. Nana Sahib has some European women with him, and he has given strict orders that any one caught plundering will lose a hand; therefore, as they pay for their supplies, and do not plunder, the villagers are not afraid now. The Rajah of Neapaul has told the Nana he is not to enter Neapaul, and that if he hears a complaint from the villagers, he will order them to move from where they now are. There are 4,000 Budmashes, men from Lucknow, and elsewhere, at the foot of the hills, who plunder, as they have no money. They have plenty of women with them, who came also from Lucknow, whom they have robbed of their jewels. It is the intention of the rebels to go towards the Santhal district, when they leave their present locality. It is also reported in the Nana's camp, that Feroze Shah had gone to Cabul, to get assistance from Dost Mahomed."

POLICE BATTALIONS.

We might have stated a few issues ago that the Munnipooree regiment, which has lately been converted into the seventh or Dacca police battalion, arrived here from Jumalpoore under the command of Lieutenant Hitchins, but as there were some ugly rumours afloat at the time regarding the corps, we determined to leave it "alone in its glory." Captain Fagan, the new commandant, had been in Dacca some time awaiting its arrival. We cannot say much in favour of the corps, as we have never had an opportunity of seeing it together, but if we are to judge from stray parties that have passed us under arms, and individual sepoy, we must say that a finer set of fellows never marched through Coventry, such long, lean, bandy-legged guys being rarely seen in that famous city. But they have no small opinion of themselves nevertheless. They thought it a degradation to become police, for which they were not enlisted, and stuck out for some time against the proposal, but now it is understood they have placidly given way. Captain Plowden, their late commandant, came to Dacca to take command of the 7th police battalion, which was not then in existence, excepting on paper. The Munnipoorees were not then the Dacca police battalion, and as no such body appeared to be in existence, a reference was made to Government on the subject. Go to Jumalpoore, was the reply; there you will find an armed police ready made to your hand; they are the Munnipooree regiment—no more. Some unpleasantness ensued, and two months ago we heard they were coming down here to experience the paternal solicitude of Government after their welfare. And here they are at last, as quiet as lambs, and equally contented. Some of them are bumptious at times, refusing to be shaved, or to comply with some other equally necessary order, and find themselves paid up and discharged "before they know where they are." We hear as many as seventy have been turned out in this way already. If they only go on weeding at this rate we shall soon see the end of them, and the back slums of Sylhes, which are not unknown to a great many of them, will be replenished once more. Another trial awaits them, and it is quite as well that they have been brought within the reach of civilisation before

it was attempted. It is said their pay is to be reduced from seven to six rupees a month. If this be true, and we have heard it from a well-informed source, we shall not be able to compliment the Government on the manner in which it has managed this corps. Rather than incur the suspicion of breaking faith, it would have been better to disband the corps at once, and raise men for the police battalion on conditions that could not have been misunderstood. As usual, the Government has adopted a paltering policy, which has pleased nobody, and resulted in failure.

Ex pede Herculem. Let the reader, if he pleases, form an opinion of the new Bengal Military Police by the 7th battalion at Dacca. A more useless expenditure at a time when the State is hardly able to pay the interest of its debt was never incurred. We do not want this police. We do not want an undisciplined rabble with no firelocks and bayonets here, whatever may be the case elsewhere. Chupprassies, with no other weapons than their sticks, are quite enough for us. If we had no Europeans here, we should certainly be far safer without than with them. Either way, with or without Europeans in the station, they are useless for all good purposes, and only a source of distrust and danger. At least Rs. 5,000 must be incurred monthly on their account, and the Government recklessly and uselessly expends this sum while it is cutting ten rupees out of every poor devil's salary who gets only one hundred for doing good and useful work. This is a penny wise and pound foolish policy—saving a few pence here and there, throwing thousands and hundreds of thousands of pounds uselessly away. If we are to have a military police in every zillah, do away with the bulk of the native army; we can't want both, and in many zillahs neither soldiers nor military police are wanted. Dacca is one of those zillahs in which there is not to be found one intelligent, impartial individual who is not of opinion that the expense now incurred by our military police can in every respect with the utmost advantage be spared.—*Dacca News.*

The Right Hon. J. Wilson takes his departure for India in October. Her Majesty's "Chancellor of the Exchequer for India" has been indefatigable in getting everything in order for his departure, although he has not yet taken a final leave of the Board of Trade.

We hear that one of the most zealous members of the Bombay municipal board, Dr. Bust, has been offered the situation of superintendent of the Government printing office in Bengal, on a salary of Rs. 1,700.

We observe that the Chepauk Palace and grounds were bought by the Madras Government for 580,000 rupees. The gold throne of the Nawab of the Carnatic was sold for 22,000 rupees, and the silver ladder for 2,500 rupees. *Sic transit gloria Chepauki.*

Mr. Gregor Grant, sub-treasurer, general paymaster, superintendent of stamps, and secretary to the Government savings bank, has been permitted to retire from the Bombay Civil Service.

It is stated that Sir Charles Trevelyan purposes making a tour into the provinces, starting in about a couple of months. He will proceed first to Coccana, Dowlashwaram, and up the Godavery, in order that he may personally satisfy himself concerning the advantages of that river as a means of communicating with the interior. He is also anxious to look into the condition and prospects of the irrigation works.

The liberal electors and non-electors of the borough of Maidstone will give a grand *fete* in Vinter's Park, on Wednesday, the 31st instant, to celebrate the return to Parliament of Messrs. Lee and Buxton.

The Governor-General has sanctioned a proposal for forming a police corps of irregular cavalry in Bengal, from portions of corps now at the disposal of the Lieutenant-Governor. This force, we are informed, is to be commanded by Capt. Adlain, whose headquarters will be at Patna.

The first electric telegraph has now been set up in Persia. It is sixty leagues long, and extends from Teheran to the camp of Sultanieh.

By our last advices from Africa, we learn that Captain John Sanderson had died on board the screw-corvette Archer, of 13 guns, of which he held the command, on the west coast of Africa station.

The fact that several gentlemen closely connected with the Prince of Wales have sailed for Canada, from Liverpool, in the screw steamer North Briton, gives an air of probability to the rumour that his Royal Highness will shortly pay a visit to the North American colonies.

Fine Arts.

THE following interesting details relative to the fine antique bronze of "Victory" at Brescia, of which the municipality of that town are about to present a cast to the French Government, are condensed from the *Gazette de Lyon*:—"In 1852, a learned Brescian archæologist discovered some remains of a temple, dedicated to Vespasian, opposite the forum of the ancient Brixia. Aided by the authorities, he cleared away the rubbish, and found in the middle of the building, which had been evidently destroyed by fire, a bronze statue, about eight feet high, in excellent preservation, and representing a Victory or a winged Muse writing on a shield. The most remarkable feature of this is its perfect resemblance to the famous statue known as the Venus of Milo, which had been found about four years before in an island of the Archipelago. The likeness is far too close to be accidental; it is evident one was copied from the other, or both from some common original. The only difference between them is found in the drapery. The bust of the Brescian statue instead of being nude, is covered with a close tunic most admirably executed, its light and delicate folds contrasting strongly with the heavy tissue of the peplos which envelopes the statue of Milo. The head-dress, features, expression of the countenance, and attitude are exactly alike in the two; but the foot is broken off in the Venus of Milo, while in the Victory of Brescia it is perfect, and rests on a crushed helmet. In the left hand the latter holds a shield, while the right is writing or pointing to a name written on it. In the bronze folds of the Brescian statue a bronze statuette, about twenty inches high, was found; but what it represents or why it was concealed there the antiquarians of Brescia have not been able to explain; perhaps those of Paris may be more fortunate."

The eighteenth and last day's sale of Lord Northwick's magnificent collection took place on Wednesday last at Thirlstone House. It consisted mainly of works from the family residence, Northwick Park, Worcestershire; and brought 3,750*l*. The total amount realised on the sale has reached the sum of 95,725*l*.; a sum unparalleled in the records of fine art auctions in this country.

A meritorious historical picture of important dimensions has been privately exhibited during the last few days, by Mr. Maguire, of Wimpole-street, the artist. The subject is "Cromwell refusing the Crown of England" to the deputation who presented to him, at Whitehall, what was then termed the "humble petition and advice" of the Knights, Burgesses, and Citizens assembled in Parliament. The work has been painted on commission for a publisher, who will shortly exhibit it; when we also shall be better prepared than at present to speak of it critically.—M. Meissonnier, the celebrated French artist who has been ordered to leave his well accustomed field, the boudoir, for the delineation of incidents connected with the late Italian campaign, has been ordered to place himself *en disponibilité*. Should all go well at Zurich, he is to move, they say, upon Vienna, there to take the likenesses of the Austrian Emperor, and other actors in the Villafraanca farce. This story has a strong flavour of *canard*.—The will of the late Jacob Bell has been proved at Doctors Commons. Among other liberal bequests is one to which we have before alluded, namely, of the following very valuable pictures to the National Collection, viz, "The Derby Day," "The Maid and the Magpie," "Shoeing," "Sleeping Bloodhound," "Alexander and Diogenes," "Dignity and Impudence," "Highland Dogs"—these five last named are by Sir Edwin Landseer—"Defeat of Comus," "Horse Fair," "Uncle Toby and the Widow Wadman," by Leslie, "Bloodhound and Pups," "River Scene," and "Evening in the Meadows," by Lee and Cooper, "James II. receiving the News of the Landing of the Prince of Orange," by E. M. Ward, "Foundling," by G. B. O'Neill, "Bathers," by Etty, "Bibliomania," by W. Douglas. Frith's "Derby Day," Landseer's "Alexander and Diogenes," and Douglas's "Bibliomania," are all veritable treasures. If we mistake not, we indicated them as the most remarkable works in the selection recently exhibited by the late Mr. Bell at the Marylebone Institute. The two first named works are familiar enough to all the world; but the name of the excellent hand (now no more) that painted the "Bibliomania," is hardly known even among artists.

The Neapolitan exhibition of the works of living artists, originally fixed for the month of June, but which Italian troubles, and the recent preoccupation of Italian minds have caused to be postponed, will open definitively, we believe, on the first proximo. The museum at Naples has been enriched by the addition of several important works in bronze discovered a few days ago by some excavators near Pompell. They comprise a statue of Apollo, and busts of

Cicero and Agrippina. Canova's statue of Napoleon I. was inaugurated at Milan on the 14th inst. in the presence of Marshal Vaillant, on the part of the French people, and all the Sardinian officials.

The "Greek Slave" has arrived at Raby Castle, one of the grand palaces of our northern coal-owners, and has been placed in "the Baron's Hall."

A graven image of poor Feargus O'Connor, too, in Derbyshire stone, has been set up in the Nottingham Arboretum. A crowd of the working classes attended the ceremony, and at the necessary subsequent dinner Mr. Ernest Jones and others made some speeches, which were warmly received. The figure is seven feet high, and is draped as a barrister.

The second volume of the "Drawing-room Portrait Gallery of Eminent Personages," published by the proprietors of the *Illustrated News of the World*, is before us. Among the notabilities portrayed and biographized are Dr. Cumming, Cardinal Wiseman, Hugh Stowell, Mademoiselle Tietjens, Madame C. Novello, Lord Lyndhurst, Mr. Gladstone, and John Bright. Here, with a vengeance, doth "the lion lay down with the lamb." As a contemporary amusingly observes, "the book completely realises the idea of a human 'Happy Family.'"

Complaints are rife, and not without some shadow of justice, against the Goodwin-Pocock management of the Art Union of London. The council of that institution have, since they found themselves clothed with power, and place, and patronage, in virtue of a Royal charter, taken to the sin, common in such cases, of autocracy. A contemporary of the *Daily Telegraph*, who has taken the matter up well and warmly, tells us that, out of an income of £15,210, they now expend but £2,700 or about one-sixth, in pictures. Now, if we remember well, one of their great pleas for incorporation was that they had spent, were spending, and intended to spend from one-half to two-thirds of their income in the purchase of pictures. The sums withdrawn from the art pictorial are now handed over to the speculator in copper plates, and the importer of foreign bronzes. To make a numerical parade of paintings, each grants isslander in amount. The unfortunate allottees are turned into the exhibition-rooms, when the cream thereof has been gathered by dealers and *dilettanti*; they find little of real value, when even they know it by sight: they consequently are apt to buy rubbish on compulsion or through ignorance, or, what is more pernicious, may leave the patronage in the hands of the officials. The public and the profession are, as we have already said, loud in their call for reform or for the repeal of a charter which they urge has become forfeit through the failure of the grantees to realise the promises on whose faith they obtained it. We shall hereafter allude to the scheme of an Artists' Art Union, with its possible advantages and demerits. As at present advised, we think the latter preponderate, but as the plan can hardly be called mature, it were better we should reserve our judgment.

The unpleasantly personal question as to the fitness of Mr. Scott to be the architect of the new Foreign Office is now succeeded in many quarters by that, whether the Gothic style is the most or least fit for the purpose. The quarrel is a pretty one. Pretty men on one side are contending that the Gothic is a national style: pretty men on the other side say that it is foreign. Some say to use it for an office were simply desecration: others that it is architecturally unfit, as favouring darkness and inconvenience of rooms. That the latter position is true we can aver from much personal acquaintance with the interior of the Parliament houses. We are privately of opinion that it is more agreeable to the eye than either the Greek or Italian style, but we fear that on business grounds the Italian style must eventually be adopted. The cry about desecration is all humbug: and we must here leave the matter to wiser heads and idler hands than our own. But should the doctors differ—let them agree to differ till crack of doom, ere they call in such tempestuous arbiters as Sir Charles Barry and Mr. Amateur Clockmaker Counsellor Denison. The latter of these firebrands will, if he scolds much longer about the former, become positively and personally uncivil. His normal state is not one of lukewarmness, and he is now at very nearly boiling point. But these two artists having now come to public literary fistichuffs, the suffering public have some chance of gratifying their curiosity as to the cost of the Westminster clock and bells. The disputants have entered upon figures already. Those who wait patiently will learn more.

Quasi lucus à non lucendo, Messrs. Ponsonby and Co.'s much abused indicator may be considered worthy of a paragraph in a Fine Art column. This artless edifice is, we fancy, destined yet to flourish, and will owe its permanency less to its own merits

than the foolishness of its foes. The Duke of Wellington has, it appears, been making himself supremely ridiculous about it. His lachrymose appeal to Commissioner Mayne—who so far abetted "his dear Duke," as to spend a policeman a-day upon him, for a while, out of the public money—has, no doubt, already amused our readers. The upshot of the matter will be, if we may trust his Grace, that unless the indicator, or the cabs, or the omnibuses, or the British public in general is put down, the grand ducal residence will be untenable—perhaps to let. "*Et apres*" we are certainly tempted to add: but without stopping to contemplate a consummation so devoutly to be deprecated (by his Grace), let us offer the little scheme for remedy of the evil complained of, to which our readers owe the introduction here, by the ears, of the Indicator and its coronetted victim. It seems to us that if this worthy scion of the Mount-garrets, whose legitimate inheritance—the wooden spoon—has been disturbed by his fortuitous birth with a service of plate in his mouth, could only contemplate the surrender of one tittle to that public who have so largely endowed him, he might secure the equanimity of the high-blooded coursers whose tempers are now spoilt by the adjacent cabby; secure his own neck from the fate he dreads; and perhaps "live very happy ever after." If the gates of Apsley House were removed altogether, and the noble proprietor were content to live flush with the street like the rest of the world, or the majority of them; and if the space thus gained were devoted to the service of the public by giving width to the road, we should hear no more of "the sharp turn into the park," the "dawdling cab," "my irritable horse," or "my dear Sir Richard." As for lynching the poor indicator, we are glad to find no fresh suggestion on the subject in the last published batch of the new Duke's despatches, and so far we congratulate his Grace on his prudent reserve.

Amusements and Entertainments.

THE famous "Royal Property" of Vauxhall has been sold again, and, we understand, in the words of the auctioneer, "for the very last time." A horde of frenzied brokers tore and trampled about the walks and haunts of Clarindas, Lucindas, Modishes, and Lady Bettys of old days, and depreciated with unwashed paws the faded remnants of Vauxhall grandeur, that they lusted to remove then and there in their spring carts. For all that, the objects put up to auction could hardly, by stretch of courtesy, be called classical or articles of *virtu*. There are few more ruinous, less romantic-looking things than a dilapidated tea-garden, and the "properties" went in most cases for what they were worth—an "old song." If there be enthusiasts who would derive zest from drinking beer that had run through the old Vauxhall engine, or whose heels would gain spring from waltzing on a *ci-devant* Vauxhall platform, we dare say such articles will be found, on more minute inquiry than we are at liberty to make, in some of the many suburban *lust-gartens*. The ground will be immediately cleared for building, and in a few weeks the dealers in old materials will have left not a wrack behind.

The BRADFORD FESTIVAL opened on Tuesday evening with Mr. Costa's arrangement of the National Anthem, followed by Haydn's "Creation"; the principal singers being Madame Novello, Mr. Sims Reeves, Madame Sherrington, Signor Belletti, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, and Mr. Santley. To enter here into any lengthened description of the oratorio or of the perfections of these artists would only tire the reader; we therefore confine ourselves to stating that the programme we gave last week has been carried out to the extreme delight of the Yorkshire Connoisseurs, who are no mean judges of choral music, and to the complete satisfaction of the metropolitan critics, and professionals present, who vie with each other in the admiration of Mr. Costa's conducting. Superb weather attracted crowds of county fashionables to the handsome music hall, and, as might be expected in a manufacturing town of such importance, a vast mob into the streets. The latter, as the comeliness of the fair sex at Bradford is somewhat striking, was by no means the least agreeable feature of the festival week.

The hundred and thirty-sixth meeting of the three choirs of Gloucester, Worcester, and Hereford, for the benefit of widows and orphans of clergy in those three dioceses is advertised to take place at Gloucester, on the 13th of September and three following days. On the first day, Tuesday, the festival will commence with full choral service. On Wednesday will be given the "Elijah" of Mendelssohn; on Thursday, Rossini's "Stabat Mater," and Spohr's "Last Judgment;" on Friday, Handel's "Messiah," and on the first three evenings grand miscellaneous concerts at the Shire Hall. The principal vocalists

announced are Madame Clara Novello, Mdle. Titiens, and Miss Dolby; Mr. Sims Reeves, Signor Giuglini, and Signor Belletti.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

Last week's Saturday concert, under the management of Mr. Sims Reeves—though what this "management," "direction," or, as a flunkeyising contemporary says, "auspices," amounts to, except the use of his name, we cannot divine—was very successful. Mr. Reeves was in excellent voice, and sang "Come into the Garden, Maud," "Sound an Alarm," and "Good bye, Sweetheart," most admirably. Mrs. Sims Reeves, who, though she has no great compass or strength of voice, has had an excellent musical training—was heard to the best advantage with her husband in the duet, "Da qual di" from *Linda di Chamouni*. Mdle. Artôt distinguished herself particularly in "Non piu mesta," and a remarkably florid Spanish air. One of the most finished performances of the day was Signor Belletti's "Ruddier than the Cherry," and not the least attractive, the selection from Meyerbeer's "Dinorah," played on the terrace after six o'clock by the Royal Marine Band.

On Tuesday, upwards of 62,000 souls assisted at the grand festival of the ancient and honourable order of foresters; and right well, as far as eating, drinking, chattering, and generally enjoying themselves, did they assist? Nothing could have surpassed the interior arrangements, including even those of Mr. Strange, who, since he has been sole monarch of the commissariat here, has much improved matters; but nothing could exceed the delay and discomfort experienced, not alone by the unhappy myriads, but by the still more unhappy officials, who had to get the grounds evacuated, and the railway platform clear. Yet, after all, who could expect aught else. Fully one half of the happy and glorious 60,000 were for departure at one particular hour, and by one particular train. Caution, argument, and entreaty, were alike thrown away, they courted grief, they won it, and we may say with very few exceptions, they put up with it heroically. The passage from the garden to the train has been likened by a facetious contemporary to the horrors of "the middle passage" so familiar to our ears at Exeter Hall; but at the end of all there was little to complain of, and by the trains no accident, though some crafty travellers overland, who thought to be wiser than their friends, injured themselves by dropping out of a chaise onto some hard ground. One or two writers have complained of a want of drinking fountains in the grounds. We hope this is without foundation. With all respect for the directors and Mr. Strange, the thirsty souls who now throng these gardens twice or thrice a week should not be left to the mercy of the latter gentleman. Our own impression and hope is that at least one fountain still exists very near to the north wing, and but a few paces from the terrace foot. On the days of the Handel Festival we drank like weary pilgrims there, and prayed for the kind soul of a director who had thoughtfully caused its erection. It had, it is true, a temporary look about it—a very temporary look. It was, in fact, a little spare beer-engine that had lost its way and was fixed to the water-main among the trees. But on those Handel days it was an object of interest to hundreds, and we hailed it as the precursor of a dozen. We hope we shall not long be disappointed.

THE ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION being about to wind up its affairs in consequence of the accident in January last, and the litigation consequent upon it, a company called the "New Polytechnic" is in course of formation, with a capital of £20,000 in 2,000 shares. The prospectus states that the old company paid a moderate dividend upon its capital of £35,000. We wish the new undertaking every success; for the devotion of the premises to any other purpose than that of the combined entertainment and instruction which have so long endeared them to the young and not a few of the old, would leave a void in the short list of London sights that might not soon be filled up.

The Council of the HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY have finally accepted the terms of the treaty offered by her Majesty's Commissioners, and have instructed their solicitor to act for them in the matter of a lease of land at Kensington, or, more properly, New Brompton. The restoration of the society, and what is more interesting to readers of this column, of its fêtes, to their former position in public favour may be considered as certain. Subscriptions to the amount of £28,000 have, it is said, been tendered to the Council.

The subscriptions received for the Keon testimonial up to the end of last week amounted to about £1,100.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Evening, August 26th.

FRANCE: THE AMNESTY.

THE *Constitutionnel* devotes a very long article to expounding the objects and lauding the benefits of the amnesty. The writer, M. Boniface, speaking of the vexed question of amnesty, as opposed to pardon, quotes M. Dupin to the intent that "An amnesty is an act of the sovereign power, the effect of which is that a crime or offence is effaced and forgotten. Amnesty is abolition and forgetfulness—forgiveness is only pity and pardon. The effect of pardon is confined to the total or partial remission of a sentence pronounced, the condemnation still existing. Amnesty carries with it positive abolition of crimes, prosecutions, and condemnations." A brief sketch is given of the political offences, or rather the occasion provocative thereto in France since 1848. Among others the *coup d'état* is thus mildly characterised:—"The insurrectionary movements produced in various parts of France were the object of divers measures of repression." We learn from the concluding sentence that "the gracious decision rendered by the Emperor had already reduced the number of persons condemned for political offences to 1858." And the moral of the article appears in the following words:—"The generous act consecrated by the decree of the 16th of August could be *octroyé* without danger to the public tranquility."

A Paris letter says:—"I hear expressions of much disappointment among the liberal party, at finding so many of the leading exiles decide not to avail themselves of the amnesty. The remark is that the amnesty appears to have been somewhat misunderstood as to its probable effects upon the cause of liberty; for, say they who entertain this opinion, whatever the Emperor's belief or intentions concerning the amnesty, it cannot be for a moment doubted that the mere fact of the presence in France of a large number of the men who represent before the world the idea of that nearly extinct thing, French civil and political liberty—men, too, so schooled in adversity as to be incapable of compromising the future by any rash movement—would be attended by beneficial results to the cause of liberty."

BELGIUM.

The Belgian senate is convoked for the 30th, to pronounce on the Antwerp Fortification Bill. Much agitation is manifested in Belgium, letters state, on the subject of that measure. It is thought that the senate, taking into consideration the small majority in the Chamber of Deputies, will reject it.

TURKEY.

A DESPATCH from Trieste, dated yesterday, informs us that:—"The Sultan has been taken ill. Mussurus Pacha has been empowered to settle the question of the Danubian Principalities. The Papal Chargé d'Affaires is expected. The Prince Vogorides is dead. Mohamed Pacha has been appointed Governor-General of Smyrna. The Sultan has presented the dragoman to the Russian ambassador with a country seat.

MEXICO.

By the Ocean Queen, which has arrived at Southampton, we learn that Miramon is now making his arrangements for a campaign against San Luis Potosi. After taking that place he is to march against Vera Cruz for the second time.

From the interior we hear of the movements of considerable bodies of constitutional forces, but they have come to no set battle of late with the forces of the clergy. Marquez, the assassin of Tacubaya, has returned to Guadalajara, and as a natural consequence the constitutionalists are again in Tepic.

The banished Englishmen who have not already left for abroad, have received new orders to leave. Mr. Whitehead, agent of the British bondholders, left here a week since, and goes to Europe by the packet from Vera Cruz for Southampton. Mr. Potts left by the packet of last month, and the balance, with their orders from the police to "move on," will be taking their departures from this time forward.

Padre Miranda disappeared from Mexico two months since.

DR. SMETHURST'S CASE.—This (Friday) morning an opinion prevails among the officials at Horse-monger-lane Jail, that the execution will not take place at the time appointed—next Monday week. From circumstances that have transpired, it is expected that a communication will be received, postponing the execution, at all events, for some days, in order to give time for further inquiry. A vast number of communications have been addressed to the Home Office on the subject of a commutation of the sentence, but nothing upon the subject is known officially.

EAST KENT RAILWAY.—The half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders in this company, was held this (Friday) morning at the offices in Moor-gate-street, Lord Sondes in the chair. It was stated that the works on the line were progressing favourably, and the directors had every confidence that the whole of the line would be finished by October, 1860.

CRYSTAL PALACE. GREAT FOUNTAINS.

On Monday next, August 29th, the whole system of Water-works, including the Cascades, Waterfalls, Dancing Fountains, Water Temples, Basket Fountains, the nine basins of the Upper Series, and the numerous jets of the grand lower basin, will be displayed at half past-four, o'clock precisely. Also first day of Summer Poultry Show. Open at 9. Admission One Shilling. Children under twelve, Sixpence.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE. LAST NIGHT OF MR. CHARLES KEAN'S MANAGEMENT.

On Monday will be presented DYING FOR LOVE; after which Shakespeare's Historical Play of KING HENRY THE EIGHTH; Cardinal Wolsey by Mr. C. Kean, Queen Katherine by Mrs. C. Kean. To conclude with IF THE CAP FITS. Commencing at 7 o'clock.

On the conclusion of King Henry the Eighth Mr. C. Kean will deliver a FAREWELL ADDRESS.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)
Last week but two of the Contested Election and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mathews.

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, to commence at 7, with Mr. Buckstone's revived Petite Comedy, of the HAPPIEST DAY OF MY LIFE. Gillman, Mr. Compton; Mrs. Dudley, Mrs. Wilkins; Sophia, Mrs. B. White.

After which, at 1 precisely, and for the fifty-second time, the Comedy of THE CONTESTED ELECTION, in which Mr. Charles Mathews, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Compton, Mr. W. Farnen, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Clark, Mr. Braid, Mrs. Charles Mathews, and Miss E. Weekes will appear.

To be followed by HE WOULD BE AN ACTOR. Motley, Mr. Charles Mathews.

To conclude with HALLOWE'EN, by the Leclercqs.

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, to commence at 7, with HALLOWE'EN.

After which, at 8, THE CONTESTED ELECTION. With OUT OF SIGHT OUT OF MIND. Gatherwood. Mr. C. Mathews.

And A DAUGHTER TO MARRY.

Stage-manager, Mr. Chippendale.

MR. JOHN BENNETT'S NEW LECTURES.

MR. JOHN BENNETT, F.R.A.S., Member of the National Academy of Paris, is prepared to receive applications for ENGAGEMENTS FOR HIS NEW LECTURES on 1. "The Chronometer—its past—present—and future;" and 2. "A Month among the Watchmakers of Switzerland." Or for those on "The Watch," and "Woman and Watch-work." The Lectures will be profusely illustrated by Models, Diagrams, and Specimens of Clocks and Watches. Applications to John Bennett, Watch-manufacturer, 65, Cheap-side.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]

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NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

OFFICE,

NO. 18, CATHERINE-STREET,
STRAND, W.C.

The Leader.

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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.

ITALIAN PROGRESS.

BEFORE the recent Italian war it was the custom with those sham friends of liberty who deprecate all great changes, whether right or wrong, to speak of the Italians as unfit for freedom, and destitute of those moral qualities on which national independence must rest. The behaviour of Venice and of Rome during the struggles of the last revolutionary period ought to have been proof enough of the absurdity of this defamation of a race to which civilisation is so profoundly indebted, and whose misfortunes could be clearly traced to the prolonged meddling of extraneous powers, and the consequent obstruction of the natural process by which unity is obtained. But we have now no need to make any reference to past times, or to conjecture from the conduct of a few cities how valid are the claims of the Italians to the enjoyment of their own beautiful country, and the management of their own affairs. Nearly eleven millions of people in Sardinia, Lombardy, Tuscany, and the Duchies, have exhibited a steadfastness of purpose, a moderation in the use of suddenly acquired power, and a unity of feeling which has won the respect and commanded the admiration of Europe, even more than the chivalrous valour displayed in battle, or the dignified modesty with which their military glory has been worn. Not less worthy of commendation has been the attitude of the sadly disappointed Venetians, and of the inhabitants of Papal legations, still smarting under atrocities that might have excused the outburst of a wild spirit of revenge. The whole of Northern Italy has proved its capacity for, and right to self-government, and most wisely have all old jealousies been forgotten, all visions of republics put aside, in order to do the best practicable thing of the day—effect a union under a King who has made himself the legitimate centre of Italian hopes.

It may be said that Victor Emmanuel is ambitious, but surely it is a good thing to find a king who in a time of suffering and danger does cherish the noble ambition of being the political saviour of his race. No man who was not ambitious could be fit for the occasion, and the sort of persons who blame the Sardinian sovereign for the kind of ambition that he has displayed would, if they had lived in other times, have blamed the ambition of Alfred to rescue England from the Danes. The Italians and their chosen King are clearly entitled to the support of Europe, in order that the doctrine of non-intervention, which has been so long talked about, shall at length be carried out; and, if England, Russia and Prussia can agree to maintain the cause of public justice, no circumstance has yet occurred to warrant the expectation that the French Emperor will depart from the assur-

ances of honourable conduct which have been so repeatedly given. He may wish to see a Bonaparte occupying a throne in Central Italy; but, unless forced into antagonism by the misconduct of other powers, it is improbable that he will incur the general hatred of Europe by forcibly over-riding the declared wishes of the people. His interest is to come handsomely out of the Italian war. This Villafranca peace satisfied nobody, and in France as well as out of it, produced the impression of incompleteness, if not of entire failure. Now, there is a chance that diplomacy, well backed by force, may induce Austria to make further concessions, and recognise a settlement of Italy which, if not final, will be good in itself, and show the way to further progress.

It is in vain to hope anything from the good feeling or the honour of the Hapsburg Court. Its conduct in the Venetian territory is that of shameless tyranny and spoliation; it behaves like a burglar in temporary possession, not like a sovereign at home in his dominions, and no potentate ever fathomed a deeper gulf of disgrace than did Francis Joseph when he offered to drive an Imperial Jew bargain with the people of Venice, and promised them liberty if they would become parties to the compulsory restoration of the deposed potentates of Tuscany and the Duchies. No dynasty has violated so many promises as that of Austria, and the Italians know full well that they can enjoy no safety while the power of overthrowing it remains in the hands of their unscrupulous foe. Some security might indeed arise if the character of the Austrian Government were changed by the promised reforms, but no one believes any valid improvements will be effected until popular power has grown too strong to be withstood. In the army of Sardinia, in the League of Central Italy, and the forces under Garibaldi, we see the commencement of a strong physical organisation that may make Austria pause before she renews a conflict that could not for the second time be restricted within such narrow limits; and if the Emperor of the French is earnest in his proposal for a European Conference, it should be regarded as a sign of sincerity, as Russia and England would be pretty certain to support the rights of the Italians against the pretensions of the Court of Austria and its adherents, while Prussia could not oppose their constitutionally declared will without establishing a principle inconsistent with her own hopes of becoming the head of a United Germany.

The conduct of the Emperor of the French will be more bewildering than ever if he should follow up his unconditional amnesty by a flagrant attack upon the liberties of Italy, such as would be involved in the forcible imposition of rulers whom they refused to accept. Had a republican outbreak occurred instead of the moderate monarchical course adopted in the Chambers of Tuscany and Modena, he would have had an excuse for putting it down, but not the faintest pretence can be sustained that the cause of order has been injured by the patriotic and prudent course which the Italians have pursued. To invite back to France thousands of deeply-injured individuals who will publish throughout the land the horrible sufferings under which so many of their companions perished in the deserts of Algeria or the swamps of Cayenne, and to give vigour to their complaints by plunging the Empire into a new sea of crime, would be an act of aimless folly not reasonable to expect. The natural anticipation is that the amnesty is intended to be the commencement of proceedings calculated to remove some of the odium attached to the Imperial rule. Our Government is justified in thus regarding it, and the French Emperor is additionally entitled to frank and fair treatment in his Italian policy.

MURDER AND SCIENCE.

DE QUINCY considered murder as a fine art, and, thus contemplated, gave the palm, not to those skilful notices to quit this vale of tears which mediæval poisoners served upon their unconscious victims in the shape of *aqua tofana* or some similar compound, but to the brutal and terrific catastrophe that overwhelmed the family of Mr. Muer. The spread of polite learning has unhappily not yet deprived us of the class of atrocity to which the last-named event belongs, but the favourite article for home consumption, which sells the largest number of penny papers, and demands its separate editions and copies by the million, is a good poisoning case like that of

Palmer, in which the criminal moves through circumstances of mystery, surrounded by what vulgar minds take for a halo of romance, and keeps brains puzzling, and hearts throbbing, and betting books going, until the verdict is given, the sentence passed, and the convict is suspended upon society's great educational apparatus which is to mollify hearts and dulcify manners until the reign of force is at end.

The Smethurst case scarcely came up to the mark in the minds of those who suffer under a moral jail fever, and look out as eagerly for an exciting murder as a Murray-taught tourist watches for a sunrise among the mountains, or a well mounted squire for a dashing fox. Some sense of disappointment with the case will account for much of the ferocity with which judge, jury, doctors, and chemists have been abundantly attacked. It was not easy to make a pet of Dr. Smethurst, for, most of the assailants of the legal machinery brought to bear against him unite in believing him guilty, and not a single circumstance was elicited at his trial to indicate a redeeming feature, or the faintest suspicion of palliation. His conduct was not that of a fond admirer, "loving not wisely but too well;" his crime was not the aberration of a noble nature, nor could he plead the excuse of brutifying circumstances, such as surround the dwellers in unventilated courts and alleys, who are exposed from birth to an atmosphere of physical and moral filth; and thus the only thing left for those who were discontented with this *cause celebre*, was to assail various details in the process by which the decision was obtained. The most absurd piece of fault-finding is with the promptitude of the jury at the close of the scene; the writers strangely ignoring the days of patient attention, which there is no reason to doubt were followed by anxious nights of thought. Other grumblers pour out their wrath upon the Lord Chief Baron, who may, in one or two particulars, have been guilty of inadvertence, but whose summing up was, in the main, both fair and able, although it undoubtedly showed plain enough the bias of his own mind. Some of these critics appear to mistake vacuity for impartiality, and would have judges either to form no opinion at all, or hypocritically conceal it. It is a fair ground of complaint if a judge substitutes rhetoric for logical arrangement of facts, or if he omits important incidents or perverts evidence; but it is impossible to sum up a long complicated case in a clear, intelligible way without forming an opinion of some kind, and efforts to conceal such opinion would not leave the case without prejudice in the hands of the jury, but would infallibly throw into it elements of bewilderment and confusion.

It is not difficult to see the process by which the jury arrived at their conclusion, and it will appear the best they could adopt. The scientific evidence was incomplete. Twelve ordinary men could not implicitly rely upon portions of Professor Taylor's analysis where he was probably right, after the awkward confession that the arsenic he found in one bottle had been supplied by himself in the copper which he used. The quantity of arsenic usually present in copper does not appear to be sufficient to affect the result in the ordinary operation of what is called Reinsch's test, part of which consists in boiling the liquid suspected to contain arsenic with a little muriatic acid and a piece of bright copper. A professed analyst, however, ought to have remembered, and especially in a case of life and death, that many substances would dissolve the copper fast enough to vitiate his conclusion, and to us it appears inexcusable that any impure article should have been used in an extremely delicate inquiry, upon which such awful consequences depended. Whatever excuses Professor Taylor and his friends may make, the chemical evidence, after one important admission of mis-statement and blundering, could only be regarded as affording a probability that required corroboration from other facts. The medical evidence for the prosecution, although free from any stain like that which rests upon the chemical portion, could not in itself be deemed conclusive, and, separated from the conduct of Smethurst, would not—certainly ought not—to have been held sufficient to establish the main fact that a poisoning had taken place, although it would have justified a very high degree of suspicion. In spite of the opinions of certain doctors who did not see the case, we must believe that the symptoms did not coincide with known forms of disease; but, on the

other hand, although much like them, they did not exactly coincide with known forms of poisoning. Many chemists believe that in all cases of poisoning by arsenic that substances can be found in the body, although it may be in quantities so minute as to demand the greatest care and skill for its elimination. This theory may or may not be true, but in the present state of science there is some room for doubt when it is not detected in some of the tissues.

Thus it may be stated that the scientific evidence did not positively prove that any poisoning had taken place, but it left a strong probability to be corroborated or rebutted by other facts. Under these circumstances we may imagine the jury asking themselves whether the prisoner had a motive for the crime of which he was accused, and the probability of such an incentive was plain. He had committed a bigamy with the deceased which, if she lived, was not likely to remain undiscovered. By her death he might escape the consequence of this crime, and would, if he induced her to make a will in his favour, come into possession of a sum equal to about twelve years' purchase of her annual income. Another question which the jury would put to themselves would be, whether the prisoner was a likely man to do such a deed. First, they knew he had committed the grave crime of bigamy; next, they had proof of the falsehood of his excuse of poverty for not employing a nurse. Then they must have been shocked at the exclusion of even the sister of the deceased on the alleged ground of her critical state, although the prisoner thought it fit for the introduction of a strange lawyer on a Sunday, to make a will for his own benefit, which she was persuaded to sign in her maiden name. There was also the evidence of the landlady, to the effect that, during the illness, he had never allowed the room to be thoroughly cleaned, although, as a medical man, he must have known the sanitary importance of such a step. Another strange group of facts was, that he administered everything himself; that no portions of food were allowed to leave the room; that whatever he gave the deceased was followed by vomiting and evacuations; and that, when he was removed, similar articles, given by other persons, had no such effect. With these and other circumstances before them the jury would not have been warranted in arriving at any other conclusion than that which their verdict expressed; but while public justice may be satisfied with the result, there are many things of a practical and scientific nature that cannot be viewed with approbation. In the first place our judicial system makes no adequate arrangement for the collection and preparation of scientific evidence. In this, as in most other cases, there was no proof that an accurate method had been observed in preserving the various matters destined for analysis. In these cases the quantity of poison likely to be found is often so small as to render it necessary that extreme care should be taken to place all the evidentiary materials in vessels adapted to their safe conservation, and which are not only ordinarily, but *chemically* clean.

It is also very unsatisfactory that the analytical investigation should be committed to a single man, however eminent he may be. Some analyses are so easy as to leave little room for mistake, while others are so difficult as to require the agreement of at least two independent experimenters before the result should be deemed sufficiently certain. We are also much in want of additional physiological information on the action of small repeated doses of mineral and other poisons on the system, especially when combined or alternated in a dexterous manner. As matters now stand, medical evidence in criminal trials is a scandal to the profession, and the outer public wonders first at the discrepancies of treatment and opinion, and then at the recklessness with which doctors who have not seen a complicated case hazard the most confident assertions as to its precise nature, and this in opposition to the views and declarations of other doctors who did see it, and possess a higher reputation than their own. We have in London three wealthy medical bodies—the College of Physicians, the College of Surgeons, and the Apothecaries' Company, and it is not too much to ask that they should appoint a scientific commission, and collect information upon points that are frequently in dispute, and must remain so unless subjected to rigorous investigation. Palmer's case and that of Smethurst

supply a number of important questions upon which the opinion of the most eminent chemists and physiologists should be sought without delay, as it is discreditable to a civilised country that its medical jurisprudence should be a clumsy guess-work, lagging behind that perversion of science which makes it the minister of crime.

THE MODERN DON JUAN.

ALL things are grown degenerate. We have no Don Juans now-a-days. Leporellos there are in plenty, and Zerlinas ready to be tempted, and Donna Annas anxious to be wooed. The ladder is against the wall, and the maiden is peeping from behind the curtain, but there is no conquering hero to mount to victory. After all, it is no good complaining of the age, for no complaints will alter it. If you cannot get gold, you must put up with silver, even though the silver be Brummagem silver, with more alloy than metal; so in default of a real genuine Don Juan, such as we dreamt of and worshipped in our younger days, we must put up with his Brummagem representative, of whose fame and exploits we are about to tell.

The name of our hero is William Sloper. There is a general uncertainty, in which Mr. Sloper shares, as to the name or position of his male parent, as the ancestral Sloper may have been any thing from a king to a costermonger. His son, with praiseworthy moderation, decided that he must have been a peer, and a shipowner. For the credit of the shipping and aristocratic interests we trust that the surmise was correct. After giving birth to this infant scion of the aristocracy, his mother became the wife of a bottle merchant, which we suppose is the euphemistic designation of a marine-store dealer. Under auspices so unfavourable to true gentility, the young Sloper idea was taught to shoot. "*Bon sang*," however, as Gil Blas says, "*ne peut point mentir*;" and Sloper was true to his aristocratic instincts. Personal appearances, as well as the circumstances of his position, were against his ambitious aspirations. His frame was puny and ill-shaped; his features were not distinguished; his general aspect was shabby-genteel; and the growth of his hairy appendages was not exuberant. A great mind rises superior to difficulties, and in the little body of Sloper there resided a mind of real greatness. As soon as he had reached the years of discretion he prepared himself for a career of conquest. Having an objection to the systems of purchase or advancement by interest in the army, he refused to accede to either, and *suspicio motu*, bestowed upon himself his own commission of Captain in the Guards. He cultivated a moustache, which, though fluffy, had a military appearance. He committed some pages of the peerage to memory, and then he felt himself equal to any emergency.

As yet, but a small portion of the Don Giovanni-Sloper career is laid open to us. How many hearts he won; how many hands he sought and obtained; how many promises he broke; are things unknown to us. It is only the crisis of his fate with which we are acquainted. On the 5th of July, 1858, he led to the hymenial altar a soft-hearted widow of the name of Dawson, captivated by his military air, and the reputed wealth of his shipowning kindred. He took this lady, at her own expense, on a bridal tour to Hull and Jersey; induced her to go before him into Lincolnshire, and then left her, without even the consoling intimation whether she was to consider herself a wife, or a widow, or a friend. Not twelve months had passed before he again entered into the bonds of matrimony with another inconsolable widow, a Mrs. Hayes. This lady was seduced by the stories of his aristocratic circle, to which she was to be introduced, and the assertion that he was the son of Lord Denbigh, the descendant of the Hapsburgs, the Count of the Holy Roman Empire. On the other hand, she had not the consolation even of a honeymoon and a trip to Hull. Her deceitful spouse used to stop out all night, to go away on a Saturday with a new suit of clothes and to return in rags on Monday, and generally to neglect his duties as a man and a husband. During one of these protracted absences, Mrs. Hayes applied to Mr. Norton about redress for her conjugal injuries. The report of the fruitless application appeared in the papers, and caught the eyes of Mrs. Dawson, who immediately came up to town to claim her truant spouse. When at last poor Sloper sneaked home to Mrs. Hayes' house, with three half-pence in his pocket, he was con-

fronted by his two indignant wives, and arrested by their order on a charge of bigamy. He tried expostulation, and endearment, and self-humiliation, but all in vain. The sight of each rival wife steeled the other's heart. Mrs. Hayes even deprived him of a watch which had belonged to the late dear departed Mr. Hayes, and had been placed upon Sloper's unworthy breast. The charge was entered, and the poor victim of too general a passion for the fair sex is committed for bigamy. We own that for him, as the last fallen representative of the Don Juan race, we feel a kind of pity, more so, certainly, than we entertain for the matronly and middle-aged Clarissas who fell victims to his acts.

ROUTINE ROUTED.

ONE striking consequence of the great French revolution was to make a clear stage for merit. The most energetic men and men of the greatest talent reached the highest places. From the conduct of the several powers of Europe, and perhaps from unavoidable necessity, war was then the most important business of society, and for many years engrossed all the highest talent. The most skilful general of France, in consequence, became the head of the State and the master of Europe. All the Governments of Europe, including our own Government, were driven out of their routine by that revolution and its success.

They went no further than they could help. It is their nature to adhere to old practices. They act by inherited rules, and they continued in their old tracts as long as possible, and returned to them to keep on them as soon as possible. Nothing drives them out of their customary ways but some political convulsion which they continually invite by obstinate adherence to ancient wrongs. When Bonaparte lost his balance by his extraordinary success and destroyed his own power they had no other ambition than to restore their old routine, and maintain it.

The change in France, in 1830, immediately led to a system of government so much like their own that alarm, after the first flurry, speedily died away, and they settled down quietly with Louis Philippe in their old methods. In 1848 they were again disturbed, but had some hopes as soon as the Emperor seemed to be one of them that things would again go on as before. He, however—to whom the republican outbreak, which he did not prepare, only gave the opportunity of displaying his energy and acquiring the power of the first Emperor—has undeceived them. He has slowly matured his strength; he has made war and he has made peace, after his own fashion; he has attained his own, not avowed, ends, and has destroyed the routine diplomacy of Europe, as the first Emperor destroyed its routine system of war. In Austria, in Rome, throughout Germany, wherever it was least expected yet most wanted, political reform has obviously become indispensable, and routine is everywhere routed.

According to her wont, England, with her multitudinous eyes and ears open, caught the earliest signs of the coming change. She had, previously to 1789, opened some paths to merit. She had had her revolution, partial as it was. Her life could and did expand, to some extent, according to its own nature. In commerce, in politics, in colonisation, within certain limits, her people were free to exert themselves, and men of a comparatively humble origin, like Chatham, and Washington, and Burke, fought their way to the really highest, if not nominally the highest, places in society. So she alone, though driven out of many old customs by the revolution, was not upset by it, and took advantage of Bonaparte's ruin to help old routine back to his throne throughout Europe. Her ministers did what they could to establish and maintain him here, but individual talent stood in the way, and if there arose no man of genius to represent some strong national feelings, several individuals sprung from the people—such as Cobbett, O'Connell, Peel—attained great eminence, and influenced the march of the nation.

Our Government, however, has always done what it could to keep in the old tracks, and was in no degree prepared for the changes which have ensued since 1848. The continued success of the Emperor since then has rather alarmed than taught it. It makes a sham of getting rid of routine, and does not. All the old plans by which a section of the people is secured in the possession of all the power and wealth of the State are rigidly adhered to,

though there is a pretence, by examination schemes and otherwise, to make way for merit. This is a palpable sham, because it makes all talent subordinate to examiners, who are themselves poor creatures of old routine. Already it is found this will not answer; it will not and does not, and cannot supply us with men to cope with the Emperor in his own walk; and the nation, keeping its eye on his gathering power, his immense material resources, and his growing ascendancy over his countrymen is continually alarmed for its present and its future safety. Old routine still stands in our way, and though routed successively, he impedes our march by the vivid love which the great and increasing multitude of office-holders bears him.

As the rule Ministers have no other thought than to imitate the energetic man who has fought his way to power in France. But their imitation is confined to the form, not the substance, of his conduct. He adapts himself, and bases his power on adapting himself, to the French nation. He grows in strength because he grows in popularity. The bulk of the French is with him. The few republicans who are still opposed to him, and the partizans of the Bourbons, are dwindling into insignificance. There is not one of the former who has any influence over his countrymen. Lamartine does not oppose the Emperor. Victor Hugo, perhaps the most distinguished of his opponents—a partizan of the elder Bourbons, a Royalist poet—was never, like Beranger, the poet of the people. From his Breton mother he derived at once his genius and his incapacity to be a popular leader. He can have no influence. The Emperor, then, increases in power by uniting all France to himself.

Our Government cannot and will not imitate him in this respect. It persists in governing by party. It maintains old coercion and old exclusions. It does not imitate him in adapting itself to the people. It is still composed of the old exclusive aristocracy. Even when it admits a lower class man it is only to maintain the system which was good a century ago. Chatham was as much superior to the courtiers of the Bourbons as Louis Napoleon is to our ministers. It is not good now, but our ministers persist in chaining, by aristocratic routine, the life which can only expand with freedom. More freedom is what the nation wants. Ministers will only give it more regulations. Routine routed abroad must be effectually routed at home, or we shall miss the energy and need the talents which are given only by freedom.

THE HAPPY FAMILY.

It is a blessed thing for brethren to dwell together in unity. There is no rule without an exception. If the united brethren are leagued together to defraud the public, it may be questioned whether the continuance of this fraternal unity is a cause for thankfulness. There is a somewhat worldlier saying, in which, for our part, we are disposed to place some implicit confidence. When thieves fall out, honest men come by their rights. Mr. William Dawson quarrelled with Mr. Henry Stainton, and the shareholders of the Carron Iron Company came by their dividends. We note the coincidence, but do not pretend to quote the instance as an illustration of our theory. At present we only know one side of the case. It is possible that the clan of Dawson's and Staintons may prove to have been modern Reclabites, in their uprightness as well in their family affection—in fact, a sort of plebeian "Greys" and presbyterian "Elliotts." It is equally possible, and somewhat more probable, that the other shareholders in the Carron Company may prove to be—what shall we say?—well, very like the managers.

It seems that some eighty-six years ago the Carron Iron Company made its appearance in the commercial world. Scotland was the land of its birth. Falkirk was its dwelling-place, and the Stainton family were its sponsors, parents and guardians. The company was virtually a partnership, and one of the partners, a Mr. Joseph Stainton, was the manager of the concern. It is one consolation, at any rate, to learn that there can be no question about Mr. Stainton's spiritual orthodoxy. So amply did he provide for those of his own household, that not even the faintest suspicion of scepticism can attach to his revered memory. Every post connected with the management of the company was filled up by some scion of the Stainton race, so that when at last, after forty years of management, Mr. Stainton departed

this life, full of years and full of riches, the family compact was complete. One nephew, Mr. Joseph Dawson, succeeded to his uncle's berth; a second occupied the humbler, but useful post, of assistant manager. A third was agent at Glasgow. A cousin looked after the interests of the family at Liverpool, and a brother of the late manager was the London representative of the Stainton and Dawson brotherhood. The Carron Company, it is needless to say, was an eminently profitable concern. Neither rats—nor Dawsons—stick to a sinking ship. As the value of the business became more and more apparent, and the family interest became more and more compact, the grand conception seems to have entered Mr. Joseph Dawson's mind of ousting all the other partners out of the business, and turning the Carron Company, not only in name, but, in fact, into the family firm of Dawson, Stainton and Co. According to unfriendly statements, this conception was worked out continuously and successfully for a quarter of a century. Every means was resorted to to depreciate the value of the property in the eyes of those shareholders who were not within the charmed circle. The debts were overstated, and the assets under valued; the partnership was debited with breakages and losses that never occurred, and credited with only portions of the monies received. False balance sheets were prepared by one member of the family, cashed by another, and audited by a third. No stranger was allowed to purchase shares in the Company, but on the other hand the manager was always ready to buy up the interests of any existing shareholder for a consideration. No investigation of the accounts was allowed, and the monies which ought to have been divided among the Company were directed into the private accounts of the family. So things went on, till at last Mr. Joseph Dawson was gathered to his fathers, and Mr. William Dawson reigned in his stead. This gentleman may have "known Joseph and his works," but he certainly did not appreciate them. His virtuous indignation against his "enemies" and "greedy partners," as he designated the non-family shareholders in the Company, was so strong, that he forgot the dictates of prudence. The fact that "union is strength" was lost sight of. Jealousies arose between the Staintons and Dawsons. Mr. William Dawson accused Mr. Henry Stainton of defrauding the company. The accusation appears to have been just. During Mr. Stainton's lifetime he handed over 96,000*l.* to the company, and on his death shortly afterwards his executors compromised the claim from the company on his estate by a payment of 220,000*l.* Alas, the triumph of the Dawsons was shortlived and suicidal! If Peter robs Paul, and Paul robs Peter, there is a strong antecedent probability that Peter and Paul together rob the rest of the Apostles. Acting on this assumption, the exoteric shareholders of the Carron Company have impeached the integrity of the whole esoteric management of the Staintons and Dawsons. What the truth of these statements may be we cannot tell, but believing, as we are bound, that the principle of the family is the basis of our social system, we trust that the Dawson and Stainton may, like the directors of the Western Bank of Scotland, come off scatheless and stainless.

POLITICS AND NATURAL HISTORY.

A GREAT deal has of late been written about the utility of natural history, and a great deal done to render it popular. In doing this some of our periodicals have disparaged our ordinary political literature to hold up observations on the length of life, on the fossil structure of the earth, on tadpoles, echini, &c., as more expressly worthy of the attention of the young and the reflecting. We have not the least intention, politicians though we be, of discouraging in turn such special studies; we know they all tend to dignify man, but we can see as much to study and admire in the farm-yard, or the locomotive workshop, as on the sea shore or in the region of glaciers, or in the strata of the earth.

Every part of nature which the eye can scan, or the ear learn its music, is full of wonders. The life, however, which reveals itself to us only in a change of form, like the growing tree, is not so interesting as that which both changes its form and changes its place, and reveals to us the existence of a double activity. We must say, therefore, that man, having this double activity, growing

from youth to age, moving about and forming part of a society which also grows, is as well worthy of the attention of minute philosophers as entozoa or mollusca.

Writers on politics, so far as they observe and chronicle the actions of mankind and their consequences, are in truth natural historians, and as much worthy of public honour as writers on the simia and the coleoptera. Natural historians cannot impale an individual of the species and examine him by the microscope, and may therefore not find that certainty in the study of man which they find in the study of insects. In that branch of politics, however, called political economy, regular laws are supposed to prevail. Adam Smith is by no means the first writer who treated politics as a part of natural history; it was so treated before Aristotle, and it might surprise us that so little has yet been done to render it accurate and acceptable to the multitude, were it not for two circumstances to which we shall advert.

The first is, that the very attempt to treat man and society as natural objects, seems to strike at the root of all organised political power—which, being founded on the supposition that society is naturally chaotic, and not regulated, like communities of bees and ants, by natural laws or unerring instincts—any person who pretends to detect such laws and natural orderly government, is regarded as the opponent of civic and religious authority, and of those who believe in it and are dependent on it: he is therefore, as the rule, cried down. This circumstance has prevented men of talent from engaging in the study of the natural history of society with the same ardour and freedom as they have engaged in the study of mathematics and geology.

The second is, that society being always in a state of development, it required to be a considerable degree advanced before the natural laws which govern it could be the subject of observation like the perfectly formed and fully comprehended communities of ants and bees. Of a single individual, or a single family, there could be no social science, and it was therefore only as society was much developed in modern times that a science of society became possible. Now it is possible, and now inquiries into society should have an interest, for scientific men at least, equal to that of zoology or entomology.

As an illustration, let us advert to the great principle of division of labour, and then the reader can judge whether politics and politicians, in the enlarged and best sense, be not as worthy of honour as comparative anatomy and comparative anatomists.

Labour, the activity set in motion by the necessity to provide subsistence or preserve life, is the parent of all wealth. Without it, life would not continue, and society would not be possible. We have learned, from experience, that as society enlarges, the labour of each and every individual is not required to procure subsistence for all. An increasing proportion of the activity which this necessity sets in motion, becomes, in the progress of society, superfluous, and can be advantageously directed to other objects. One of the circumstances which bring about this change, and create this superfluity, is known by the name of division of labour. In fact, it is two or more individuals agreeing or combining, instinctively, tacitly, or otherwise, to help one another, or do different parts of the same necessary work. Division of labour, then, is clearly born of society. It is an impossibility for one sole individual. At once, then, this great principle is recommended to us as extremely worthy of investigation by the fact that it is a social necessity. It extends as society increases, and is a beautiful provision for easily supplying all the wants of man as population increases—a matter of infinite importance in relation to that theory which, seeing much misery result from an increase of people under our present imperfect political organization, has concluded that an increase of population carries with it no compensation, and is a perpetual source of degradation and misery.

Division of labour, necessary to its success, and a source of continual improvement in productive power, has an obvious natural origin. The man cannot suckle the child, but he can provide for the mother when she cannot provide for herself. To the sexes, then, nature dictates different tasks; and in the difference of sex—the human race being created, male and female, in about equal propor-

tions—lies the origin of division of labour. This may be more widely expressed as the adaptability of each individual to perform some one task better than another; and thus expressed, it prevails at all times, and continually extends division of labour in all ages and countries.

Before knowledge can be imparted it must be acquired. A certain age must be reached before a man can be a teacher. The aged, therefore, are necessarily teachers—the young are learners. Another specimen of the adaptability of individuals to perform peculiar tasks is found in what is called genius, or strong liking to do a particular thing. Some men can paint better than others; some have uncontrollable attachment to machinery, and become Watts, Houdins, or Stephensons; others like only the work of authorship; they have a strong desire to express peculiar thoughts—to reason and instruct, or to amuse others; and we have a great abundance of McCullochs, Mills, Dickens, Albert Smiths. Distinctions such as these noted pervade all society. Every man and woman having peculiar talents, these are ever welling sources of further and continual labour.

All the sources of division of labour now mentioned are in the human being. They arise from individual peculiarities, of which the distinction of sex and age are amongst the most remarkable and important, but they all tend to the same end. Man, however, is part of the material world, and is adapted to it. He works with and in it; and in its peculiarities, as they affect him, lie other sources of division of labour and of its continued extension.

As he lives on a mountain, or on the side of a river, or on the sea shore, he becomes a hunter or a fisher. In plains he rears cattle and grows corn. In mineral districts he becomes a miner. In countries where forests are more plentiful than minerals he uses wood for all purposes. In Switzerland, where bounding streams woo him to use water power and where wood is plentiful, he becomes a master in the art of wheel and wood work. In the Netherlands, where there are no rushing streams, he makes windmills. As the climate is warm, he becomes a cultivator of delicious fruits or of herbs—grows coffee or tea, and provides the “drink which cheers but not inebriates.” As the climate is cold he becomes a great distiller, a breeder of sheep, and a woollen cloth manufacturer; or, requiring a great deal of clothing for comfort, he learns to make it for himself and others. Thus all the endless varieties of climate and situation throughout the globe dictate different employments to different individuals. Territorial peculiarities are sources of territorial division of labour; personal peculiarities are the sources of personal division of labour; and, as the latter adapt all the members of each community to help and serve each other, thereby procuring more wealth for all, so the former adapt communities, or portions of the human race who live apart, to help and promote the welfare of each other. If the naturalist would consider the world as a vivarium, ready-made to his hand, he would certainly find this wonderful adaptation of individuals to each other, and of communities to communities, forming one vast ant or bee-like community of the whole of human society, filling the earth its natural hive, as well worthy of being studied as the artificial vivarium he prides himself on making. The individual (*homo*) finds a place in the naturalist's zoology, the relations and habits of the species he entirely neglects, and leaves them to be studied by the scientific politician.

To this theory there are many objections. We are told, for example, by a weekly contemporary, in a notice of Mr. T. S. Mill's essays, that this great writer is “no believer in abstract rights, the law of nature, the inherent equality of man,” but “is a Benthamite of the severest kind,” or a believer in the theory that social order is the result of legislation. Accordingly, Mr. Mill refers, as the *Saturday Review* states, most of the distinctions of employments which prevail in society between the sexes, to the operations of law. The *Review* is of a different opinion, and accuses Mr. Mill of overrating the effect of law in producing the existing distinctions between the occupations of the sexes. In this respect we agree with the *Review*, and believe that positive law has very little to do with determining the diverse occupations of the sexes, or of any portion of society other than that of which by taxation or institutions—directed to

hire fighters and employ collectors, or support an established church—it determines the income. In the different physiology and functions of the sexes lie the germ of different employments for them. Throughout the whole history of mankind, accordingly, there is only one example, and that, probably a myth, of women, the amazons, being the regular and distinct fighters of the community. How can it be?—how could it ever be?—that the mothers of all, who bear, and rear, and nurse mankind, whose great natural function is to preserve the human species, should at the same time be the soldier, the destroyer of the species? Every where infanticide, though sometimes practised, as amongst the Robillas, from a mistaken theory, is condemned; instinct in the males corresponding with the functions of the females, teaches them that the mothers are also the nurses and conservators of society. The affections as well as the functions of females mark out, independently of all law, broadly and minutely, occupations for them different from those of males. In like manner other peculiarities adapt other individuals to peculiar occupations. While we express our agreement with the *Review*, and our disagreement from Mr. Mill, on the subject of law determining the occupation of the sexes, we must however say that the *Review* seems, like Mr. Mill, not to believe in abstract rights and a law of nature for society, and not to know that society, like any other portion of natural history, should be described and cannot be regulated.

It must be admitted that the knowledge of the natural laws of society does not so much contribute to increase as to restrain the activities. There is nothing in it like the knowledge of astronomy, which teaches us to navigate the ocean; or of electricity, which enables us to talk to each other across the globe. On the contrary, all the knowledge of the natural order of society teaches us not to be politically active—teaches that all the activities of the thousand political meddlers who fill our streets and councils—who sit in Parliaments or Cabinets, and undertake to regulate mankind, are useful only to themselves. There is an activity well and instinctively employed to preserve life or health, but there is no corresponding natural activity destined to preserve or benefit society. Activity to mend society has no object. For its improvement, division of labour is essential. No separation of employments decreed by laws or intended to work out the purposes of men, can be compared for utility to the great division of labour, which is decreed and always carried into effect by nature. The subject is well worthy of being thought about, though it run counter to many prejudices. All that we care now to affirm of it is, that if our view be correct, the scientific politician is a natural philosopher of the noblest description, having for the object of his study the noblest part of creation beneath the heavens.

ALESSANDRO MANZONI.

THE literary and social honours conferred, during his visit to Milan, by King Victor Emmanuel upon the first of living Italian poets, represent the gratitude of the nation towards those illustrious men who remind the civilised world that Italian genius is still unexhausted, notwithstanding the humiliating servitude and long prostration of past times. To honour the men who honour their country has always been felt a sacred duty by Italians, though one which Italy has too often been prevented from fulfilling by foreign oppression. The darkness which has so long enveloped the peninsula is now becoming partially dispelled, and though full light is still far from being enjoyed yet the dawn of brighter destinies has certainly appeared, and to his countrymen it seemed but right that the name of Alessandro Manzoni, which shone so resplendently by its own light, should mingle its rays with those of his reviving country. The attention paid to the veteran poet by the King, Prince Carignan, Ratazzi, and other men of mark during the festivities—his appointment to the presidency of the Institute of Milan, with a salary of 12,000 lire, or about 500*l.*, a-year—his investiture with the Grand Cordon of the Order of Mauriziano—and his nomination as senator of the kingdom—have given the greatest satisfaction possible. Throughout all classes and ranks the announcement of the complimentary and material marks of favour shown to Manzoni were received with the liveliest demonstrations of delight. In spite of his failing health he has felt and expressed the deepest interest

in all the events of the recent war, and the most enthusiastic joy at the entrance of King Victor Emmanuel into Lombardy as its sovereign. “For ten years,” exclaimed he, “he has been the king of our choice. How happy for us to have so good and brave a sovereign!”

It is now many years since Manzoni, in sweet poetic accents, celebrated the day which had seen the fall of the barriers erected at the Ticino by foreign tyranny. His patriotic hopes have been often disappointed, but he accepts the present happy change as a good omen for the future. That which still remains unaccomplished will, we trust, hereafter be effected by the united forces of Italy herself, who at this moment, in spite of many disappointed hopes, maintains an attitude of patriotic and energetic protest against tyranny and against the fresh dismemberment which it is sought to impose upon the peninsula. All Italy unites in applauding the idea of Victor Emmanuel who designed to honour the country by conferring a decoration upon a man who is the greatest of her literary celebrities no less than the warmest of her patriots. By showing themselves thus united in sentiment, the Italians have given an additional proof that they are and will be one in every elevated and patriotic demonstration. Not only does all Italy rejoice but every individual in Europe and the civilised world who can appreciate Italian genius, and who values progress whether in art, literature, or social science. The honours awarded to the poet at Milan is one of the first fruits of the change of government in Northern Italy. While the whole world of letters nourished sincere respect and veneration for the author of “*I Promessi Sposi*,” the Austrian Government all but ignored his existence, and proved itself in any degree aware of it only by making him the object of suspicion, by pointing him out to the police, and checking the spread of his writings, which breathe the purest virtue and the most ardent patriotism. How could a foreign government tolerate the expansion and diffusion of liberal ideas and patriotic sentiments in the territory it governed? How, above all, could such tolerance be looked for from the Austrian Government which has oppressed genius and letters in its own country, exiled its own loftiest intellects, or rendered them the objects of contempt to their fellow countrymen by employing them as instruments of tyranny, and conferring upon them the post of censors and revisors of the press, and judges of public education, which is in Austria reduced to mere forms of examination and bare attendance at schools and churches?

When the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian came to Italy he feigned friendly sentiments towards the Italian provinces subject to Austria, in order to comply with the diplomatic requirements of his position. In accordance with this policy he paid an ostentatious visit to Alessandro Manzoni, who was then recovering from sickness, and the hireling Austrian press loudly called attention to the condescension. Had the Archduke been actuated by sincere respect he would not have stopped short at so common place a civility; but even this was a great step for Austria, who had previously taken no heed of any of the literary celebrities on whom Italy prided herself. Some twenty years ago the lamented Duke of Orleans, and his brother, the Duke of Nemours, paid a visit to Lombardy and, upon arriving at Milan, were honoured and feted by the Austrian governor, Count Hartig. One evening the princes were splendidly entertained at the governor's residence. Many Austrian *employés* and foreigners of other countries were present, but very few members of the Milanese aristocracy. The Duke of Orleans appeared struck with the magnificence of the preparations and the number of the guests present, and expressed the desire that those most celebrated among the Milanese notabilities, particularly in the department of letters, should be presented to him. Count Hartig summoned the Chevalier Maffei. “But where is Alessandro Manzoni?” asked the duke. “He does not frequent my *conversazione*,” replied Count Hartig. “His son-in-law, Massimo d'Azeglio?” “Nor he either.” “Tommaso Grossi?” “No; but I have the honour to present to your Royal Highness the Chevalier Maffei.” The prince, who read the works of Schiller in the original, and might well be excused if he was ignorant of the name of their excellent translator, bowed with an expression which seemed to say, “And who is the

Chevalier Maffei?" then asked aloud, "Is the Chevalier a Milanese?" "He is a Tyrolese, your Highness." Such were the Lombardian celebrities whom the Austrian governor was in a position to present to distinguished foreigners when they visited those provinces. Happily, this will no longer be the case from the Varo to the Mincio, thanks to the inauguration of the national government, whose mission it is to cancel the disgrace of past times. But, alas for the fate of the former Queen of the Adriatic! She is still left to groan beneath the yoke of the foreigner. Of all the people of Italy and Europe, the Venetians have always been the most persevering defenders of their own independence. Their traditions of liberty are pre-historic. They united themselves to Rome voluntarily, not by compulsion. Upon the fall of the Empire of the Cæsars, they protected their freedom and Latin civilisation in the Lagunes of the Adriatic, and there founded their glorious Venice. For thirteen centuries the Venetian Republic kept aloof from foreign contact, was the mistress of civil and political science, and famous in arms, arts, letters, commerce, and riches. Faithful to the glorious and virtuous traditions of their ancestors, and morally strong in the legitimacy of their claims, the Venetians have never recognised the domination of Austria, and although compelled to submit to it have always shown their aversion. How boldly they asserted their right to independence in 1848 will be well remembered, and the defence of Venice in 1849 is one of the most glorious pages of their military history. Hard indeed must it have been for the poor Venetians to have received intelligence of the rejoicing and festivity of the Milanese on their happy exchange of foreign oppression for the patriotic and fraternal rule which they may confidently hope to enjoy now that they are united to Piedmont. The good king, while paying a visit to the hospitals, uttered a few encouraging words to a Venetian volunteer, and concluded by observing, *you must hope for the best*. Repeated already many a time by the poor man and his fellow-sufferers, we trust they may reach the ear and calm the agitation of his fellow-countrymen, who are almost incredulous that while Lombardy is rescued they are to be left to their fate.

THE IRISH MAIL SUBSIDY.

IRISHMEN are, naturally enough at this moment, somewhat in a ferment on the subject of the Mail Contract Committee. It has been hinted and suggested, and, in some select coteries, positively affirmed, that the Galway subsidy is in danger of repudiation by a too virtuous Government. Consequently, grand juries, boards of guardians, and all the various corporations, and local associations throughout Ireland, with few exceptions, have been speechifying, memorialising and petitioning against so rampant an injustice and preposterous an exhibition of impolicy as interference with a grant, which constitutes the most popular act of grace ever conferred by the hands of the Saxon, since the establishment of the Union, and we need hardly specify for how long a time before.

We do not think that the Irish people have any real occasion to be alarmed. Certainly, they do right to exhibit some degree of sensitiveness, while there is still any scintilla of a doubt about the matter. Had the merchants, landowners and professional men of Ireland shown the same zeal, energy and unanimity formerly—had they interested themselves as they now appear to do, there would have been an Irish steamship line long ere the undertaking was started, and carried out by an enterprising Manchester individual, which bids fair to inaugurate a new era of prosperity and consequent tranquillity in Ireland. We hold it to be impossible to disturb this contract, in spite of the hint thrown out by the late committee, that they were desirous that the other contracts should undergo the ordeal of Parliamentary investigation. Let them do so, by all means, we say, if any good can possibly arise. But beyond an indiscreet hustings speech of angelic purity, compared with Sir James Graham's vehement orations, we do not believe, from what we have seen and heard of the circumstances under which the Galway subsidy was granted, that there exists a single fact which ought to militate against its stability. Even in an ordinary case, the proof of fraud or corruption, of bribery and connivance, should be clear and undeniable, before a Government can annul

the act of its predecessor, and repudiate a state commercial agreement, thereby destroying private mercantile interests, and injuring public credit. Suppose an ocean postal mail contract entered into, and confirmed by the usual seals, signatures, and documents. Steam-ships are immediately ordered and constructed, wharves and warehouses are built, leased, and purchased; transit, coaling, and other arrangements are made; stations and depots organised, officers and servants are appointed; and lastly, shares are taken up by those in whom still greater confidence than they might otherwise have felt, is created by the Government grant. We are of opinion, that were such a thing to take place, as the repudiation by one government of the contracts of its predecessor, the law would supply a remedy, so far as individual persons are concerned. But in the case of the Galway grant, no legal indemnification of the losses of a company, its shareholders, and all immediately connected with it, would satisfy the people of Ireland they had not sustained a last deadly wrong by the arbitrary suppression of a conceded right. No ministry could stand against the storm that would be raised. No Irish constituency; not even, we believe, that of Limerick, would return a member unpledged to oppose the Government that had dealt so deadly a blow at Ireland, as the repudiation of the Galway contract. There would be no precedent for such an act save among some of the repudiating States of America, which alleged that their legally elected government was corrupt, and that consequently the agreements into which they had entered were void.

The pen of a Sydney Smith, which characterised this conduct on the part of some of our American kinsmen, might well be employed in the defence of Irish interests, were a similar repudiation to be similarly defended. The King of Portugal has just granted a subsidy to an English, Portuguese, and Brazilian company, of which the Duke of Saldanha is a director. What would be thought if his Majesty should quarrel with the Duke, and arbitrarily set the contract aside? It is needless to dilate on the outcry that would ensue.

Although, however, but little importance may be attached by sensible and well informed men and the mercantile portion of the community to the threatened disturbance of the Irish mail postal contract, it is a pity that a final assurance has not been made, ere the rising of Parliament, since the disturbing question has been once mooted. The Irish are credulous by nature and mistrustful by habit. They were slow to believe that such an act of justice would be conferred on Ireland, and difficult to persuade that it really had been done. No sooner, however, had the grant been confirmed by a British Government, and the last doubt of the least confiding Irishmen been on the point and verge of dismissal to the limbo of O'Connellite glory, when a fresh contingency arises, which invests the whole matter with uncertainty again. "I told you so" is the cry of chronic distrust. "Ireland is still to be the victim of cruel impolicy and wrong." Then comes an article of our contemporary, the "leading" journal, which spoke of the hard-earned money of the Englishman being lavished on the Celt, in the most barren and reckless manner, and speaks of Ireland as if she were an unprofitable colony, or rather an alien country; as if the money to be given for the subsidy were scattered over the Goodwin sands, or sown upon some rocky island in the uttermost part of the world. Whereas, the benefit likely to accrue to this country and her exchequer, from this act of bare justice to Ireland, is incalculable. We may count it in specie, or estimate it by the blessings of pacification. We are at present paying about 600,000*l.* a year for an Irish constabulary. The amount spent in prisons, in trials, and the organisation and maintenance of the coercion system, can scarcely be estimated. England will gain by increased and more rapid communication with her best market—the United States, and her most important colonies of North America. She will gain commercially, by improved, and more frequent postal and telegraphic communication. Is it possible that any one can be really blind to this, or must we reluctantly attribute an advocacy so unpatriotic to something beyond prejudice?

We cannot for a moment yield to the belief that in this most "exceptional" case anything will be really done to violate the engagement into which the late Government entered with the Galway Line Company and the Irish people. If so, it is a pity that any doubt should be allowed to remain in the public mind, either in this country or in Ireland, as to the stability—we will not say confirmation—of the grant. In the Dover contract affair there is a great and striking difference in the circumstances, without referring at all to the merits or demerits of any of the parties concerned, either on one side or the other—the late Government or the contractors. That difference lies in two facts:—In the Dover case, firstly, the interests, the loyalty, and the prosperity

of a nation are not involved; and, secondly, it is a renewal of a contract at a distant period of time. Four new swift steamships are already, we understand, being rapidly constructed for the Galway line. But, after all, this is a lesser evil. If an act of repudiation on the part of a Government should cause even the disasters of the British Bank, it is nothing in comparison with the indignation and odium that would be evoked in Ireland by a course so fraught with folly and peril.

We anticipate no such calamity, but the sooner that an official announcement is made of a nature calculated to set the minds of Irishmen perfectly at rest on this subject, the better, we are inclined to think, it will be for all parties.

LITERATURE.

LITERARY NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A STORY by Mr. Charles Dickens, which has been long talked of, has at length made its appearance in the *New York Ledger*. It is called "Hunted Down," and is intended for an illustration of life assurance. The American critics do not seem much struck with its beauties. The *New York* newspapers positively announce that Mr. Dickens has engaged to give a series of readings in the principal American cities for a consideration of 10,000*l.* We believe it is true that an offer of this nature has been made to our illustrious countryman, but we are not aware that he has accepted it.

Lord Brougham is at present staying at Tyne-mouth, enjoying the fresh breezes of the North Sea. It is the intention of several of the mechanics' institutes and working men's institutes on the Tyne to present addresses to his lordship.

The *Siecle*, speaking of the prizes proclaimed on Thursday at the annual sitting of the French Academy, says:—"M. Gilbert, who received a prize two years ago for a remarkable eulogium on Vauvenargues, obtains this year the prize for one on Regnard. M. Gilbert is the young man whose romantic marriage was at one moment a subject of conversation. Although a poor teacher, and the son of a workman, he married the wealthy Madlle. Schneider, whose brother he had educated. The prize for poetry has been carried off, against 140 competitors, by a young female of twenty-five, a child of the people, a teacher, living on the produce of her lessons in the midst of her family of artisans. She has written a charming piece of poetry, full of simplicity and devoid of all declamation. It is M. Legouvé who is charged to read these two prize works. The name of the young woman is Madlle. Ernestine Drouet; she was pupil of Beranger, who took great pains with her, and at the age of eighteen she obtained the diploma of superior instruction.

Mr. Laurence Oliphant is expected to deliver a lecture, on China and Japan, in Dunfermline about the end of October, a subject on which, from his opportunities as private secretary to Lord Elgin, he is peculiarly qualified to instruct his hearers.

The library of the late Baron de Humboldt, bequeathed by him to his old valet, has been purchased for 40,000 thalers, the Vienna journals state, by Lord Bloomfield, Minister of England at Berlin.

The prospectus of the lectures to be delivered during the ensuing Michaelmas educational term by the several readers appointed by the inns of court has also been published.

We find the following in the *Critic*:—"Mr. Bohn is shortly about to publish a new edition of the complete works of Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, edited by Mr. Moy Thomas. We have already had occasion to notice very favourably this gentleman's literary labours in connection with some of the most interesting volumes in the series of Aldine poets. The forthcoming edition of the works of the clever and eccentric lady in question will contain, we believe, much new and curious matter concerning herself and many of her contemporaries. The editor, as we know, possesses a very accurate knowledge of this period of literary history, and we look forward with curiosity to the fresh light which she will probably throw upon many ill-understood passages in the life and times of Lady Mary.

"Messrs. Sampson Low and Son, of Ludgate-hill, informs us that they intend to publish by subscription an Index to current literature. The first part will probably appear on the 15th of next October, and the series be continued monthly or quarterly according to the wish of the majority of subscribers. The subscription has been wisely fixed at the very low sum of 4*s.* per annum. We have examined the four specimen pages of the proposed index; and heartily approve of its plan. It is to contain, in alphabetical order the titles of all books and pamphlets, published from time to time. It will probably also include extracts from the leading reviews

and magazines, and refer to such essays and newspaper articles as embrace topics of abiding literary interest. The Messrs. Low invite suggestions from all persons who approve of their design, and promise to consider carefully any such suggestions as may be made. It appears to us that such an index will be invaluable to all persons who do not reside in the immediate vicinity of a large public library."

FRANCE AND ENGLAND, SOCIALLY AND POLITICALLY CONSIDERED. Translated from the French of Ch. Menohe De Loisne, (sous Préfét de Boulogne sur Mer). By Mrs. Philipps Greene. Dedicated by permission to Lady Charles Napier.—W. Jeffs.

THE purpose of this book is to show, by comparison, that the political constitution of England is not suitable to France. The leading reason given by M. De Loisne for his opinion is, that France is wanting in the aristocracy which serves in England so beneficially as a barrier between the people and the monarch. The *bourgeoisie* now occupies the place of the ancient nobility, but was proved incapable of maintaining the limits of either. The empire is founded on popular suffrage, and triumphs on the ruins of the other two classes. "Ever since the conquest," says M. De Loisne, "since the fifth century, France has tended to democracy and centralisation; it has been the supreme law of its existence, the prosperity, strength, and glory, whilst England, up to 1688, only offered the spectacle of a constant struggle between the aristocracy and royalty, a struggle in which the advantage always definitively rested with the aristocracy." This was the reason why Cromwell could found nothing, and that his appearance in our history is like a brilliant meteor, and the date of his brightness ephemeral. Power had been given to Cromwell by the army, unsanctioned by the nation. It was the people who gave the empire to Napoleon.

"Napoleon the First, succumbing under the efforts of a world coalesced against him, left in the memory of the French people an imperishable worship. Richard Cromwell, acknowledged Protector on the death of his father, disappeared from power to obscurity, so indifferent was every one about him, that none took the trouble to inquire whether he still existed, or in what place he resided. The Duc de Reichstadt was at Vienna, under the care of all Europe, and when France, thirty years later, saw her existence menaced by new revolutions, she believed she could only be saved by seeking the exiled heir of the Napoleon dynasty, and in sanctifying him by three successive votes her legitimate sovereign."

The point of view thus taken is undoubtedly interesting, and will bear enlargement. Our author compares, or contrasts the English revolution of 1688, and the French revolution of 1789. In the former fighting for its faith, the nobility of England also fought for the faith of all the Protestant sects in the United Kingdom. In defending its privileges, it equally defended the privileges of the nation. No nobility are less arrogant, less exclusive, or so popular as the English. They do not form a caste, living apart from the nation; besides, a great number of English families can claim to descend from them, or even from a lineage more ancient. Thus it happened that the revolution of 1688 was an aristocratic and not a democratic revolution; and such is the reason wherefore, gathering the fruit of their wisdom and patriotism, the English nobility triumphed in the kingdom, and laid the basis of a government that will last for centuries. M. De Loisne continues:—

"Shall I say that this result was due solely to the perseverance and intelligence of their conduct since the Norman conquest? That would be an error. God holds in his hands the life and destiny of nations. It is He that has made England what she is to-day. It is God that has willed that England was successively governed by foreign dynasties. By the Normans and Plantagenets who were French, the Stuarts who were Scotch, by the Prince of Orange, by Queen Anne, the spouse of a Prince of Denmark, and by the House of Hanover. None of these houses had root in the country, the accession of each of them inspired suspicions, and thus cemented the union of all classes in the nation. Who knows what England would have become if the Stuarts had not turned Catholic? Who knows what she would have become if William had not been at once unpopular, from his temper and Presbyterian religion; if he had had a son, and his successor his capacity, I was going to say his genius; if Anne had been a

new Elizabeth, if George the First or his son had been Henry the Fourth, or Napoleon?

The House of Hanover did not produce during the eighteenth century a single prince worthy of wearing the crown, and of exercising its power. The aristocracy had this good fortune when it tried definitely to govern the United Kingdom, that it could during a century confirm its domination, and habituate the nation and royalty to it, without having a single king capable, I will not say of impeding and weakening its power, but even of attempting to do so.

"The revolution of 1688 then succeeded, because it was at the same time consecrated by all the traditions of the history of England, and also because God has permitted its free and glorious development by removing all causes of dissension and civil war."

The writer then proceeds to state that the English aristocracy retarded for awhile the liberties for which they had combated;—tampering with the *habeas corpus*, depriving Catholics of political rights, and (*inter alia*) persecuting the partisans of the Stuarts, and suspending the liberty of the press. The proceedings of Napoleon III. are, no doubt, defended under the disguise of the following statement:—

"A law was made declaring that it was treason to write or print contrary to the law, that is to say against the established government. The newspapers were, in 1712, subjected to so onerous a tax that the greater number of them ceased to appear. They were forbidden under the most severe penalties to publish an account of the debates in Parliament, and if since 1789 the newspapers enjoy this privilege, it is only upon sufferance. But lately, only a few months since, a proposition tending to recognise the right of publishing the sittings of the Houses, had not even the honour of a discussion. Toleration has been maintained, but the right has not been recognised. From 1808 to 1821 the English Government instituted a hundred and one lawsuits against the press, imprisoned ninety-four journalists, and banished twelve of them. Since then, tranquillity being no longer menaced, rigorous measures have ceased, and the press has enjoyed the greatest liberty; but all citizens have a right to prosecute a newspaper for defamation, injury, or calumny, and to demand and obtain damages often so considerable as to cause the ruin of the newspaper."

The writer then goes on to state that "no statesman in England has ever made his position by means of the press, or acquired power by the daily publications." To prove, also, "how impossible it is to dream of establishing in France institutions similar to those that exist in England," M. de Loisne proceeds to state that—

"The property of England is concentrated in the hands of forty or fifty thousand proprietors. In France it is divided between five millions of proprietors, and this number is daily increasing; and above all it is territorial property which gives political fortune. A great proprietor who has large domains, who possesses entire communes, who can count by thousands the inhabitants who live on the heritage of his ancestors, must inevitably enjoy incontestable, I had nearly said immovable, influence. And remark that these vast domains have remained indefinitely in the same families, that by the law of entail, which dates from Edward the First (1272) they could not be alienated; and, as I before said, they are transmitted in noble families, with the title, and that so inflexibly that it is by no means rare to see the daughters of noblemen left without means, whilst a distant cousin suddenly becomes by the death of their father, heir and fortunate possessor of the castles and vast domains in which their childhood has been passed. The incontestable influence of the nobility, and of the great proprietors is increased by the use which they make of their fortune. In place of living obscurely, or ostentatiously expending their wealth in cities or at the court, they live on their domains in the centre of their vassals and tenant farmers, such is the name they now bear. The season in London lasts for three months at most, but scarcely has it terminated when all the families hasten to return to their country seats, and hold their court there. I do not exaggerate, the expression is true. In the vast dwellings, formerly constructed by the serfs, by the conquered, by the Saxons, it is not rare to see collected about a hundred persons. Sport follows sport, dinners, balls, and theatrical entertainments occupy the evening. The castles, which recall our noble chateaux of Fontainebleau, or Compeigne, have all saloons for theatrical amusement, concerts, and balls. A newspaper, the *Morning Post*, announces daily in England the noble visitors who arrive at the different residences, and the parties that are given. All the nation associates itself with this splendour, and applauds the intellectual luxury. The great families are thus known, loved, and respected. Far from being jealous of their riches,

the inferior classes of society are proud of their princely magnificence. It is the aristocracy that at all times make the most noble use of riches. From pride and generosity they take part in all charitable works, direct private subscriptions, cover England with religious institutions, houses of refuge, hospitals, schools, and colleges. Preserving the traditions of the past since the Conquest, they have administered jurisdiction in the counties, have improved, kept in order, and constructed roads, canals, and ports, thus making the seignorial right useful to the general prosperity. Possessed of the soil their interest was identical with the interest of the English people. They, as I have said before, held to the latter the place which the patricians of ancient Rome held to the plebeians."

For these and other reasons "the Peerage, the golden book of the English nobility, is the second Bible of England." All this was, and is, different in France. There the nobility has not the immutability of the English oligarchy. In France each century has had its nobility. Each reign in France brought forward new names, and omitted the old ones. "Did," he demands, "the nobility of Francis the First descend from the nobility of Charles the Seventh? Did the nobility of Louis the Fourteenth descend from the nobility of the Bearnais?"

"Everything lived and was perpetuated in England. When before a respectful and eager crowd, the nobility pass to attend a levee of the Queen, it seems as if ancient generations were resuscitated, to tell the present of their combats, their misfortunes, their greatness, and their exploits.

"There is the Duke of Northumberland, a Percy! The founder of this race was a Danish chief, a Manfred, who in the time of the Carolingians, with the Scandinavians ravaged the coasts of France, and finished by establishing themselves in Normandy. William de Percy, was at Hastings, by the side of Duke William, he had, as companion in arms, Grosvenor, the actual head of the house of the Marquis of Westminster, and Richard Grenville, a descendant of the first Duke of Normandy. Rollo founded the House of Buckingham and Chandos.

"Then there is the Marquis of Lansdowne; one of his ancestors sat in the council of Edward the Confessor.

"The Duke of Somerset, his ancestors called themselves St. Maur (Seymour.) They quitted Normandy, and fixed themselves at the Court, under Henry the Third. Look at the Baron Henry William Fitzgerald de Ros; one of his ancestors was member of the assembly of great Barons, who in the thirteenth century took away the power from Henry the Third.

"Then the Earl of Warwick, of Norman origin, who counts in his genealogy the king maker; the Warwick who, during the war of the two Roses, disposed of the Crown of England at his will.

"See William Courteney, Earl of Devon, who descended from Louis le Gros, King of France; and Stuart Marquis of Bute, who is descended from Robert the Second, King of Scotland.

"John Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, who amongst his ancestors, counted the companion of William the Conqueror, and the famous Captain Talbot, who was so well known in France, for his exploits in the fifteenth century.

"Then Howard, Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and hereditary Marshal of England, whose dukedom was instituted by Richard the Third; and one of whose ancestors was the celebrated Catherine Howard, fifth wife of Henry the Eighth.

"See Lennox, Duke of Richmond, descended from Charles the Second, and the beautiful and witty Louise de Querouailles, Duchess of Portsmouth and D'Aubigny.

"See the Duke of Bedford. He is of the family of the Russell who expiated on the scaffold the crime of having sought to free England from the odious despotism of James the Second; and of that other Russell, who carried the offer of the Crown of the United Kingdom to William of Orange.

"Look at the Duke of Hamilton, first Duke of Scotland, husband of the gracious Princess of Baden, cousin of the Emperor Napoleon the Third. One of his ancestors was created in 1552, Duc de Chatelherault, by Henry the Second, King of France.

"Then alas! come the great modern, illustrious nobles, those who date from our wars, and were created from our misfortunes. . . . The Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington!"

With equal lucidity the author enters into the reasons of the purchase in England of commissions in the army, and their non-purchase in the navy; and why in France the soldier advances in proportion to his merit. England is great because of her colonies, which afford employment to her demo-

cracy. Taking these to itself the English democracy might well leave the mother country to the influence of the aristocracy. But above all, England is indebted to her profound religious sincerity. Whereas the French revolution was ushered in by the infidelity of literary men, who were patronised by the Court. Nothing might be done until this fault was cleared away. Napoleons I. and III., accordingly, had first to re-establish the traditional religion, and secondly to raise and strengthen the Supreme Pontiff of that religion. Much of the difference, too, is owing to the different methods of education.

"In France the child is brought up, develops itself, grows and studies under the eyes of its mother. If he walks, she watches him; if he speaks, she listens; if he weeps, she pities him; if he laughs, she laughs with him; if he plays, she joins him. His thoughts, emotions, tears or smiles, joys or griefs—all are shared. The family is not numerous, hardly more than two or three brothers and sisters; but this little world lives under the eyes of the father and mother, and the anxious, active foreseeing affection of the latter anticipates their wants and wishes.

"In England there is nothing parallel. There you will not find the tender intimacy and foresight of our domestic hearths. Almost as soon as a child is born, it is confided to strange hands—a Frenchwoman or German takes care of it, and teaches it her own language. Later, it joins its numerous brothers and sisters, and plays and studies with them, under the care of a governess. Once a day, at lunch, the father and mother descend and mix with their children; and in these short moments, when the family is united, I do not know whether respect does not close their young mouths and restrain the rapture of their youthful hearts. The repast finished, the noisy recreation follows, animated and joyous, far from their parents, in separate apartments, under the cold and indifferent eye of the governess. There each child develops itself, not only physically but morally. What he thinks, wishes, or does, it is himself who thinks, has willed it, and has done it. In contact with his brothers and sisters, who have the same independence as himself, his character is formed, tractable and strengthened at the same time. He resolves, but learns what is far more difficult, he learns how to resolve. He learns also to depend on himself, and himself only. Thus, from the cradle, there is nothing ideal, no holy and tender expansion of blind but sublime maternal love. No; but real life, noisy and animated, with already its difficulties and struggles; and with this independence, whereby the character and the temper are thus strengthened, is a singular spirit of subordination. There is one child in the family who morally leads, who every where is first, and treated more respectfully, is habituated from an early age to consider himself as the future head of the family—this is the eldest son.

The French hate inequality, and to secure its opposite have sacrificed liberty. Democracy destroyed the ancient order of things but was itself thoroughly disunited, and the same barrier existed between the *bourgeoisie* and the people that had divided the *bourgeoisie* and the aristocracy. Not only did the *bourgeoisie* live carefully apart from the country people, but they lived apart in the same manner from the town people. But the time came when the *bourgeoisie* had to submit to the people, as the aristocracy had had to submit to them. They dared not repress the excesses of the populace, while they implored its concurrence. "Even as they had deprived the aristocracy of their privileges, the people took from them those they wished to preserve or to acquire. To overturn the nobility they had supported themselves on philosophic theories, and had invoked the rights of man. The people, enlightened and raised by them, invoked in their turn the same rights against them." On such a basis, an English constitution cannot be reared in France. "Where is the aristocracy? Where is the nobility? Where is their territorial fortune? . . . We have seen in this country three great revolutions; 1815, 1830, 1848. The first gave the power to the nobility, the second to the *bourgeoisie*, and the third to the people. And in this manner each of the revolutions seemed to be a victory of one social class over the two others." In 1852, we are further told, that the Empire called for by France was the energetic representation of the interests and rights of all classes of society. This it found in that constituted by Napoleon III., which has united France in one common love of country, and religiously preserved in the laws and administration the great and pat-

riot traditions of her history, by associating them with the liberal principles of modern times.

"Inspired by all the tendencies of past ages it has consecrated democratic principles, the social, civil, and political equality proclaimed in 1789; and has tried to associate them with modern principles of liberty; but it is supposed to that liberty; which, supporting itself on equality, degenerates into license, and from license into popular tyranny the worst of all tyrannies.

"Proclaimed and recognised by all the nation, the Empire has been the arch of union between the past and the future; it has equally wished to be so between the different classes of society. It has given France a French Government, in conformity with its traditions, wants, interests, manners, character, and genius.

"It has resumed the sword of Brennus, and it has thrown that sword into the balance of the destinies of the world; but it has made that balance lean in favour of the rights and liberties of the people.

"The people suffer when France suffers; the people prosper when France, under an energetic and popular power, develops in peace all the magnificent faculties that God has given her. The prosperity and repose of the world depends on the prosperity and repose of France.

"God has made our country a magnificent part in the history of humanity. However melancholy has been her infancy, or sad her humiliations, however bloody and numerous her revolutions, she has such energy, youth, and greatness when she finds her path again that it seems she is the head and heart of humanity, and that humanity would cease to live should her heart cease to beat.

Such is the apology for the existing system of things, to be found in this production. Our analysis has simply aimed to suggest the contents of the volume, not to argue the matter with the author. It is much more important to understand his position than to declare our own. The author; it will be seen, shows talent and ability, corroborated by extensive information and legitimated by logical dexterity. It will be well for English politicians to read the work carefully, as most certainly they will have to deal with the practical conclusions to which it leads. On the basis which it lays down, a living system has been edified, the direction of which is in the hands of a man of genius—a philosopher on a throne. We cannot know too much of the motives by which his conduct is guided, or of the objects at which he probably aims.

NEW NOVELS.

TWENTY YEARS IN THE CHURCH. An Autobiography. By the Rev. James Pycroft, B.A.—Lionel Booth.

FEMALE INFLUENCE. By Lady Charlotte-Maria Pepys. In 2 vols.—Hurst and Blackett.

LAWKSVIEW; a Family History of our own times. By Holme Lee, author of *Sylvan Holt's Daughter*, &c. &c.—James Blackwood.

MARCO GRIFFI; the Italian Patriot. By Mrs. Webb author of "Naomi," &c. &c.—Richard Bentley.

WRECK AND RUIN. By Kinahan Cornwallis, Author of "Two Journeys to Japan," "Panorama of the New World," &c. In 3 vols.—T. C. Newby.

THE DUDLEYS. By Edgar Dewsland.—James Blackwood.

The novel season is over and we may take our run into the country. There will of course be a few followers in the rear, but none of sufficient importance to keep us at our post. It will not be out of place here, perhaps, to offer a few remarks on the season just over. We believe there have been more novels published this season than any preceding one. Since October last there have been upwards of 170 novels issued, or about 300 volumes, making an average of nearly four novels published every week. Of this mass of fiction it would be rather difficult to name more than twenty that will not be forgotten by the next season, many of which are already buried under the oblivion of others.

There have been fewer successful novels published during this season than usual, especially considering the quantity issued. This is attributable to many causes; first of all it is remarkable how few of the "stock" novelists have published. Where is Mrs. Marsh, Miss Jewsbury, Miss Julia Kavanagh, G. P. R. James, Harrison Ainsworth, and many others whose writings have always had their fair meed of success? It can scarcely be that the novel is degenerating; there is more good healthy art and doctrine in the fictions

now published than in the writings of some of the people just named. Although recent writers may not have that ability to write an exciting story—which is very doubtful—they generally employ their talents with a good intent, however deficient they may be in natural abilities, to work out their plan.

The novel, now, is, in most cases, only the vehicle through which art, doctrine, or grievance are illustrated, as in the case of "Tom Brown's School Days." Why the "school" system should be moralised it is difficult to conceive; unless it be that were it not written in the form of a fiction it would find less favour with the public. We have here the life of the school-boy depicted in all phases. There is very little attempt to interest the reader with a love story. Thackeray, Dickens, Bulwer, Anthony, Trollope, and many more of our great novelists, send forth their views through the mouths of their characters, doubtless, but they never write a novel on one phase of life. Their characters rarely say anything but what is consistent: the writers so model their characters that they say or do nothing only that which is true to their nature. They present their readers with every phase of life and character, manners and customs, and their great minds enable them to view and treat every question much in the same manner as Mr. Hughes has done the school-boys. Indeed it is very doubtful whether this new class of fiction, if judged by strict rules, would stand any of the tests of the novel, rightly so called, i.e., when judged by the standard of our classic novelists. Without subscribing to this system of novel making, we may remark, however, that it has a far better tendency and more healthy effect on the reader than the fashionable and criminal school of fiction popular twenty years ago. That such novels as "Tom Brown" are read, and the class likely to become popular, is to be expected, from the immense success of Mr. Hughes' book.

"Twenty Years in the Church" is a novel of the same class as "Tom Brown's School Days." It is written with the avowed purpose of doing for the church system what Mr. Hughes has done for the system of education at our public schools. The school-boy fag is the fag curate, who lives a hard, laborious life, and does the work for which another receives the pay. The style of the book is autobiographical. It purports to be the life of the Rev. Henry Austin, a man of more than average intellect and of not much influence. Not rich enough to purchase a living, so that he has to labour for seven years as a curate on 150*l.* a year, keeping a wife and family—as many of our poor curates have to do, and many much less, unfortunately. He is just the sort of person to enlist the reader's sympathies, and preaches the word of God in "the highways and byways," as Our Saviour did before him. He does not say whether he is High Church or Dissenter, consequently his "preaching" can offend no sect, and it matters little to him of what denomination a fellow creature is; if he be in trouble he will always find a sympathiser. Nor is he too wise to be able to take note of the wishes of the poor, as will be seen from the following extract. The talk is on the Bible, and Dissenters, and Edwards is the driver of the Oxford coach, and a man that has seen "better days."

"I do have a good deal of talk and argument with them, and there's one story they all agree in, which is, if the clergy would only talk plain English from the pulpits, and speak from the heart, the Dissenters might almost close their chapels. Now, sir, you'll allow there are two sorts of English: one that is spoken in drawing-rooms, the other spoken in cottages; the one is a conversational language, the other bookish; the one is like talking to a man, the other like preaching to him; the one is sound, the other sense. The Dissenters use one, your clergy the other; nine sermons out of ten, as far as the poor man is concerned, might just as well be Greek."

"But you would not have us preach in such a coarse and vulgar manner as the Dissenters?"

"No, sir; I say, copy what's good, not what's bad in them. They can command attention when they preach, and you church clergy can't. Suppose I made up my conversation before I started, who'd listen to me? As it is, I have a certain quantity stowed away in my head, and it comes out when and where it's wanted. That's like the Dissenters. A doctor on our coach once said, smartly enough, that a Church-of-England sermon ought to be like a separate prescription; but instead of that it is more like a box of family pills, a kind of general prescrip-

tion for all constitutions and all complaints: and worse than that, it is very often about the very last thing in the world to do poor and plain folk any good.

"Then you think our topics ill-chosen, and our language not the Queen's English?"

"Queen's English, indeed! Nothing like it. Why, if I were to talk such English to our horse-keepers and pikemen, I should never get along the Queen's highway. There isn't one trade or calling that could be carried on with pulpit English. It won't work week-days, so why try it Sundays? Your sentences are twice as long as a sensible man ever forms his mouth to. Don't tell me about a style coarse or vulgar. Read John Bunyan. Isn't his style genteel enough for you; Yes, that helps me to explain myself; preach John Bunyan's English, and let it, like that wonderful book of his, be about something. Not "moral influences," not "relative obligations;" that's all for the head: we want something to the heart. A hawker said the other day, "People like a tract with a tale in it."

"There was deep wisdom in all this. Of course Edwards meant, choose those familiar, household words, and that pure Saxon, which speaks so feelingly; and prefer the concrete or illustrative to the abstract or the philosophical. It was not for years that I fully realised the truth of his homely counsel. He would have reminded me of the words so little understood. 'Without a parable spake He not unto them.' Our Great Teacher never taught without an illustration; how rarely do we teach with one! The parable is only the Oriental form of the concrete style, or the illustrative. The life of William Jay, late of Bath, contains valuable hints to any young clergyman who would apply Our Saviour's method of teaching by parable to the habits of the present day."

"Ah! sir; you may despise the Dissenters if you like; but they are, in one way, your very best friends. Without them, it would have been downright stagnation in the Church a long time ago. They keep you a little to your work: they have already made you march a pretty deal faster than the 'regulation step.' They are very vexatious, I dare say—an opposition coach always is—emptying your coach into theirs. Now, I'm not over and above fond of these Dissenters, though there are good as well as bad in every party; but what I dislike is, that they carry such a face with them—no more their own than if it took on and off, which oftentimes I think it does: but for all that, my firm belief is—to speak a solemn thing in a plain way—that you churchmen will none of you travel to your great journey's end more slowly because they carry on a lively opposition on the same road!"

This extract will give the reader a pretty good idea of the style of the book. There is very little if any, story running through the work, but what there is bears the stamp of truthful life, and awakens in the reader's mind an interest in a cause always peculiarly interesting.

"Twenty Years in the Church" is written on a subject that appeals to the multitude, and treated by Mr. Pycroft in an honest, manly manner, and is quite as good a novel as "Tom Brown's School Days," and we shall be greatly surprised if it does not become as popular.

"Female Influence" is a slight story, but the aim and moral of the book is excellent, and the whole plan is so worked out as to make its purpose evident to the most juvenile of novel readers, while some of the elders may read it with advantage. "All gold glitters not" is the motto the book bears; and to illustrate the moral of this, the lives of two young ladies, of good families, of Mullyon, in Wales, are given. Oriole Montaigne is a fine, dashing, spirited young lady, showy in dress and manners, and one of those persons who always show their worth at the first meeting; while Adela Lucyan, a niece of Mrs. Aylmer, is a dull-looking, sleepy dreamer, and thought by all her acquaintances to be—a fool. Mrs. Aylmer is an invalid unable to leave her couch, and Adela's kind attention to her aunt is laughed at and held to be a proof of this. In time, however, it is proved that Oriole's "glittering" is not so good, in quality, as Adela's "dull gold." At Hyeres, where they all go for the winter, the time hangs heavily on the wing. Pic-nics, balls and conversaziones, all have their day, and then it is proposed that there shall be a prize given to the writer of the best poem. Several make a "maiden effort," but are all thrown in the background by one sent in anonymously. The judges are at a loss to whom they shall award the prize. The author's name is called; he or she does not come forward, much to the astonishment of those that have failed. Every one thinks that Oriole is the writer; yet why not come forward

and claim the honour? But much to the surprise of every person, it is found out that Adela is the author. No one has paid her the least attention hitherto: now every one flocks to do homage to genius. Many things that were stupid in her before now become originalities.

This picture of life at Hyeres is naturally conceived and well carried out, and those persons that are fond of a story of quiet average English life will do well to peruse Lady Pepys' "Female Influence."

"Hawkview" is a very fair story, but hardly so good or truthful as some of Holme Lees previous works. It is ghostly enough for a Christmas story. It also bears the stamp of an earlier piece of writing than "Sylvan Holt's Daughter." However, it has the merit of portraying the two extremes of human nature. Captain Vescey is over done. There could not be so great a villain as he, nor should we think it was in human nature to treat a woman, whose only fault was being too fond, in such a brutal manner as he does poor Clara. A man is often a blackguard with men, but with his wife and at home he generally manages to keep a little guard over his manners. It is hardly truthful that he should slowly murder his beautiful loving wife, without some other cause than her being a little weak and suspicious when he was from home. No man can look with contempt on a woman that loves him.

The character of the son is more truthful, although his fight with his father is horrible. He has the elements of both his parents in him, and only requires teaching, to make him as good as his mother, or as bad as his father. Again, what cause had this demon to drive his son into a state of madness? The home at the rectory is one of the most beautiful pictures of a clergyman's family we could wish. But does not this go to the other extreme? To those who are fond of a tale of horrible interest we recommend this new story by Holme Lee.

"Marco Griffi" is a story well calculated to create a feeling of interest, in favour of the cause of Italian freedom. It will cause more interest and discussion in the homes of the English people than one half the political books avowedly written on the question. Those that have read Mrs. Webb's previous works will peruse "Marco Griffi, the Italian," with pleasure.

In "Wreck and Ruin" we have been greatly disappointed. It is a coarse, ill-digested story, and one not likely to improve the doubtful position as writer the author has attained. It is very difficult to give an idea of the work. It is something like going through a convict settlement, with Mr. Cornwallis at one's side to describe the different individuals. The characters are so numerous, and are thrown on the stage humble jumble, so that it is impossible for the reader to remember one from the other. Nor is it very easy to find out what plan or purpose the author had in writing "Wreck and Ruin." The same ground is travelled over again as that described in his previous works, and the characters are chiefly of that class that are a disgrace to mankind, and the whole affair is treated in the most flippant manner. There is too little distinction made between virtue and vice, and the whole moral tone of the work shows that the author has not duly reflected on the feeling his work is likely to produce in the minds of his readers. The incident of Mrs. Radley and the pillow, in Vol. I., is an offence to good taste that should preclude its being placed in the hands of any respectable family. A novel writer should be very particular what feelings his works will awaken in the minds of his readers. In "Wreck and Ruin," the rogues and vagabonds live on the fat of the land, while honest Mrs. Brown throws herself into the Thames in a state of starvation! This may be true, but why should there be a premium held out for vice?

There is enough materials in "Wreck and Ruin" from which an able writer might have written an average novel of low life. But any work depicting the social life of rogues should be well digested before given to the public, and this is hardly to be done by a person who publishes so rapidly, and consequently reflects so little, as Mr. Cornwallis.

"The Dudleys" is a very silly book, and not at all to our taste. It may be said to belong to the fast school of writing. The characters play their game of life; act and speak funny things, and behave to one another in the most rude

manner. It is not usual, we believe, when two gentlemen first meet for one to ask the other, "You are from London?" "Are you married?" or "Were you ever married?" or "Were you ever in love?" &c.

It is one of those novels that it is difficult to see what purpose the writer had in view. We know of no class of people that act and speak like the characters in "The Dudleys." The tale is foolish, and altogether the book is a mistake. We hope when Mr. Dewsland writes again he will think of what he is going to write about, and bear in mind that life is not a farce, nor to be treated as such.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Eighty Sermons. By Joseph Lathorp, D.D. J. Jepps.
National Defence. W. Jeffs.
France and England Socially and Politically Considered, &c. W. Jeffs.
Twenty Years in the Church, an Autobiography. By the Rev. James Pycroft, M.A. L. Booth.
Reminiscences of Scottish Life and Character. By E. B. Ramsay, M.A., F.R.S.E. Edinburgh: Edmaston & Douglas.
Speculations, Literary and Philosophic. By Thomas de Quincey. James Hogg and Sons.
A Trip to the Rhine and Paris. Hamilton, Adams and Co.
The Governing Classes of England. Political Portraits. By G. M. Whitty. Henry Lee.
The New Zealand Handbook. E. Stanford.

FACTS AND SCRAPS.

The King of the Belgians and royal family have returned to Laeken from Ostend.

The Earl of Jersey is recovering from his illness and gradually regaining strength. The venerable peer completed his eighty-sixth year on Friday.

The Emperor Napoleon, on arriving at St. Sauveur, 500 miles from the French capital, found an electric telegraph ready for immediate service; so that his Majesty can transmit orders to any part of the empire, and correspond with foreign cabinets as promptly as when at the Tuileries.

Lord John Russell is, we believe, the Secretary of State selected to accompany the Queen to Scotland. It is understood that her Majesty has placed Abergeldie Castle (hertofore occupied by the Duchess of Kent) at the service of Lord John as a residence for his family during his sojourn in the Highlands—Birk Hall is to be occupied, as usual, by Sir James Clark.

Viscount Hamilton, eldest son of the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, will attain his majority on Wednesday next, when the event will be celebrated with the customary rejoicings on the ancestral estates in the county Tyrone.

The Duke of Marlborough has placed 135*l.* to the account of the Oxford Radcliffe Infirmary, being the balance of moneys received from visitors to Blenheim Palace and gardens during the season.

The Emperor of Austria has just entered on his twenty-ninth year, having been born on August 18, 1830.

The Rev. F. Rouch, minor canon of Canterbury, has been presented by the Dean and Chapter to the vicarage of Littlebourne.

Mr. McChristie, revising barrister, has fixed Monday, September 19, for commencing his revision of the lists of voters for members to serve in Parliament for the City of London.

Among other visitors at the Aldershot manoeuvres on Monday was the Count de Paris, who was attended by two of our Light Dragoons, one of whom, strange to say, though a sergeant, and many years in the service, is a Frenchman.

A correspondent calls our attention to the obnoxious regulation of the Chief Ranger, closing the park to the public at half-past seven o'clock during the present fine weather, thereby precluding the inhabitants and visitors from taking any recreation in the park after the hours of business, and evincing a total disregard to the wishes of a majority of the respectable residents of Greenwich and its vicinity.

A reward of 100*l.* has been offered by her Majesty's Government for the apprehension of George Frederick Royal, a shoemaker, who has absconded, charged with the wilful murder of Zipporah Wright, at Poplar.

One of the most popular and respected clergymen of the city of Canterbury, the Rev. E. H. Woodall, M.A., of Exon College, Oxford, rector of St. Margaret's, and rural dean of the district, has just succeeded from the Church of England. The rev. gentleman was received into the Roman Catholic Church at Paris, on the Feast of the Assumption, by the Rev. Fathers M. Alphonsé and Theodoro Ratisbonne.

COMMERCIAL.

THE CARRON CONSPIRACY.

WHATEVER concerns the honour of commerce has for us a deep interest. It ought to have a deep interest for the public, far deeper than the delight which we all unfortunately take in censorious talk, because commerce is fast becoming the leading power of the world. Government is losing its prestige, the aristocracy is almost everywhere a by word, the priesthood has ceased to be venerable, and commerce, by its growing influence, is throwing them all aside. It represents emphatically the new portions of society, and woe will be the general lot should commerce be corrupt and a source of corruption. We read, therefore, and are about to place before our readers, with something like dismay, an account of a gigantic system of fraud long continued in connexion with a flourishing branch of trade, and we should be filled with apprehensions for the future if we were compelled to conclude that it necessarily grew from trade. To guard our readers against the false impression that roguery and trade are one, we make this preliminary remark; and shall now state an outline of the case as it is published in a law plea submitted to the Court of Session in Edinburgh, which corresponds, though in a civil suit, to a bill of indictment. The statement is wholly *ex parte*, and before the public settles into a conclusion it must hear the other side.

All England, almost all the world, we believe, knows the famous Carron Company. It gave its name to the carronades which our fleet was armed with in the great French war, and has for many years supplied the population with cast-iron pots and ranges and all kinds of iron utensils of the most approved patterns at the lowest prices. It has immense works near Falkirk, and very large warehouses on the banks of the Thames, in Glasgow, Liverpool and other places. Established as long ago as 1760, and formed into a company in 1773, for the purpose, we believe, of working some of the patents for improving the manufacture of iron, taken out by Dr. Roebuck, and others, it has flourished ever since, a model of trading joint-stock companies. Its capital was 150,000*l.*, divided into 600 shares of 25*l.* each, and was for many years the largest work of the description in the kingdom. Its affairs have always appeared to be well ordered, its dividends respectable, and its prospects, amidst many changes, always good. It has kept faith with the public by supplying it well, but it is now charged with being in itself, and by its managers, a mass of iniquity unequalled by any discredited modern railway or royal bank company.

In 1786 a Mr. Joseph Stainton succeeded to the management and kept it till his death in 1825. At that period the management passed into the hands of his nephew, Mr. Joseph Dawson. Another nephew, Mr. William Dawson, became assistant manager. Mr. Henry Stainton, his brother, the largest shareholder of the company, was the agent in London, and other members of the family were agents at Glasgow and Liverpool. In 1850, Mr. Joseph Dawson died, and then Mr. William Dawson became manager. For seventy-three years the whole management of this great business has been in the hands of the Stainton-Dawson family, and for more than sixty-five years its several members have worked together, without a shadow of dispute, to keep its affairs in their own hands. Subsequent, however, to 1850 some disension crept in between the Carron Dawson and the London Stainton, the few independent shareholders then learned how the Company was managed, and now the public is let into the secret.

By the company's deed of incorporation a committee was to be appointed to look after the managers, but subsequent to 1813 no such committee was ever appointed. The managers gave it the go-bye. They submitted half-yearly balance-sheets to half-yearly meetings; but these balance-sheets were skilfully prepared by them, who withheld all the accounts from the shareholders. They regularly, year after year, cooked the balance-sheets so as to represent the gains of the company and the property of the company to be much less than they actually were. A balance was shown, for example, of 9,585*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* for one half-year, when the actual profit was 15,085*l.* 10*s.* 7*d.* Between 1820 and 1838 the profits were

represented by the managers at 118,925*l.*, when they actually were 294,543*l.* The mode they adopted is thus described:—

"Mr. Joseph Dawson used to send to Mr. Henry Stainton, the agent in London, and brother to Mr. Dawson's predecessor in the management, 'trial balance-sheets,' which were correct, and these were then altered and adjusted to meet the object in view. In 1826 Mr. Joseph Dawson, it is alleged, wrote to his 'dear uncle' that the balance then prepared showed profits amounting to 15,085*l.* 'This,' he said, 'we propose to reduce by transferring 2,500*l.* from flask goods to pig iron, and reducing the value of the pig iron inventory to that extent; also by diminishing the inventory of flask goods 1,000*l.*, and by transferring 1,000*l.* from general charges to the credit of timber, and deducting that amount from the timber inventory.' The total was thus brought down to 10,085*l.* But the writer went on to suggest as this sum was 'still rather too much,' that it might, by certain dealings with the 'insurance accounts,' be subjected to a further diminution of 1,500*l.* In reply, Mr. Henry Stainton, the uncle, is quoted to have observed that he would rather not touch the insurance accounts, as some of the partners had their eyes upon them, and that he would 'prefer operating upon the flask goods.'"

This system, together with charging a high commission for work done in London, and charging a large sum, 25 per cent., for breakages on articles supplied to the Government, which never occurred, continued throughout many years, brought into the hands of the Staintons and the Dawsons vast sums of money, which were invested in London, Liverpool, Glasgow and other places, in various works and under various names. The total is no where stated, but we may form an idea of the amount from the fact that last year the executors of Mr. Henry Stainton, the London agent, paid to the company, as a compromise, the sum of 220,000*l.*, while before his death he had handed over 96,000*l.* For years individuals connected with the company have endeavoured in vain to get accurate information concerning its affairs, but the managers and the agents, in spite even of the remonstrances of their own legal adviser in Scotland (Sir John Gibson Craig), who warned them as long ago as 1846 that they were acting wrongly, persisted in their course.

The Dawsons and the Staintons have not only been the managers, they have gradually become the principal shareholders. From 1830 till the death of Joseph Dawson in 1850, no stranger was allowed to purchase a share, and of the 600 original shares, 154 have been absorbed by the company, 328 are held by members of the family, leaving only 118 in the hands of independent members. Out of this gradual absorption of shares has grown the present action and the present exposure.

Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Dundas McLean was a holder of twenty shares, which he was induced to sell, in 1847, at 700*l.* each. Their value in the market was determined by the half-yearly dividends, and these having been systematically falsified, and the property of the company systematically concealed, the shares sold for much less than they were really worth. Colonel McLean now brings an action to recover from the managers the money of which he alleges he was defrauded by the system described. The question is yet before the courts, the accounts are very complicated, some different circumstances may yet come to light, and therefore we have rather understated the enormities charged than otherwise. But according to this *ex parte* statement, for upwards of thirty years a gigantic swindle has been carried on by respectable men, who have all that time been reckoned amongst the aristocracy, great masters, and leaders of industry. If we could not explain their conduct without referring it to commercial competition—considered to be a stimulus to roguery but the very soul of improvement—we should despair of society.

The whole thing has been more than seventy years a close monopoly. From the first the object was to get and preserve, as against the shareholders, uncontrolled power. In the hands of the Dawsons and the Staintons the Carron Company was a close corporation, the officers of which selected each other. It was called a trading company, and so it was, in respect to the public, and towards the public the Company has done its duty. Carron ware stands well in the market, though the Carron

works, once the largest in the empire, have been surpassed, even in Scotland, by those of Gartsherrie, and of Calder and Clyde, and by many in England. It has been exposed to competition as a trading company, and thereby been made to act honestly towards the public. In respect to its own shareholders it was a fraudulent usurpation. In its dealings with them it has its counterpart in the Government, not in the trading competition of individuals. Government is a close monopoly, all the shares of which are in the hands of a few, or an aristocracy. The disfranchised multitude are not only excluded from its advantages, but to them false accounts of profit and loss are continually rendered, that they may be contented under very small dividends, or rather very large privations. Merchants and manufacturers can only succeed as this Company succeeded with the public, by serving other men well. If they cheat they are found out and discarded; and knowing that others are always ready to take their places, competition keeps merchants honest and makes them useful. Government is under no necessity to be honest and useful; it is subject to a little inspection, but no competition; and the Treasury, with the assent of Parliament, like the Dawsons and the Staintons, continually levies enormous sums on the people for mock services. Our Chancellors of the Exchequer, with their utter want of respect for the property of the people, may see themselves accurately reflected in the conduct of the Dawsons and the Staintons to their shareholders. Such scenes should rouse them, and should rouse the public to consider the consequences to the general honesty and to morals of their pernicious example. It is from imitating them, and striving to be great and rich, like the aristocracy and the servants of the State, and pensioned ex-Chancellors, that these other monopolists, and that men in every rank of life, disregard the rights of property, like Chancellors of the Exchequer, and expose themselves to the punishment of the law. The complaints rather unthinkingly made of competition as provoking dishonesty, when it is the means of keeping people honest, should be directed against the Government's profligate disregard of the people's right of property. The public and commercial men should not disparage commerce on account of acts at variance with its character, but consistent with the daily proceedings of Government.

THE TRADE OF JULY.

THE trade in July, of which we now have the accounts, was very flourishing, and yet it has not come up, say our contemporaries, to expectations. We hardly know what they would have. The value of the exports for the month is £11,285,997, which is £1,692,000 more than in January of this year; the increase having taken place gradually, month after month. It is £2,237,000 more than in January, 1858, and £281,000 more than in July, 1858. Moreover, it is £1,000,000 more than the average monthly value of the exports of 1857, a total of £122,066,107, which is the greatest year on record. In the six months the value of our exports exceeds that of the six months of 1857 by £1,200,000, and in that period it was not less than £73,000,000, which would have made a sum of £146,000,000 in the year, had the exports continued to the end at the same rate as they promise to do this year. It is true that the value of the exports in July, 1859, is £1,000,000 less than in July, 1857, but in that month speculation was at its height, and trade is now sound and steadily progressing.

We are glad to see by these returns that the import of the raw materials of our manufactures continues large. Cotton in particular, about which some alarm has been expressed, and some political action evoked, has been imported in the six months of this year to the extent of 700,000 cwts. more than in the six months of last year. On the whole, the returns are extremely favourable, and show a large and continual increase in all the elements of prosperity.

MONEY MARKET & STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday Evening.

THE money market is very easy. Trade, it appears, is rather dull. America, it is said, has been again running too fast ahead; her ports are overstocked with goods, and the commercial intelligence from that quarter has checked business. The joint-stock

banks even feel the want of a demand for money, and are rather offerers than receivers. Bills are discounted at 2½ per cent. Something is due to the reports from Central Italy, where there is a probability of a further disturbance. It cannot either be concealed that the conduct of the Emperor, so different from all general rules, though in itself now what we desire, destroys confidence. People cannot reckon on stability, and so they prefer employing their money in loans on good security to engaging in new enterprises. Indeed, the dearth of new undertakings is remarkable. Then, no doubt, the continuance of the strike is not favourable to commercial activity, and altogether there is in consequence unexpected ease in the money market.

In the Stock Exchange, from the two new loans, there has been activity in the week, and a good deal of business has been done, with a generally improving market. To-day things were flat. From Paris came a further slight decline in the funds there, and our funds declined. Consols, which opened at 95½, were afterwards done at 95½, and at that price the market closed very dull.

The Indian loan, with the privilege of having the dividends paid at the Bank of England, is regarded by many persons to be as good a security as Consols, and as they can get nearly 2 per cent. more for their money in the loan than in Consols, they have been selling Consols to buy into the loan. It is at a premium of 1 to 1½. For the public, then, it is an English security, for the Government an Indian one, and the Government gives accordingly nearly 2 per cent. more for the money than would be requisite, did it negotiate the loan with the nominal, as it has the real guarantee of Parliament.

The Russian loan is about par, or at a slight discount. What quantity has been taken is not yet known, but we are assured that what remains, if any, will not be thrown on the market.

Banking shares, like the funds, are rather flat, but there is no change of importance in the market. We subjoin the bank returns:—

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 24th day of August, 1859:—

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	£30,689,800	Government Debt.....	£11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	3,459,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	16,214,800
		Silver Bullion	
	£30,689,800		£30,689,800

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity).....	£11,214,668
Rest.....	3,443,792	Other Securities..	18,304,418
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	6,152,530	Notes	9,015,865
Other Deposits....	14,183,853	Gold and Silver Coin	602,455
Seven Day and other Bills.....	864,222		
	£30,197,400		£30,197,400

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Dated August 25, 1859.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

Friday Evening.

ALL the produce markets—Mark-lane and Mincing-lane—are in a very quiet condition. Wheat sold very slowly at Monday's rates. For barley there is a slight demand. The prices of sugar are steady; so are those of coffee, rice, tea, &c. There is generally a season of dulness before it is quite ascertained in what condition the harvest will be got in, and this season is now begun. Work goes steadily on in the manufacturing districts, but there is nothing like extra business from either home or foreign demands. When the farmers have gathered in all the produce of their fields they will come to town for their supplies, and impart a new life to the markets. From India and the United States the demands are rather slack, so the characteristic of the week is dulness.

INDIAN RAILWAYS.—The grand total amount of capital raised by the various Indian railway companies, and paid by them into the home and Indian treasuries in the years from 1848-49 to 1858-59 is set down at 23,250,480*l*. The total amount of interest on capital received by all the companies from 1849-50 to 1858-59 was 2,739,453*l*. The amount of disbursements on account of all the companies in England and India during the same period was 19,061,097*l*. The balance of principal due to all the companies from the Government of India at the end of April last was 4,189,382*l*.

PRICES OF THE PRINCIPAL STOCKS AND SHARES AT THE CLOSE OF THE MARKET.

	Last Week	This Week
STOCKS.		
3 per cent. Consols—Money	95½	95½
Ditto	95½	96½
Ditto	96	96½
Ditto	223	223
Bank Stock	221½	219
India	20½	20
Exchequer Bills	114½	113
Canada Government 6 per cent.	99½	99½
New Brunswick Government 6 per cent. ..	110	109½
New South Wales Government 5 per cent. ..	111	110½
South Australia Government 6 per cent. ..	77	77½
Victoria Government 6 per cent.	77	77½
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	68.90	69.70
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	18½	18½
French Rentes, 3 per cent.	93½	91½
Mexican Bonds, 3 per cent.	32½	32½
Peruvian Bonds, 4½ per cent.	83	83½
Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.		
Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.		
RAILWAYS.		
Bristol and Exeter.....	99	99½
Caledonian.....	83	85½
Eastern Counties	58	57½
East Lancashire		
Great Northern	101½	103½
Western	58½	60½
Lancashire and Yorkshire	95	96½
London and Blackwall.....	65½	65½
London, Brighton, and South Coast.....	109	109½
London and North-Western.....	94½	96½
London and South-Western.....	91½	91½
Midland	105½	106
North British	58	60½
North Staffordshire	13	18½
Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton..	32	32
South-Eastern.....	75	76½
South Wales.....	63	63
Bombay, Baroda and Central India.....	17	17
Calcutta and South Eastern	40	40
Eastern Bengal	44	44
East Indian	100	101
Great Indian Peninsula	98	98½
Madras	90	90
Scinde.....	19½	19½
Buffalo and Lake Huron.....	5	5½
Grand Trunk of Canada.....	36½	36
Great Western of Canada.....	14½	15½
Antwerp and Rotterdam.....	4½	4½
Dutch Ehenish	5½d	5½d
Eastern of France	26	26
Great Luxemburg	6½	6½
Lombardo-Venetian	10½	10½
Northern of France	37	37½
Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean	36	35
Paris and Orleans	55	55
Southern of France.....	20½	20½
Western and North-Western of France ..	22	23

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

At the half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, on Saturday, a dividend was declared at the rate of 3*l*. 7*s* 6*d*. per annum on the original stock, yielding 3*l*. per cent. for the half year to the "B," and 7*s*. 6*d*. per cent. to the "A" shareholders. The meeting went off more quietly than has lately been the case with the meetings of this company.

It was announced some short time back that the EASTERN BENGAL and CALCUTTA SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAYS had been transferred by the Government of India to the direct control of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. The E. I. Railway has also, we learn, been placed, from the 1st July, under the local government.

At the meeting of the LONDON, TILBURY and SOUTHEND RAILWAY COMPANY the statement of the revenue account showed that the receipts amounted to 21,576*l*. 14*s*. 6*d*. and the expenditure to 14,630*l*. 15*s*. 5*d*., leaving a balance of 6,945*l*. 19*s*. 1*d*., which is 656*l*. 15*s*. 1*d*. more than in 1858. The contractors pay a fixed dividend of 6 per cent. per annum to the proprietors.

The meeting of the AMBERGATE, NOTTINGHAM, &c., RAILWAY COMPANY took place this week. There was a favourable report, and the accounts showed a considerable increase in the canal revenue. A dividend of 8*s*. per share for the last six months was declared, and the report was adopted.

The report of the directors of the EASTERN COUNTIES RAILWAY COMPANY adopted at the meeting on Thursday recommended (as noticed previously) a dividend in the ordinary shares of 1*l*. 1*s* 3*d*. per cent. for the half year. The falling off in the goods traffic was accounted for by the chairman, who stated that the fish supply to the ports of Yarmouth and Lowestoft had been less than at any period for the last twenty-five years, reducing that traffic to a third of the amount.

The elaborate annual report on the railways of the United Kingdom, presented by Captain Douglas Galton to the Board of Trade, furnishes all the leading financial and working details of each company, together with the aggregate totals of the complete system. These statistics comprise—1. The total capital authorised to be raised by each company respectively in England and Wales, Scotland,

and Ireland; the proportion of this capital actually raised, and the total capital actually raised by each company, the total for each division of the kingdom, and the aggregate for the entire kingdom. II. The annual preferential charges on each line for interest on preferential and guaranteed shares and loans, and the totals of the whole. III. The gross traffic receipts; the working expenses; the total of working expenses and preference charges, and the net income available for dividend. The total capital authorised for railway purposes amounted at the end of last year to 346,408,287*l*. for lines open. The amount actually raised for open lines was 308,824,851*l*., of which 33½ per cent. was in ordinary shares, 21½ per cent. in preference and guaranteed shares, and 25½ per cent. in loans. The total sum of money authorised to be raised for the construction of railways, open and remaining to be opened, on the 31st of December last, was 392,682,755*l*. of which 325,375,507*l*. had been raised—viz., 181,837,781*l*. by ordinary share capital, 61,854,547*l*. by preference shares, and the remainder, 81,683,179*l*., by loans, leaving 67,307,248*l*. to be raised.

INDIAN RAILWAY PROSPECTS.—We are given to understand there is every likelihood that by the end of the year our local railway will be opened southward to the town of Sholapore, a length of about one hundred miles; and simultaneously there will be an opening northward to Nassick of nearly another one hundred miles, making the total length of line, which will be at work in 1860, amount to something like four hundred miles. Pleasing as these figures are, we feel assured that every extension which is opened will not only increase the passenger traffic with the rents offered for amusement seekers, but the denizens of this tight little island may look forward to a prospect of obtaining grain and gram for something like one-third the prices now paid. And then who shall calculate at this moment the thousands of devotees prevailed upon to attempt a pilgrimage *by rail* (!) to the Hindoo shrines at Nassick! How the myriads of Banians, who now revel in filth, will then be seen in all the beauty and pride of cleanliness, with limbs laved in the purity of these sacred waters? What an exquisite annual report might now be fairly expected of the director-general of prisons, as with the philanthropy of John Howard he reduces the number of passengers in a third-class carriage from 200 to twenty! What blessings he will earn from the Bhuddists for his tenderness to animal life; how likely to induce said Bhuddists to transport the Pinjrapole from Bombay to Nassick by the railway; and how, finally, we shall find a monument erected at the conjoint expense of the railway companies and of Pinjrapole societies of that director-general who promoted their mutual interests! Our feelings will not permit us to say much more.—*Bombay Gazette*.

PORTUGUESE RAILWAYS.—The Spanish financier, Salamanca, has made the deposit of 40,000 required by the provisional contract entered into between him and the Portuguese Government. The concession is still open to competition for the space of forty days, but unless Sir Samuel Peto enters again, and revises his proposals, which is very unlikely, the contracts of Salamanca will be definitively adopted. Whether this gentleman will be able to execute the extensive works contracted for at so low a figure is matter for grave doubt; the terms are far more advantageous for the Portuguese Government than those of Peto's contract, and the work draughted out is more costly and difficult.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

At the first meeting of the LONDON DISTRICT TELEGRAPH COMPANY the report was adopted. It was stated that the paid-up capital of 10,740*l*. is more than sufficient to meet all the liabilities for contracts, &c., and that no call will be made until required by the progress of the works. An agreement for interchange of traffic has been concluded with the British and Irish Magnetic Company, at whose new establishment, in Threadneedle-street, will be the chief station of the London District Company. Eligible sites have also been secured for three other principal stations. The eighty-nine sub-district stations will be taken as the works progress, and it is expected that the whole will be ready for opening by the commencement of next year.

At the annual meeting of the EAGLE INSURANCE COMPANY a most satisfactory report was presented and adopted; which gave a highly favourable account of the prospects and present condition of the society, and of the ability which has characterised its management. A great many votes of thanks and complimentary speeches were exchanged between the directors and the shareholders, who seem mutually pleased at the result of the business of the year. With regard to the existing state of the company's affairs it appeared that the balance last year was 482,000; it was now 480,000. The new

business for the year 1857-8 had been £15,700; this year it was £24,000. The renewals last year were £169,000, as against £257,000 this year. The interest last year was £57,000; this year it was £80,000. The claims were £222,000 as against £113,000, and the additions £18,000 as against £16,000. The policies surrendered were £12,000 against £7,000, and the re-assurances £20,000 against £21,000; while, according to the report, the assets in hand were £1,852,000, and taking into consideration what was to be received from premiums, the value of the assets was nearly £5,000,000. Thirty years ago, instead of having a surplus fund, the losses exceeded the income, and, in consequence of not receiving any dividends, their property was depreciated nearly 50 per cent. It was now increased in value about the same ratio. Since their last meeting the junction with the Albion has been carried out; that operation has been successful; the accounts of both offices has been scrutinised with the greatest possible minuteness; and the results have been satisfactory in every respect.

The directors of the AGRA and UNITED SERVICE BANK have announced an *ad interim* dividend on account of the current year, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum.

At the meeting of the shareholders of the Great Eastern steamship on Saturday, a resolution was agreed to, authorising the directors to issue 30,000 new shares of £1 each, they being offered in the first instance to the present proprietors in the proportion of one to ten of their present holding. A proposal to accept the offer of Mr. Lever of £25,000 for chartering the ship for her first voyage was not acceded to. Opinions were very generally expressed in favour of the prospects of the great ship, and such confidence was felt in the safety of the ship that a formal resolution was passed authorising the directors not to take any steps for effecting an insurance on the vessel.

Mr. J. O. Lever, M.P., has sent in to the directors of the Great Ship Company a final proposal. He offers to charter the Great Eastern for 20,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ cash down, to coal the ship both ways, and to pay the port charges on both sides of the Atlantic.

The VICTORIA DOCK COMPANY held a meeting on Thursday. It appears that the falling off in the business of the half year had arisen from the diminished imports of guano. The accounts showed a balance of 7,342 $\frac{1}{2}$ 8s. 3d., and a dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. was agreed to.

The dividend declared at the meeting of the SOUTHAMPTON DOCK COMPANY was at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum, and the report and accounts were agreed to. The surplus to be carried to the credit of the next half-year is 783 $\frac{1}{2}$.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, August 23.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

Thomas Horner, 50, St. John-street, and elsewhere, Hoxton.

BANKRUPTS.

William Wallyer Walkyer, Sandown, Isle of Wight, postmaster and lodging house keeper.

William Seager, 3, Philip's-place, Shooter's hill-road, Greenwich, builder.

James Broadhurst, 6, Albert-street, Kennington, and elsewhere, builder.

James Doherty, Birmingham, draper and milliner.

Samuel Marsh, late of Mary-gate, Nottinghamshire, lace manufacturer.

William Neck Peckins, Torquay, Devonshire, auctioneer.

Edward Clement Davies (and not Davies, Clement Edward, as previously advertised), Gainsborough, Lincolnshire, chemist and druggist, wine and spirit merchant, and dealer in ale and porter.

John Lyons, Sheffield, steel manufacturer.

Ell Ormrod, and Richard Roberts, Manchester, commission agents and merchants.

Samuel Newton, Stockport, Cheshire, and elsewhere, cotton manufacturer.

Samuel Middleton, Oldham, Lancashire, ironmonger.

Robert Caldecott, Piccadilly, Manchester, boarding house keeper and licensed victualler.

Edward Emerson Fenwick, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, wine and spirit merchant.

Friday, August 26.

Edward Staff Prior and Alfred Staff Prior, Bishops-gate-street, coal merchants.

Benjamin White, 8, Lower Grosvenor-street, Grosvenor-square, tailor.

William Gubb, Topsham, Devonshire, ironmonger.

Thomas Alexander Nicol, Sloane-street, Chelsea, upholsterer.

Levi Cobb, Liverpool, eating house keeper.

Clement Harwood, Halberton, Devonshire, carpenter.

Eliza Medland, Cheapside, City, eating house keeper.

Richard Morrison, Carlisle, guano dealer.

Arthur Edward Windus, Aldermanbury, scarf manufacturer.

James Yates, Bolton-to-Moors, Lancashire, pawnbroker.

Henry Sturenburgh (and not Sturemburg, as advertised in last Tuesday's Gazette) and William Goldenstedt, Liverpool, ship brokers.

YOURSELF! WHAT YOU ARE!

AND WHAT FIT FOR!—The Original Graphiologist, MARIE COUPELLE, continues her vivid, useful, and interesting delineations of character, from an examination of the handwriting, in a style peculiarly her own, never before attempted in this country, and which cannot even be successfully imitated by those who pretend to this useful and pleasing science. All who desire to know themselves or the true character of any friend, should send a specimen of writing, stating sex and age, and the fee of 14 uncut penny stamps, to Miss Coupelle, 69, Castle-street, Oxford-street, London; and they will receive in a few days a full and minute detail of the talents, tastes, affections, virtues, failings, &c., of the writer, with many traits hitherto unsuspected, and calculated to be useful through life.—From F. N.: "I consider your skill surprising."—C. S.: "Your description of her character is remarkably correct."—W. S.: "Your interesting answer is quite true."—H. W.: "Your sketch is marvellously correct."—Miss F.: "Mamma says the character you sent me is true."—Miss W. N.: "You have described his character very accurately."—Miss H. S.: "I am afraid his character is as you describe it."—"We see no more difficulty in graphiology than phrenology, and we have little doubt that in innumerable instances the character is read with equal precision."—*Family Herald*.

DR. LA'MERT, Registered L.S.A., Honorary Member of the London Hospital Medical Society, M.D., of the University of Erlangen, &c., continues to be CONSULTED on all Cases of Debility, Nervousness, and the Secret infirmities of Youth, Manhood, and Old Age, DAILY, from 11 till 2, and from 6 till 8, at his residence, 37, BEDFORD-SQUARE, LONDON. Dr. La'Mert has just published, price Sixpence, with numerous Engravings and Cases, a New Edition of his Work, entitled,

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