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(Publisher)

The Leader.

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, COMMERCIAL AND FAMILY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER,

AND

RECORD OF JOINT STOCK COMPANIES, BANKS, RAILWAYS, MINES, SHIPPING, &c.

VOL. X. No. 509.]

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1859.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED. FIVEPENCE
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ARGUS

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

39, THROGMORTON STREET, BANK.
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Deputy Chairman—JOHN HUMPHREY, Esq., Alderman.
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Edward Bates, Esq. Saffery Wm. Johnson, Esq.
Thos. Farnebom, Esq., Ald. Jeremiah Pilcher, Esq.
Professor Hall, M.A. Lewis Pocock, Esq.

Physician—Dr. Jeaffreson, 2, Finsbury-square.
Surgeon—W. Coulson, Esq., 2, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry.

Actuary—George Clark, Esq.

Advantages of Assuring with this Company.
The Premiums are on the lowest scale consistent with security.

The assured are protected by an ample subscribed capital—an assurance fund of £450,000, invested on mortgage and in the Government stocks—and an income of £85,000 a year.

Premiums to Assure £100.				Whole Term.
Age	One Year.	Seven Years.	With Profits.	Without Profits.
20	£ 0 17 8	£ 0 19 9	£ 1 15 10	£ 1 11 10
30	1 1 3	1 2 7	2 5 5	2 0 7
40	1 5 0	1 6 9	3 0 7	2 14 10
50	1 14 1	1 19 10	4 6 8	4 0 11
60	3 2 4	3 17 0	6 12 9	6 0 10

Mutual Branch.

ASSURERS on the Bonus system are entitled, after five years, to participate in nine-tenths, or 90 per cent. of the profits.

The profit assigned to each Policy can be added to the sum assured, applied in reduction of the annual premium, or be received in cash.

At the first division, a return of 20 per cent. in cash on the premiums paid was declared; this will allow a reversionary increase, varying, according to age, from 60 to 28 per cent. on the premiums, or from 5 to 15 per cent. on the sum assured.

One-half of the Whole Term Premium may remain on credit for seven years, or one-third of the premium may remain for life as a debt upon the policy at 5 per cent., or may be paid off at anytime without notice.

Claims paid in one month after proofs have been approved.

Loans upon approved security.

No charge for Policy Stamps.

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Persons may in time of peace proceed to or reside in any part of Europe or British North America without extra charge.

No extra charge for the Militia, Volunteer Rifle, or Artillery Corps on Home Service.

The medical officers attend every day at a quarter before two o'clock.

E. BATES, Resident Director.

LAW UNION FIRE AND LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

CHIEF OFFICES—126, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.
BIRMINGHAM BRANCH—47, UNION PASSAGE.

CAPITAL—ONE MILLION STERLING.

The Fire and Life Departments are under one Management, but with separate Funds and Accounts.

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VICE-CHAIRMAN—JAMES PARKER, Esq., Bulldow House, Chelmsford.

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Capital responsible for Losses, £750,000.
The business is confined to the best classes of Insurance.
The Discount allowed by the Government on the Duty is in all cases given to the Insured.

Claims settled with promptitude and liberality.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

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Moderate rates of Premium.
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126, Chancery-lane.

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Established 1836.

OFFICES, NO. 1, DALE-STREET, LIVERPOOL, AND

20, AND 21, POULTRY, LONDON.

LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS UNLIMITED.

INVESTED FUNDS £1,156,035.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY.

Year.	Fire Premiums.	Life Premiums.	Invested Funds.
1848	35,472	19,840	388,990
1853	113,612	49,128	620,898
1858	276,058	121,411	1,156,035

THE ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS £450,000.

Policies expiring on CHRISTMAS-DAY should be renewed before the 9th of January.

SWINTON BOULT, Secretary to the Company.

ESTABLISHED 1838.

VICTORIA AND LEGAL AND COMMERCIAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

18, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY.

THE Business of the Company embraces every description of risk connected with Life Assurance.

Credit allowed of one-third of the Premiums till death, or half the Premiums for five years, on Policies taken out for the whole of life.

Advances in connexion with Life Assurance are made on advantageous terms, either on real or personal security.

WILLIAM RATRAY, Actuary.

INCORPORATED 1847.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Annual income, £58,388.

Accumulated Fund £151,807 12s.

The profits declared have amounted to £63,418, yielding a Bonus of 27½ per cent. on the premiums, returnable in CASH to the members.

Since the commencement of the Company the amount paid to the widows and other representatives of deceased members is £79,142 3s. 9d.

Persons insuring this year will share in the Bonus to be declared up to December, 1863.

JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

THE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

(Established A.D. 1834.)

39, KING STREET, CHEAPSIDE, E.C., LONDON.

This is a purely Mutual Life Assurance Society, with a capital of £60,000, invested in Government and real securities, created entirely by the steady accumulation of the premiums, and all belonging to the members. The assurances in force are £1,400,000, and the income upwards of £6,000 per annum.

No extra charge to Assurers joining Volunteer Rifle or Artillery Corps.

CHARLES INGALL, Actuary.

N.B.—All Policies taken out on or before the 31st December, 1859, will have the advantage of one year in every Annual Bonus.

IMPERIAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

1, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.—Instituted 1820.

DIRECTORS.

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FREDERICK PATTISON, Esq., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN

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George Hibbert, Esq.

James C. C. Bell, Esq.

Samuel Hibbert, Esq.

James Brand, Esq.

Thos. Newman Hunt, Esq.

Charles Cave, Esq.

J. Gordon Murdoch, Esq.

George Henry Cutler, Esq.

William R. Robinson, Esq.

Henry Davidson, Esq.

Martin T. Smith, Esq., M.P.

George Field, Esq.

Norman Smith, Esq.

SECURITY.—The assured are protected by a guaranteed fund of upwards of a million and a half sterling from the liabilities attaching to mutual assurance.

PROFITS.—Four-fifths, or eighty per cent. of the profits are assigned to Policies every fifth year. The assured are entitled to participate after payment of one premium.

CLAIMS.—The Company has disbursed in payment of claims and additions upwards of £1,000,000.

Proposals for insurances may be made at the Chief Office, as above, at the Branch Office, 10, Pall-mall, London; or to any of the agents throughout the Kingdom.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

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FIVE PER CENT. on sums for fixed periods,

or at seven days' notice, or Three per Cent. at CALL.

J. H. LAW Manager.

Offices, 6, Cannon-street West, E.C.

THE FESTINIOG SLATE QUARRY COMPANY (LIMITED).

A LARGE portion of the required New Capital is now Subscribed for, and it is probable that allotments to the public will shortly close.

The contract for the purchase of the fee-simple of the Estate (260 acres) has been effected upon very advantageous terms.

Preliminaries for the construction of the proposed Railroad and the expansion of the Works are entered upon, and both operations will be carried out with as little delay as possible, so as to secure an early dividend.

The CAPITAL of the COMPANY consists of £100,000, in 20,000 SHARES of £5 each.

Of two classes, viz.:—A. participating in the entire profits after paying of Dividend to B. B. bearing a Preference Dividend not exceeding 7½ per cent. per annum, payable out of the profits of the year.

Deposit 1s. per Share on application, and 1s. per Share on Allotment.

DIRECTORS.

David Davies, Esq., St. James's Mount, Liverpool.
Alfred Erasmus Dryden, Esq., Lincoln's Inn, London.
Richard Morris Griffith, Esq., Banker, Bangor.
William Mountcastle, Esq., Market Street, Manchester.
Hugh Pugh, Esq., Banker, Pwllheli, North Wales.

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The London Joint Stock Bank, London.
The National Provincial Bank of England, Bangor.

The Quarries of the Company are situated on the Tyd-dynbach Estate, Festiniog, North Wales, contiguous to the extensive and profitable quarries of Lord Palmerston and others, whose production is known as the Portmadoc Slate. The Tyd-dynbach Estate contains 260 acres of Proved Slate Rock of excellent quality, and of a dip most favourable for economic working, affords natural drainage, a plentiful supply of water power, and ample room for deposit of waste.

The Property is held by the Company under a 42 years' lease granted in 1848 to the former small proprietor at a low Royalty, with an option to purchase the fee-simple. This Lease and Option with the whole of their Quarries, Buildings, Works, and Plant have been purchased from the former proprietors by an allotment of 7,514 Shares in the present Company taken at £4 per share paid.

The Quarries have been in operation since 1848, and the quality of the Slate and Slabs produced, the Reports based upon Scientific Surveys of the whole Estate, and Experimental Tests applied at different points (see Prospectus), fully establish the soundness of the undertaking and the certainty of a large dividend resulting from further outlay of capital.

It is estimated that a further capital of from £30,000 to £40,000 will enable the Company to purchase the Fee-simple; to construct a Railroad three miles in length, connecting the Quarries with the Port of Shipment (Portmadoc), whereby the cost of transit will be reduced two-thirds, and to increase the Workings up to a production of 50,000 tons per annum, from which it is estimated a profit of from £30 to £40 per cent. would be realized.

Application for Shares must be made to the undersigned, from whom proper forms and prospectuses may be obtained.

HARE & WHITFIELD, Solicitors.

HENRY WHITWORTH, Secretary.

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From the variety of inventions daily submitted for inspection, it will be evident, that unusual advantages are possessed, of selecting such, as are of a useful and commercial character, some of great promise being now under the consideration of the Directors.

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ESTABLISHED 1836.

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EDWARD S. CODD, ESQ., CHAIRMAN.

WM. CHIPPINDALE, ESQ., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.

The Assurances in force on 31st December, 1858, amounted to £1,771,898.

The accumulated funds amounted to £362,045.

The annual income exceeded £77,000.

A fixed surrender value for whole-term policies.

This Company has always permitted the Assured to serve in Volunteer Corps, or Local Militia without extra charge.

Policies effected on or before 31st December next will acquire an additional year's standing, if then in force, at the fifth division of profits in 1862.

W. T. ROBINSON, Actuary and Secretary.

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ESTABLISHED A.D. 1844,

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The Interest is payable in January and July.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

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£1,000 IN CASE OF DEATH FROM ACCIDENTS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,

By a Policy in the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,

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CAPITAL, ONE MILLION.

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12 Table Spoons	1 13 0	2 4 0	2 10 0	2 15 0
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12 Dessert Spoons	1 4 0	1 12 0	1 15 0	1 17 0
12 Tea Spoons	0 16 0	1 2 0	1 5 0	1 7 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls...	0 10 0	0		

THE LEADER.

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Review of the Week.

THE latest telegraphic intelligence from the French capital informs us that the assembling of the European Congress, from which so much is hoped and feared, is again postponed till after the 19th January. Meanwhile, many difficulties have been cleared away which had opposed themselves to the meeting of the representatives of antagonistic interests; and we learn not only that the staunch Cavour is definitely accepted as the representative of the House of Savoy, and in that capacity as the advocate of the cause of Italian liberty and unity—but also that the Holy Father, finding there is no resisting the decrees of his untoward star, has retracted his determination to hold aloof from the consultations, and, relying upon the affectionate loyalty of the "eldest son of the Church," has determined to speak his sentiments at the Congress by the mouth of his faithful Antonelli, who is even now on his way to the scene of debate. With what grace that much abused minister will receive the decision of the Congress as to the future position of his master and himself in the reconstructed scheme of government for the Peninsula, remains to be seen; but, from present appearances, the cause of despotism seems to be almost hopeless. England can but allow of one policy—that of perfect liberty to the Italians to choose their own rulers and form of government, and of non-intervention by the armed force of any foreign or mercenary army. Austria has become so weakened, and has so many causes of internal distraction in her own dominions, that her opposition to the national cause, though it may, perhaps, be expected, need give no cause for fear of dangerous consequences. Russia, we learn by a semi-official article of the *Nord*, quoted in yesterday's journals, has expressed her approval of the policy of Victor Emmanuel, and her determination to support that monarch's claims to the position of a principal at the Congress. All this looks well for the prospects of the confederated states who have sworn fealty to one another, and to the Piedmontese sovereign.

To crown the whole, we have the Emperor Napoleon's last manifesto issued, by the pen of his scribe De la Guerrière, which simplifies one difficulty of the question of settlement, and shows indications of a wise policy in regard to the long misgoverned States of the Church, which augurs well for the Emperor's moderation and honest intentions in the other articles of the programme. The pamphleteer is instructed to point out that the misgovernment of the Papal dominion is inevitable; it matters not who may wear the tiara, the result is the same, and is attributable to the very nature of the Pontificate itself, and the innate inefficiency of that remarkable system of government. Pio Nono is candidly told by his respectful "eldest son" that he is not personally fit to perform the duties of a temporal sovereign, and that, therefore, the Romagna, now self-emancipated, cannot justly or righteously be restored to his leaden sceptre. All this is said with most impressive respect to the successor of St. Peter, who is recommended for the future to confine his ambition to the extension of his superintendence over the Christian world. Nevertheless—since the

episcopal office is somewhat altered since the days of the Apostles, who had not among their labours to fulfil the duty of entertaining ambassadors and princes, and were not hampered with the requirements of purple, gold, and fine linen—Christ's Vicar is to retain (according to this scheme) the city and inhabitants of old Rome to swell his state; while the temporal weapon is to be represented by a contingent from each state in the Italian union, and the various Catholic nations of the world are invited to supply the requisite gold to enable the *servus servorum* to retain his wonted position among the mere earthly rulers of the civilised world.

From Venice the cry of misery grows louder every post—the only portion of Italy left to the Hapsburg despotism appears doomed to bear the concentration upon it of the entire energies of Austrian tyranny. Brigandage, which has left the Romagna under the new rule, appears to have fixed itself in Venetia; poverty, and even destitution, have become the lot of the bulk of the industrial classes, while the tide of emigration steadily continues from the stricken city.

From other parts of the staggering Austrian empire the intelligence is interesting and significant. The rumoured abdication of Francis Joseph is denied with emphasis; yet the deplorable state of the resources and finances of his ill-assorted dominions, and the turbulent condition of the races over which he exercises an uncertain rule, might well supply a motive for the wish to lay down the glittering bauble of empire. The repressive policy to which he is bound, and as the representative of which he sits now upon the throne of Austria in the seat of the deposed Ferdinand, is beginning to produce another crop of revolt and bloodshed. Already the hated Germans have come into collision with the Hungarian populace at Pesth, and in other places, and more particularly at a late assemblage to do honour to the memory of a deceased national poet. The Protestants of Hungary are systematically and cruelly persecuted by the Imperial Government—while the ancient policy, *divide et impera*, upon which the rule of the Imperial house is founded, is at last found useless; and in Hungary the rival races of Magyar, Croat, and Saxon, are cordially uniting to claim their birthright as free citizens of a free kingdom, and will ere long rise as one man to demand the restoration of those rights which were wrested from their grasp at the time that the present occupant was thrust by a palace intrigue into the ancient seat of the emperors of Austria and the kings of Hungary.

Of other foreign news there are some important points to notice. From Russia arrives the intelligence of the surrender of a second great Caucasian prince to Field Marshal Bariatinski. This event, if we are rightly informed, has put an end to the great struggle in the mountain region of the Caucasus, and has left the road to further Asiatic conquest and annexation perfectly open to the successor of Peter the "Great."

At home the genial influence of coming Christmas has apparently produced a cessation of political turmoil, and a somewhat increased consideration for the wants of the needy and the destitute. A noble sum, such as no other city in the world would equal, has been subscribed for the relief of

the houseless and starving; and Lord Shaftesbury, the representative of the Field-lane Refuge, has publicly thanked the *Times* and the benevolent individuals who have contributed to this object. The public (my lord remarked) were not to be thanked—for the public has not done its duty; else should we have "ten thousand" refuges where the distressed and starving man might seek and find relief, without having to submit to the degradation of collision with the hard-hearted officials of a workhouse.

To his tenants and dependants in Hampshire, the Premier has this week been pleasantly and kindly discoursing in a strain befitting the season, and only slightly seasoned with allusion to public affairs or politics. To the Romsey labourers Lord Palmerston gave the best advice as to their moral and social duties, and some well-merited praise for their advancement in the scale of society. The farmers he encouraged to persevere in the prosecution of their studies in agricultural chymistry and political economy; and, lest the solid pudding of his discourse should be found to cloy, the veteran debater spiced it well with patriotic sentiments and praise of the public spirit of the volunteers, who have, he informs us, made their influence felt already, not only here, but all over the world. With the exception of Sir George Grey, who, at a feast in the City, given by some admirers of his Cape government, devoted an hour to the exemplification of the glory and profit which accrue to Old England from her brilliant diadem of colonies, the rest of the speech-makers of the week have taken for their theme the necessity of fostering the great national volunteer movement, and of rendering that great measure permanent. On this head Sir John Pakington, Sir Hamilton Seymour, Lord John Manners, are at one with Mr. Ayrton; and, indeed, Liberals and Conservatives seem to lay aside minor differences in recognising the paramount importance of this topic.

The work of national defence goes bravely on; and volunteer cavalry, infantry, and artillery present a mighty phalanx to the view of the enemies of Old England. Two learned masters of the art of war, Admiral Sartorius and the Governor of the Woolwich cadets, Colonel Wilford, have given their voice against expending too great sums in stone walls and earthworks. The soldier would have the militia brought up to its full strength and to a proper standard of efficiency—the sailor is all for flying artillery (Armstrong guns) and steam rams at sea.

The criminal calendar this week is more than usually black, comprising no less than three murders, while other offences are strangely prominent. Particularly, we may be permitted to notice that the business in Sir C. Cresswell's court is increasing so enormously that steps must soon be taken to relieve him still further of his judicial burden, unless, indeed, the morals of the nation undergo a change, or the dislike to such a wide publicity should operate to prevent the bringing into court of so many cases of prurient depravity.

The scandal at St. George's-in-the-East has culminated in a petition to Parliament from the parishioners against the proceedings of the rector. Meantime, the disgraceful puerilities on the one side, and the blackguardism on the other, continue in full force.

Home News.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

ON Wednesday Lord PALMERSTON presided at the Romsey Labourers' Encouragement Association, at the distribution of prizes, when he addressed the farm servants and labourers in a kind and clever speech, encouraging them to persevere in the honest execution of their moral and social duties, and particularly to attend to the bringing up of their children in habits of industry and morality. At the dinner which followed, the Premier, in proposing the toast of "The Army and Navy," observed: "I am proud to say that I believe there never was a moment—a moment of peace at least—in which both of those services were in a condition of greater efficiency than they are at the present time. I am sure that the country is deeply convinced that the best method of preserving peace is to show that you are capable of defending yourselves in the event of being attacked. The spirit which the country has recently shown by the immense extent of volunteer organisation has produced a great effect not only in this country, but all over the world. It has tended to inspire that respect which all nations feel for a country which, without any aggressive intentions, shows that it is determined to hold its own, and to defend itself against all comers. Again I say, that the army and navy are in a state of complete efficiency, according to the numbers to which in a time of peace they can be carried, and that there are means in the country by which those armaments might be rapidly increased to whatever the exigencies of the moment might require." His lordship made several other speeches, in one of which he said: "Agriculture has undergone a great change in the last few years. It used to be a practice—it is now raised to the condition of a science. A farmer ought to know now something, and perhaps not a little, of chemistry. He ought to know what are the ingredients of the soil which different crops take out for their nourishment. He ought also to a certain extent to know the fundamental principles of political economy, and to be aware that he does not prosper by grinding down those who labour on his farm—that it is no real saving to give inadequate wages to those who work for him: that he gains nothing by avoiding to employ labour in the winter months; and that, in fact, there is no more advantageous and profitable investment in the cultivation of the land than labour." In giving the toast of "The Press," Lord Palmerston said: "If any man compares now a newspaper published in the last century with one of those wonderful sheets we read everyday, the contrast is the most striking that the mind of man can imagine. The quantity of information, the talent of dissertation, the amount of news of every kind which we now find in almost every newspaper we meet with, is really one of the most striking proofs of the progress which the human intellect has made in the days in which we live. It may really be put in competition with the steam engine and the electric telegraph; but there is one part of the functions of the press, which beyond all others, has improved of late years. I have heard that towards the end of the last century there was a man named Woodfall who used to publish debates; and how did he do it? It is said that he used to go the gallery of the House of Commons, listen attentively with his face in his hands to what passed, go home, drink two pots of porter, go to bed, get up next morning, and from his dreams and his recollections make out what he called a report of a debate. Now-a-days, so marvellous is the ability and so wonderful the rapidity with which reporters take down what men say, that if speakers are not very careful the reporters take down what they had much better not have said. I remember a very worthy M.P., an Irish M.P., Mr. Richard Keene, who once complained that the reporters in the gallery had not done full justice to a speech he had made the night before. The reply he received had, perhaps, more of sharpness than civility in it, for it was—"Mr. Keene, we made the best speech we could for you, but, if you are not satisfied with our endeavours, the next time we will report what you do say, and, whatever you may think of it, we suspect your friends will hardly relish the infliction." It is quite marvellous to see the accuracy with which debates in the House of Commons are reported. When the speeches are such as are calculated to attract attention they are reported word for word as they are uttered, and how it is possible for the human hand to follow with such rapidity and such exactness I am at a loss to conceive."

The subject of national defence has been the predominant one with the various orators of the week. At Droitwich, Sir John PAKINGTON expressed his opinion that although we were still on friendly terms with France, and although he, for one, did not feel distrust in the personal intentions of the Em-

peror towards this country, nevertheless he thought that the state of public affairs on the Continent was such as to make it desirable to foster the volunteer movement. There could be no doubt that we had fallen into a state of false security during the long peace that we had enjoyed. There was no country in the world, no great empire in the world, in which it was so essential that the means of national defence and the means of carrying on war should be greater than in ours, on account of the extent of our empire, it being spread over the four quarters of the world, and on account of the geographical smallness of the centre of the empire, England. He called their attention to the startling events which had taken place this year in France, and the immense naval and warlike preparations that were making in that country, and, although our alliance with France might be close, and we had fought side by side with the French both in the Crimea and China, and although he earnestly hoped that that good feeling might long continue, still there had been occasions within the last two or three years on which our friendly relations with France had been in danger, and in the present extremely complicated state of European affairs it was impossible to say how soon again our alliance might be endangered, and therefore they were bound to be prepared for all contingencies.

Mr. AYRTON, M.P. at a meeting at Dalston said we ought to be prepared for the possibility of our fleets being evaded or repulsed; and in addition to the regulars and militia, we required a third reserve, which should embrace the great body of the people organised upon a social basis. If the movement depended upon the subscriptions they might depend upon it that those subscriptions would not continue every year. Nor was it a reserve the enrolment in which should be induced by splendid uniforms, tickets to the Crystal Palace, or the prospects of corporation festivities. To be effective the movement must be founded wholly on a spirit of patriotism and a sense of the necessity for national union for the purpose of national protection. He much regretted to find the great body of the working classes separated in so marked a manner from this movement. Did anybody suppose that the country could be defended without the working classes? He ridiculed the idea of such little combinations as the Scotch, the Irish, the lawyers, or any other class enrolling themselves separately. It appeared to him that by thus breaking up society into, as it were, its very elements, they were taking the most effectual steps to weaken the defensive power of the kingdom.

At another rifle corps gathering, Sir HAMILTON SEYMOUR could say that for months and months past his declaration to his most intimate friends and to members of his family had been this, "I see an enormous danger impending; I see one, and one only, safeguard against that danger, and that safeguard is that we all of us, young and old, should enrol ourselves as volunteers, should exercise ourselves in arms, and should be ready, if occasion offer, to come forward in defence of our country." He was not aware that we were going to fortify London or to erect a Malakhoff tower in Belgrave-square, but we were going to take a measure, and a very mild one, for the protection of our whole isle. None but the most unreasonable man in the world could find fault with that. To whom could it give offence? He threw such an idea to the winds. In Heaven's name let us abstain from giving offence to every one; but let us take every measure to protect our shores.

Lord JOHN MANNERS, at Melton-Mowbray, pointed out that the volunteer movement was no novelty in English history. The safety of this country had in former times been intrusted—and safely intrusted—to the hundreds and thousands of gallant and hardy fellows who came forward to defend it against any possible aggressions, and more especially at the time when invasion was actually threatened by the French. Throughout our history, as he had remarked, we had depended mainly upon our volunteer forces. By the Statute of Winchester, passed in the time of Edward I., it was enacted that every man should have harness in his house, and be armed ready for keeping the peace. And the experience of modern days agreed with this resolution of our ancestors, for we all knew that the best way to keep the peace was to be always ready to go to war. They should not be contented with a mere temporary enthusiasm, but should aim steadily to perfect the movement they had begun; and, secondly, that they should always be ready to submit to the executive Government. If these points were kept in view, he did not doubt that we might safely intrust our national security, as our forefathers did, to our hardy citizens and yeomen.

Sir GEORGE GREY, at a dinner given to him by the admirers of his government of the Cape colony, spoke about the general relations between Great Britain and her colonial possessions. He had found not a few persons who held that the colonies, instead

of being a profit to Great Britain, were an actual incumbrance and disadvantage to her. He could not comprehend the grounds of such an opinion. It was quite true that the manufacturing people of Great Britain did in the first instance pay the taxes which supported our army any navy; but that taxation was put on the price of the commodities which the colonists consumed. He believed that every individual colonist, and the barbarian nations of the interior, annually contributed a large sum to the support of the armies and navies of Great Britain. The colonists would ask no protection from this country except that of the navy, which was required for our commerce. If we had no colonies, we should not require one ship the less to protect our trade. But having the colonies, our fleets, when engaged in distant operations anywhere on the globe, had harbours, and supplies, and a hearty welcome ready for them, while the fleets of a hostile power could enter none of those ports without having to fight for it.

The newly-appointed SOLICITOR-GENERAL, in his address to his constituents, observes:—"The reform of the law, in various departments, is urgent, and will have to be dealt with in the approaching session; and, should your favour place me once more in Parliament, it will be my duty, as a law officer, to take a responsible part in devising and advocating such amendments. In so doing, I shall act in conformity with those views and wishes on the subject which I have long felt and expressed, and which you have approved. On the important subjects of Parliamentary Reform, the Ballot, and Church-rates, my views remain unchanged, and I shall omit no opportunity of maintaining, and, as far as may lie in my power, enforcing them. I am strongly in favour of the present general movement towards a state of preparation, not to assail any other State, but to place our own free country in a condition of efficient defence."

The *Herald* says:—"We are authorised to state that a complete and comprehensive Reform Bill will appear, by request, in the *Constitutional Press Magazine* for January; and that, in the event of the Ministerial Reform Bill being postponed, or unacceptable to the constitutional party, the Bill that is to be published in the *Constitutional Press* will be immediately brought before the House."

The *Brighton Guardian* states, upon "reliable authority," that John Blencowe, Esq., of Chailey, will offer himself in the Liberal interest, to fill up the vacancy occasioned by the death of the Hon. Henry Fitzroy, one of the members for the borough of Lewes.

IRELAND.

The *Cork Examiner* publishes the following passages taken from a letter received by the member for Dungarvan from a gentleman of high position in Rome. It is dated the 10th of December:—"I am happy to say that the Holy Father is perfectly well, and is very grateful for the sympathy manifested for him by the Catholics all over the world. The pastorals of the Irish Bishops, and the great meetings held in Dublin, and the sentiments elicited there, have been to him a source of much consolation. Although it is for him a moment of great trial and anxiety, yet he bears his troubles with the greatest resignation, patience, and equanimity, and every one remarks how cheerful he is in the midst of his sufferings. Rome was never more quiet than it is at this moment, and if you were here you would not see any difference from what it was last year. Of course we are looking forward anxiously to the Congress. England, no doubt, will be the great antagonist of the Holy Father; but I entertain a confident hope that the majority of the representatives will be in his favour."

Another meeting of the Pope's sympathisers has been held at Kildare. Colonel Dunne, the Chairman, declared that no Government on the face of the earth is more justly administered than that of Rome. It was a Government which could invite the strictest scrutiny and examination. Another speaker took the liberty of saying that England, while preparing to resist invasion, had better keep on good terms with the Roman Catholic subjects of the Crown. The eagle was looking out from his nest at Cherbourg, and one of the best precautions would be to be kind to the Pope.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

The Duke of Cambridge on Tuesday presided at the Christmas examination of the Gentleman Cadets at the Royal Military Academy, and afterwards reviewed the whole of the troops in garrison, including the Armstrong gun batteries under orders for China. The cadets formed in review order on the lawn fronting the Royal Military Academy, under the command of Colonel Wilford; and after a minute inspection by his Royal Highness, Gentleman Cadet Lacey, the senior under-officer, was called upon to put the whole of the company

through a course of manual and platoon exercises, which was followed by battalion movements, in a manner which elicited the marked approval of the Commander-in-Chief. After firing a royal salute, the Gentlemen Cadets proceeded to the spacious hall of the institution, where Colonel Wilford, the governor, announced the result of the examination, and the marks gained by each cadet. The Duke then proceeded to deliver a brief but impressive address, which was listened to with the utmost attention. He observed, that he felt the utmost pleasure in meeting the Gentlemen Cadets on that occasion, as the result of the last examination had proved the rapid and almost unexampled proficiency they had acquired in the various branches of science and art, under the direction of their excellent governor, and the several professors and instructors of the institution. After some further remarks as to the details of the institution, his Royal Highness alluded to the rapid progress made in science, especially in relation to military tactics, and wished to impress on the minds of those who were about to receive commissions in her Majesty's service, that notwithstanding the proficiency they had already attained, they must not consider their education completed, but should on all occasions endeavour to keep pace with those improvements which might hereafter take place. In order to become efficient officers, they must put "their shoulders to the wheel," and become fully conversant not only with the theoretical but with the practical duties of the corps to which they might be called. His Royal Highness then awarded the prizes. The Duke next proceeded to the Common, where the whole of the troops in garrison, consisting of the Royal Horse and Field Battery Artillery, the Royal Marine Light Infantry, and the Military Train Corps, had assembled in review order. A complete battery, consisting of six of the Armstrong guns, had been conveyed from the Royal Arsenal (without the usual secrecy), and were experimented on with blank cartridge. His Royal Highness and staff having reviewed the troops and batteries front and rear, the usual evolutions of a field day were carried out.

An order has been issued for five sub-inspectors, sixteen head-constables, and a proportionate number of constables of the Irish Constabulary Force to proceed to Hythe for instruction in the use of the Enfield rifle, preparatory to arming the force with that weapon. From Kiukenny, sub-inspector Galtway, head-constable Timothy, Dunmore district, and constable Coughlan, Mullinavat station, have been selected by the county inspector for that duty. They will act as rifle instructors to the local force on their return.

Another letter on the subject of coast defences has this week appeared from the pen of Sir George Sartorius. The Admiral says:—"No considerable landing could be effected on our southern coasts if opposed by field batteries of 80 or 100 Armstrong's heavy guns, supported by 5,000 or 6,000 good riflemen. Rail and tram roads along the coasts, telegraphic wires, a few watch-towers on commanding heights, some half-a-dozen rapid steamers to watch and communicate the direction of the enemy's movements, frequent stations of Armstrong guns, arranged so as to effect easy and rapid concentration on threatened points, accompanying the movements of the enemy's convoy or fleet, would as effectually secure the southern coasts of England (even were the attempt made in a fog, or at night), as if we had fifty sail of the line in the channel. It has been said that an enemy could land in three or four places at once. Any one acquainted with naval matters would know that this is impossible if our navy were only of equal force, besides which, the rail and tram-road meet this contingency also. A few rapid, "nimble," well constructed steam rams, where there are no railroads, would soon settle vessels laden with troops by their beaks or shells loaded with molten iron or liquid fire. Double the number of similar craft could not save the enemy."

Colonel Wilford also appears in print, and urges that it would be far wiser to keep the militia up to its full strength, than to lay out the national money in huge fortifications. He says:—"How is an enemy to be stopped on his march to London? For, once landed, he would no doubt make what strategists call a point on the capital. It is vain to hope that a long line of coast can be so guarded by field artillery, whether Armstrong guns or not, and rifle volunteers, as to prevent an enemy landing if he comes in force. The volunteers would be most useful as accessories; the principals must, so to speak, be regulars and thoroughly trained militia. The militia once completed with able-bodied men, all the regiments might be thoroughly trained, simultaneously or in succession, as might be thought best, and such portion retained under arms as circumstances seemed to require. With our seaports fortified, and our militia completed and trained, and our numerous volunteers carefully inspected, we should be quite safe, so far as land defence is

concerned. Give us rather the active means of defence afforded by a sufficient body of well-trained soldiers of all arms, ready to meet an enemy whenever he may present himself, than stone walls groaning with heavy artillery, which will absorb pecuniary means which we can turn to better account."

In consequence of the extreme cold, Marshal Magnan has ordered that the sentries in Paris shall be relieved every hour, instead of every two hours.

Orders have been dispatched from the French Ministry of Marine to fit out a steam corvette with the utmost dispatch for a distant cruise. It is reported in naval circles that she is bound for Adulis, in the Red Sea—the port which the French Government have bought from the Abyssinians. Adulis is to be the head-quarters of a naval station, composed of five corvettes, two frigates, and ten gun boats.

The French squadron at present in the Chinese waters is composed of the following vessels: The Nemesis, bearing the admiral's flag, 52 guns; Dido, 40; Capricieuse, 32; Dordogne, 6; Gironde, 6; Marne, 6; Meurthe, 6; Durance, 6; Saône, 6; Duchayla, 32; Catinat, 12; Phlégénthon, 8; Primau-gret, 8; Laplace, 8; Marceau, 6; Regent, 4; Alarme, 4; Dragonne, 4; Fusée, 4; Mitraille, 4; Norzagaray, 2; Lily, 2; Rose, 2; Pehio, 2. The Forbin, now on its way to China, carries 8 guns.

A petition to Government in favour of the sailors sentenced to imprisonment for the disturbance on board her Majesty's ship Princess Royal, is in circulation among the merchants and bankers of the city, and seems likely to be signed by almost every firm.

Very great activity now prevails at Chatham dockyard in pushing forward the construction of those ships now building at that establishment. The most forward are the Atlas, 91, and the Bulwark, 91, which, although only recently commenced, are in a very forward state, and have made astonishing progress. The undaunted, 51, Orpheus, 21, Rattlesnake, 21, Rodney, 91, and the Severn, 51—the last two in dock—are also being pushed forward. In all the departments and factories the utmost activity prevails, most of the workmen being employed overtime.

The Perséverance, screw troopship, Commander E. R. Power, at Portsmouth, is ordered to complete defects and prepare for further service. This vessel during the last 16 months has gone over 32,000 nautical miles; has embarked and conveyed to their destinations four entire regiments, five complements of detachments, besides smaller numbers; also between 600 and 700 invalids and supernumeraries, and 800 tons of stores.

It was stated on Change, at Liverpool, on Tuesday, that the French Government have entered into a contract with several English firms for the supply of 200,000 six-pound cases of preserved meats, and that a portion of the contract has been taken by a Liverpool firm.

The French troops are departing for China in large numbers. The arming with revolvers is a novelty in the equipment of the marines.

On Monday a French war steamer, of 450-horse power, the Duguayt, while trying her engines, off Brest, ran on a reef, and sank in deep water in a few minutes.

The Bavarian War-office has purchased the invention of a revolver from Captain Tobias, an officer, it is said, in the British service. Twelve shots can be fired in the space of one minute by this new weapon, with which the whole of the Bavarian cavalry is to be armed forthwith.

VOLUNTEER CORPS.

The volunteer army of the country is fast assuming gigantic proportions; and if steps are taken to make the measure a permanent one, that shall not be allowed to drop with the subsidence of the present enthusiasm; it seems impossible to doubt that in the course of a very few months there will be half a million of men ready for the field and, perhaps, even more. What the precise number of effectives now is we have no means of ascertaining. Mr. Digby Seymour made the very absurd statement at a public meeting, this week, that they amount to 400,000; while Earl Grosvenor, on the other hand, puts them at the much more probable number of 150,000.

Among the new provincial corps started during the past week, we find those of the following localities:—Exeter (for the county of Devon), Leyburn (for the North Riding of Yorkshire), Southampton Harbour, Peterborough, Barnard Castle, Carnarvon (for the county), Brampton, Leominster, Kirkham, Bury St. Edmunds, Kington, Blandford and Chester-le-Street; at two of those, attempted opposition on the part of some Quakers, and other obstructives, was quashed amid the ridicule of the assemblies.

In the metropolitan district new companies and

regiments have been founded in the Tower Hamlets, at Dalston, and at Ealing; while those already formed are increasing in numbers daily. The London Rifle Brigade, now upwards of 1,000 strong, have petitioned the Duke of Cambridge to become their colonel. A most patriotic step has been taken by the Great Northern Railway Company; a circular has been issued by Mr. Seymour Clarke, the general manager, to all ranks of the Company's employés at the King's-cross terminus to elicit the general feeling, and offering an outfit and a free admission to those who may be unable or unwilling to contribute to the expense thereof; and a partial outfit and reduced entrance-fee and subscription to those who may wish to bear a portion and not the whole of the outlay. It is expressly intimated that the official nature of the invitation may not be construed into a demand. A large number have given in their names.

The suggestion to form mounted rifle corps has already been adopted. Lord Middleton, of Budsall Hall, has undertaken the project for the formation of an East Riding mounted rifle corps, which has been received with great enthusiasm. The Victoria Rifles have also determined upon founding a distinct corps upon the model of the Cape Mounted Rifles, and numerous gentlemen have sent in their names as members, who are to be armed with the breech-loader.

The artizans, too, are now taking their proper station in the ranks of their country's defenders, and are joining in large numbers where they have the opportunity. At Edinburgh steps have been taken to form an artillery company, by the members of the letterpress and lithographic trades, and another by the drapers' and outfitters' assistants. The Dalkeith Rifles have received about 100 names, one firm alone promising to contribute about 40 men. At Halifax a notice was issued last Friday, stating that a fourth company would be formed, to be composed exclusively of working men, whose arms, uniform, and accoutrements should be provided them without cost to themselves. In three days the list of volunteers, 100, was complete. At Pontypool the first corps is now fully organised. This company numbers 100 effective members, who are regularly drilled by four of their body, late sergeants in the line; the majority are working men. The contractors in the military gun trade at Birmingham have opened a list of subscriptions among themselves to equip their artizans, and have already enrolled 100 stout fellows. The same number has been contributed by the sporting-gun makers.

We are requested to state that several of the London corps intend to parade at the Crystal Palace on Monday next, with their bands—the spectacle will be a novel and imposing one.

LAW, POLICE, AND CASUALTIES.

KIRWAN, who was sentenced to death some years ago for the murder of his wife on Ireland's Eye, and whose sentence was commuted to transportation for life, and who was finally deported to Bermuda, has obtained, through the energetic and enduring sympathy of his friends at home, a further commutation of his sentence; and, on a report of his "very proper conduct" while in foreign parts, he has been liberated, and will be allowed to return home.

Vice-Chancellor Woolf gave judgment this week in the suit of Thompson *v.* Shakespeare, instituted to obtain an opinion as to the payment of £2,500 and a rent-charge of £30 a year, given by the late John Shakespeare, of Langley Priory, for the preservation of Shakespeare's birthplace. The legality of the bequest was disputed by the trustees of the deceased. His honour now dismissed the bill simply.

The remarkable bill case, "Oakley *v.* Mussec-Ood-Dheen," tried in the Court of Common Pleas, involving a sum of £6,500, was brought to a close on Saturday. A verdict was returned for the defendant, on the plea of fraud, with leave to the plaintiff to move the Court.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, the case of "Scully *v.* Ingram" was by agreement allowed to go over till the sittings after next term, as it was considered it would occupy so much time that it could only be partly heard before the termination of the present sittings.

In the Court of Exchequer, before the Lord Chief Baron, the trial for libel, Homer *v.* Taunton, was resumed and brought to a close. Defendant has a paper called the *Midland Express*, published in Leicestershire, in which the alleged libel appeared, imputing to the plaintiff, a stocking manufacturer, tyranny and oppression over his workpeople, and representing him to be a "truckmaster." The jury returned a verdict for the Plaintiff—damages, £5.

At Westminster Police-court, on Saturday, the charge of perjury preferred by the Hon. Hugh Rowley against Theresa Caroline Bishop was heard

before Mr. Paynter. The defendant in the case was till lately the wife of the plaintiff; and the perjury was said to have been committed in giving evidence in a suit instituted by her for dissolution of marriage on the ground of cruelty. The case was adjourned till Tuesday. Mr. Rowley's evidence, which occupied the entire hearing, consisted altogether of a series of denials to specific charges of cruelty towards his wife, which had been brought against him. Another adjournment was again ordered, that the solicitor for the defendant might be furnished with copies of a number of letters required.

At the Middlesex Sessions, John Braisher was indicted for feloniously receiving a gold watch and chain, value £15, the property of the landlord of the Great Western public-house, in Hampton-street, Harrow-road. It was proved that the prisoner had tempted a boy in the service of the prosecutor to rob his master, and to give the property to him; it was also proved that he had tutored four other boys to thieve for his benefit. He had been previously convicted of felony. He was found guilty on the present charge, and the Assistant Judge, saying it would be a waste of words to dwell on the enormity of his conduct, sentenced the prisoner to penal servitude for fifteen years.—Felix Newman, who was convicted at the last sessions of stealing a cash-box, containing £232 in notes and money, from the shop of Mr. Moore, Lisson-grove, and assaulting Mrs. Moore, was brought up for sentence, when it was shown that the prisoner had been previously sentenced to seven years' transportation for thieving, and the Court now sentenced him to ten years' penal servitude.—Henry Hawkins, convicted of robbery and housebreaking, received sentence of penal servitude for life, the learned judge remarking that he was one of that desperate class of persons who would scruple at nothing to carry out their designs of plunder, violence, and outrage.

At the Surrey Sessions, William Laurence and John Lazarus, two lads, were convicted of stealing a shawl at the book-stand of the terminus of the South-Eastern Railway. Lazarus had been convicted six times of felony. Lazarus was sentenced to four years' penal servitude, and Laurence to twelve months' hard labour. Laurence said if he was not sent with Lazarus he should go a thieving again as soon as he came out.

An officer of the Surrey Volunteer Rifle Corps made complaint to Mr. Norton, at Lambeth Police-court, yesterday, of a member of the corps, that he had pawned his rifle and somehow disposed of his uniform. A summons is to be issued against the delinquent for illegal pawning. Will there not be another required against the pawnbroker for receiving an article having the government stamp impressed upon it?

Mr. J. S. Mansfield, at present stipendiary magistrate of Liverpool, will take his seat on the bench of Worship-street (London) Police Court on the 5th of January.

A scoundrel named John Davis was fined 40s. by Mr. Hammill, at the Worship-street police-court, on Tuesday for raising a false alarm of fire at the Britannia Theatre. He "only did it for fun."

Kington, a young man, aged 22 years, pleaded guilty at the Warwick Assizes, to the wilful murder of his wife. He had ill-treated his wife, and appears to have nourished suspicions as to her conduct. He met her in the streets of Coventry, took her to a field, knocked her down, and cut her throat. Mr. Widdrington, the gaol chaplain, informed the judge "that the prisoner had acted under his advice in pleading 'Guilty,' and that otherwise his spiritual ministrations would have been unavailing to the prisoner." He thereby deprived the wretched man of the only chance for his life. The prisoner wanted a paper read that he had put in, containing grave imputations on others, but consented, by the persuasion of the judge, to its being forwarded to the proper quarter, the judge intimating that he could not hold out any hope of its mitigating the sentence of death he passed upon him.

At the House of Correction in Coldbath-fields, a prisoner, named Hayes, while engaged in work, threw a large stone at one of the warders. This fortunately missed him, but the prisoner, not content, threw another, which struck the warden such a violent blow that it knocked him down and injured him very much. While down, the prisoner rushed on the warden, and attempted to strangle him; and had it not been for the immediate assistance of some of the warders and prisoners, murder might have been committed. The prisoner, who did not deny the charge, was fully committed to the Central Criminal Court for trial.

At the Guildhall Police court Mr. Alderman Copeland made a further statement respecting what is called the Equitable Investment and Reversionary Company (Limited). It is a case in which the names of influential individuals have been used without their consent. Mr. Alderman Copeland read letters showing that such was so. He had given notice to Mr. Harris, who represents the company,

that he would do this; and Mr. Harris attended, and made the best explanation that lay in his power. One of the letters read was from Mr. D. Dunbar, the eminent shipowner, who said he invariably refused all applications for his name in such cases, upon the principle that he would not take a part in "robbing the public."

On Sunday night last a fire broke out in the roof of St. Matthew's, the ancient parish church of Bethnal-green, which by 4 a.m. had destroyed the fine peal of eight bells, organ, pulpit, pews, and all the church furniture, leaving nothing but the tower, denuded of its valuable clock, and the four outside walls, entirely gutted. The church is insured in the Imperial for £5,000, and all the parish registers, going back nearly 200 years, were rescued from the flames, and safely deposited in the Rectory-house.

The English sloop Hope, of Dover, foundered at sea on Wednesday night not far from Calais. This calamity is attributed to a hurricane which blew from the north, accompanied by thick snow, which prevented the captain from seeing the Calais lighthouse. It is feared that the crew perished while endeavouring to save themselves in a boat, as one was picked up in a shattered state on the French coast.

On Saturday morning, about one o'clock, a fire broke out on board the American ship, Sea Belle, 900 tons register, laden with coal, lying in the floating harbour at Bristol. The origin of the fire is variously attributed to spontaneous combustion, and to have proceeded from the galley. Water had but a trifling effect in staying the conflagration, and the shipwrights set to work to scuttle her. At ten o'clock, however, she was still burning furiously, with no chance of the fire being subdued. She is a perfect wreck.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

THE COURT.—On Wednesday, the privacy which the Queen has been enjoying at Osborne was terminated by the return of the Royal family and suite to Windsor Castle. Immediately on their arrival the Queen and several of her children visited the Duchess of Kent at Frogmore. The Prince of Wales arrived home from Oxford for the vacation, on Saturday, and is now at the Castle. The only visitors announced this week have been the Prince and Princess Leiningen, and the Baron de Loewenfels, the latter being the bearer of the insignia of the Ducal order of Saxe-Coburg, from Duke Ernest to his nephew and godson, the Prince of Wales.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—Judging by the rate of mortality, the health of the metropolis was not affected by the cold of last week, the deaths that occurred during that period being exactly the same as in the preceding week—viz., 1,289. Of this number 164 persons died from bronchitis, and 134 from phthisis. Last Saturday was colder than any day since Dec. 22, 1855, the mean temperature of which day was 21.5°, whilst that of last Saturday was 22.8°. The births last week amounted to 1,831. Dr. Letheby reports the state of the public health within the City to be highly satisfactory.

LORD HOLLAND.—This nobleman died at Naples on Sunday, after a short illness. The deceased peer was born on the 7th of March, 1802, and married on the 9th of May, 1833, Lady Mary Augusta Coventry, only daughter of the late Earl of Coventry. On the death of his father, in October, 1840, he succeeded to the title and family estates. His lordship not leaving any issue, the barony becomes extinct, and the valuable family estate at Kensington goes to his only sister, Lady Lilford.

THE LATE CHIEF COMMISSIONER OF WORKS.—The Right Hon. Henry Fitzroy died at Brighton last Saturday, after a long illness. He was the son of Lord Southampton, and heir presumptive to that barony. He was born in London in 1807, and married, in 1839, a daughter of Baron N. M. Rothschild. From January, 1845, to July, 1846, he filled the post of a Lord of the Admiralty, and was Under Secretary of State for the Home Department from December, 1852, to February, 1855. In that year he was appointed Chairman of Committees for the House of Commons, a position which he filled with great ability. Mr. Fitzroy sat for the borough of Great Grimsby in 1831, and in 1837 was returned for Lewes, which borough he represented from April, 1837, to March, 1841, when he was an unsuccessful candidate, but succeeded in unseating his opponent on petition, and again entered the House in 1842. When Lord Palmerston was called to the "helm of State," Mr. Fitzroy received the appointment of First Commissioner of Works, which he held to the day of his death. In early life Mr. Fitzroy advocated moderate Conservative principles, but latterly expressed himself strongly in favour of Liberal measures, and upheld reform and progress. The death of Mr. Fitzroy causes a vacancy in the representation of the borough of Lewes.

CITY MATTERS.—The City Commissioners of

Sewers met on Tuesday, Deputy Christie in the chair. A deputation, consisting of the churchwardens of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and a number of the inhabitants, presented a memorial, in which they protested against the project of placing a public indicator in the Royal Exchange-buildings. Mr. Bailey, the churchwarden, addressed the court on the subject, and described the indicator as an intolerable nuisance. Permission having been formerly given to erect the indicator, Deputy Harrison now moved that that permission be revoked. Motion agreed to. After disposing of the remaining business the court adjourned. The municipal elections in the various wards of the city of London took place on Wednesday. The discussions which took place were almost exclusively of a local character, and had reference to such questions as Corporation Reform, the proposed new lunatic asylum, and the free drinking fountains.

NOVEL ENTERTAINMENT.—A new service was commenced in the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, on Sunday. So far as numbers went, the inaugural night of this series was a decided success. The building, which is said to contain 4,000 persons, was crowded to overflowing, and multitudes went away unable to obtain admission. The scene outside was very unlike that usually witnessed among persons anxious to join in worship. Before the preacher made his appearance there was some unseemly noise, but throughout the service the utmost decorum prevailed. The Rev. W. Brock, of Bloomsbury Chapel, officiated.

A NEW LIGHT.—An improved form of the lime light, originally experimented upon by Captain Drummond, some years since, was shown by Sir Charles Bright in the Exchange News-room, Liverpool, on Saturday last. A single jet of the improved lime light (which is of enormous power) is estimated as equivalent to forty argand, or eighty fishtail burners, each consuming five cubic feet per hour, or to 400 wax candles of four to the pound, and its power, unassisted by a reflector, was stated to be forty times greater than the present oil lamp; and for coast lights, under the same circumstances, should the light be as economical and capable of as easy manipulation as it was on this occasion, there can be no doubt it will effect a considerable change in the lighting of lighthouses, public rooms, large thoroughfares, and probably of factories, and other crowded places, where the present system of extracting the oxygen requisite for respiration from the air is so objectionable.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—For the first time these five weeks the morning services on Sunday were conducted by the rector himself. There was but a thin attendance and little interruption. A considerable number of persons left the church at the commencement of and during the sermon. The Litany service in the afternoon passed off with the usual interruption, in the shape of coughing. The rector was again present, but the Rev. Mr. Macdonochie officiated. In the evening the rector was not present, and the services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Lowder. There were now and then during the prayers considerable interruption by means of coughing, but during the sermon that description of annoyance seemed to have reached its climax, for so violent was it that the preacher had frequently to pause until it subsided, the noise completely drowning his voice. A public meeting of the inhabitants has been held at the school-room of the district church of St. Mary, in the same parish, for the purpose of considering the present ecclesiastical condition of the parish, and the conduct of the rector in calling to his aid the police constables of the district, to enable him to perform divine service. Resolutions were passed condemnatory of the innovations made by the rector, and pledging the meeting to do all in their power to abolish "Puseyite" practices. Mr. Stephens, Mr. Compton, Mr. Youngusband, and other gentlemen having spoken, a petition to Parliament and a memorial to the Queen were unanimously agreed to. The former document embodied the substance of the resolutions, and prayed that some remedy may be devised whereby the laity, as the integral portion of the church, may have a cheap and speedy mode of redress of such grievances as those under which the petitioners suffer, in the absence of any effectual means for restraining or removing an erring or wrong-minded incumbent of a parish. The latter document prayed her Majesty to command the Royal Commission also to publish a Protestant catechism and hymn-book.

SIMPLIFIERS WITH THE POPE.—A body of gentlemen, dating their epistle from 13, Clifford-street, London, and subscribing themselves as Roman Catholics of England and Scotland, have made the recognised organ of the Papacy in Great Britain, the *Tablet* newspaper, the medium for a lengthy and solemn declaration, protesting against the rebellion in the Romagna. This accuses the people of the Legations of having risen in unjustifiable rebellion, and assails the Governments of other countries for having stood by and suffered the Holy Father to be despoiled of his possessions. They declare that

those of the Pope's own subjects who have rebelled against his temporal rule have done so without pretext or precedent, and in a way subversive of all order, authority, and government, and destructive of peace, religion, and society. They say that in the Papal rule there is no such thing as oppression, tyranny, or even misgovernment; but, on the contrary, that it is benevolent, enlightened, and liberal. Those who sign this document pretend to protest against this and against that, and with great pomp and decision of language. The declaration is signed by some of the most respectable of the moderate Catholics of England—such as Lord Petre, Lord Herries, the Hons. Charles Langdale and Stourton, and also by Mr. Richard Doyle, late of *Punch*. The Roman Catholic clergy of Salford, who have had a meeting on the same subject, agreed to an address which is much more modestly worded. The right of the Pope to rule over those who do not wish it, is called "inalienable," and the people who determine to assert their independence are called "wicked." It is asserted that the real object of those who seek the abrogation of the temporal functions is to pull the Church down altogether. One might have to come to the conclusion that the Roman Catholics of the United Kingdom are a very different body of believers from the Roman Catholics of Italy.

REFUGES FOR THE HOMELESS POOR.—At the meeting of the supporters of the Field-lane institution on Wednesday, the Earl of Shaftesbury said, He felt very deep gratitude, indeed, to the public press, to that great paper the *Times*, for the assistance it had given to the cause, and very deep gratitude to those charitable persons who contributed the £8,000 towards the funds of the institution. He felt no gratitude to the public at large, for the public never assisted in these matters to the extent it ought to do. This £8,000 was contributed by a very small section. If one-tenth of the public would do only one-fifth of their duty, they would not only have enough for the Field-lane Refuge, but for 10,000 of these institutions all over the kingdom. These refuges were indispensably necessary in the present state of society, many of those availing themselves of their advantages being persons of education, who, would perhaps recover their position if they could avoid the stain which a workhouse cast upon them. The principle of workhouses was to repel persons from them, and when it was considered that not one-hundredth of those requiring temporary relief received it from workhouses, a strong case was made out for public support to these refuges.

ANOTHER HORSE TAMER.—Mr. Barnett, a riding master in St. John's-wood, has entered the lists with Mr. Rarey, and undertakes to prove that the American system of horse-taming is neither new nor true, but had been tried and had failed long before Mr. Rarey thought of adopting it. Mr. Barnett alleges that all horse-breakers know the Rarey method of throwing a horse, and practise it in particular cases, but that they have no confidence in it for general purposes, believing that the horse soon forgets his fall, and relapses into all his former bad habits. Several horses were experimented on by Mr. Barnett, on Wednesday, in an open space adjoining the Eyre Arms, and the lecturer was fairly successful in throwing them without the aid of the surcingle, although certainly not so expeditiously as Mr. Rarey.

THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.—The Executive Committee of the Conservative Land Society have directed the offices to be closed on Monday next the 26th inst.

PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM AT COBLENZ.—Last week the opening of the Coblenz and Bingen Railway took place in the presence of Prince Frederick William of Prussia, representing the Prince Regent. At the dinner after the proceedings, the Prince said:—"Gentlemen,—As I stand here to-day in the place of my most gracious father, I have first to express, in his name, his deep regret that he is prevented from coming among you. The heavy misfortune which unfortunately has visited our country for some time has rendered it necessary for him to remain in the vicinity of his royal brother; and it devolves upon me to express to you what you all know, that my father, though personally absent, is present in the warmest and completest sympathy. (Loud applause.) You know how much he has wished to see completed the work which we have to-day inaugurated. And now, gentlemen, if I may speak of myself, I, who for a year lived among you, rejoice heartily at the accomplishment of this grand work. May this festive occasion be a happy and omen and a fruitful blessing for our Prussian fatherland, for the Rhine province, and for the united German country. In this sense, gentlemen, I beg you to rise, and drink with me to the prosperity of the Rhineland. I give you, gentlemen, 'Prosperity to the beautiful Rhineland.'

Foreign News.

THE LATEST IMPERIAL MANIFESTO.

A PAMPHLET, entitled "The Pope and the Congress," has just been published at Paris, from the pen of M. De La Guerroniére, the author of the pamphlet "Napoleon III. et l'Italie," which heralded the late war. The misgovernment of the Papal dominions is treated as something inveterate and inevitable, arising from causes much deeper than the good or evil disposition of any particular Pontiff, and springing out of the very nature of the Pontificate itself. The Pope is not fit to govern a large state, or, indeed, to perform any political duties, and, therefore, the Romagna should not be restored to him. "The city of Rome and the patrimony of St. Peter must be guaranteed to the Sovereign Pontiff by the great Powers, with a considerable revenue, that the Catholic states will pay, as a tribute of respect and protection to the Head of the Church. An Italian militia, chosen from the élite of the Federal army, should assure the tranquility and inviolability of the Holy See. Municipal liberties, as extensive as possible, should release the Papal Government from all the details of administration, and thus give a share of public local life to those who are disinherited of political activity. Finally, every complication, every idea of war and revolt, must be for ever banished from the territory governed by the Pope, that it may be said, where reigns the Vicar of Christ, there also reign well-being, concord, and peace. It is the task of the Congress to effect this transformation, become necessary to consolidate the temporal authority of Rome."

THE CONGRESS.

GENERAL DABORMIDA has officially communicated to the French Government that Count Cavour and the Chevalier Desambrois will be the representatives of Sardinia at the approaching Congress.—In an autograph letter of the Pope to the Emperor, his Holiness declares that he is willing to be represented at the Congress, having full confidence in the loyalty and firmness of the eldest son of the Church, to whom God has intrusted the mission to protect the patrimony of St. Peter against illegal covetousness. It is stated that, on the 28th inst., Cardinal Antonelli will embark on board a Pontifical corvette for France. Monsignore Bernardi will be intrusted *ad interim* with the Ministerial functions of the Cardinal.

At Stockholm an enthusiastic demonstration of the citizens in favour of the Italian people has taken place. The Swedish Diet has unanimously resolved to present an address to the King requesting his Majesty to defend at the Congress the right of the Italian people to decide their own affairs.

GARIBALDI.

GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI has addressed an appeal to the women of Italy. This proclamation is written in dignified language, and is intended to induce those whom he now addresses to give all their superfluities in defence of the holy war, and to do it without stint, seeing that the powerful ones of the earth would bow before the millions that could be spared from their savings. Such appeals at such a time show that Garibaldi has something in his head, and may yet prove himself to be the Washington of Italy.

The resignation of Garibaldi, says a letter from Milan, has by no means checked the subscriptions for arms. Not a day passes in which the General does not receive numbers of letters from Italy, as well as from abroad, announcing new subscriptions. Every one writes, and expects an answer. The result is that almost every day the papers bring some letter from Garibaldi to some person or other. Every one thinks himself justified in printing a letter from Garibaldi, without thinking that this continual Garibaldi correspondence is, to say the least, in very questionable taste, and places the General in a false position, as if he wished to obtrude his name on public attention—a proceeding from which no man can be freer than Garibaldi.

EXCITEMENT IN HUNGARY.

A LETTER from Pesth, dated Dec. 16th, says:—"Great demonstrations have been made in honour of Kisfaludy, the great modern dramatic poet of Hungary. One of these demonstrations was attendance on a solemn funeral mass in his honour at the Catholic Cathedral. After this mass, which took place yesterday, a great number of persons went to the Lutheran Protestant Church to "fraternise" with a body of Protestants who had assembled to draw up one more protest against the Imperial patent of the 1st September; but as the Protestants had assembled not in the church, but in the ad-

acent school-room, the visitors could not be admitted. Just at that moment a large body of police, accompanied by strong detachments of infantry and horse gendarmerie, the former charged with the bayonet, the latter with swords drawn rushed on the people. A scene of frightful confusion ensued; men, women, and children fled by the different outlets (the scene took place in the Coal-market), but many fell, and more were knocked down by the soldiery and the police; some unfortunate wretches were even trampled on by the horses. It is said that several persons received stabs from bayonets and cuts from swords. When the attack of the soldiery commenced, some men raised the national cry of "The country for ever!" (*Eljena haza!*), and it was regarded as a signal for resistance. But luckily some gentlemen who happened to be present pressed the people not to think of fighting, and their advice was followed. Otherwise, there would have been fearful bloodshed. The object of the Austrian functionaries was no doubt so to exasperate the people as to drive them to battle; and so have a pretext for "re-establishing order," with the strong hand, and proclaiming the state of siege. Although, however, baulked in this Christian-like design, they will, it is not doubted, very shortly impose the state of siege on this unfortunate capital. The *Cologne Gazette* states that the Austrian Government, having lately consecrated an expiatory chapel, which had been built by its orders on the spot where Georgey, in 1849, had hanged Count Zichy, on suspicion that he was acting for the interest of Austria, a counter-demonstration was organised at Pesth, and the magnates, dressed in their national costumes, assembled at the Church of St. Francis, to be present at a mass in commemoration of the death of nine insurgent generals who had been executed at Arad. The authorities refrained from any interference.

A Vienna letter says:—"The Austrian Government is unable to cope with the difficulties surrounding it everywhere, since it is certain that Bohemia, the Tyrol, and Galicia are just as dissatisfied as the countries of the Hungarian crown, though their complaints have not found their way into the public papers. The ministers believe that Prince Metternich's nostrum, of playing one nationality against the other, and of exciting religious dissensions, may save the monarchy, or rather their absurd system of government. Their schemes, however, do not seem to succeed."

STATE OF VENICE.—A Venice letter of the 14th, in the *Patrie*, says:—"This city is a desert, and the distress is frightful. Last night in the most frequented street in Venice, the Ferezzia, two ladies were attacked and robbed of their money and jewels; it is heartrending to consider that whilst brigandage has entirely ceased in Romagna, the population here, so quiet and so moral, is forced to crime by excess of misery. How can Europe see such a spectacle and not be touched by it?"

MOVEMENT AT NAPLES.—Letters received from Naples state that during the night between the 12th and 13th inst. numerous arrests, including several eminent persons, were made. The persons arrested are accused of having clandestinely printed journals, and of having supported a subscription in behalf of General Garibaldi, several documents concerning which have been seized.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

A TELEGRAM from Madrid states that on the 20th inst. 8,000 Moors attacked the Spanish, but were energetically repulsed, and compelled by grape shot and grenades to retreat in great disorder. The Spanish had fifty-one wounded. Ten men-of-war, formerly stationed at Havannah, have just arrived to reinforce the squadron at Algesiras. A great quantity of provisions has been dispatched to the army in Africa. A letter from Gibraltar says:—"Making all allowance for the feeling of discouragement natural to their condition, it still is quite evident to me that the Spanish army, at least, takes by no means the same sanguine and cheerful view of the African war which it was reported to do before the contest commenced. Deficiencies have been laid bare, want of preparation exposed, which the majority had not reckoned upon, or even dreamt of."

THE SAN JUAN DISPUTE.

The following is the proposition submitted by General Scott to Governor Douglas for the joint occupation of the island of San Juan:—"Without prejudice to the claim of either nation to the sovereignty of the entire island of San Juan, now in dispute, it is proposed that each shall occupy a separate portion of the same by a detachment of infantry, riflemen or marines, not exceeding 100 men, with their appropriate arms, only for the equal protection of their respective countrymen on the said island, in their persons and property, and to repel any descent on the part of hostile Indians." Gene-

ral Scott added in his note that any addition or modification suggested by Governor Douglas would meet with respectful consideration. Lieutenant-Colonel Lay returned with the following reply:—“Memorandum,—His Excellency Governor Douglas authorises me to say, having yet no time to consider the proposition offered by Lieutenant-General Scott, or to consult with his official advisers here, he is at a glance satisfied that no obstacle exists to a completely amicable and satisfactory adjustment continuing throughout the period of diplomatic discussion respecting the title of the island of San Juan, either upon the plan suggested by General Scott, or some other that may be mutually agreed to after advisement.” A copy of this memorandum was retained by Governor Douglas, after being read and approved by him, and signed by Lieutenant-Colonel Lay.

Original Correspondence.

GERMANY.

Hanover, Dec. 21st, 1859.

AUSTRIAN affairs have claimed more than usual the attention of the public during the past week. Reports from Vienna represent the state of things as so dismal that the rumours of the intended abdication of the Emperor, which I was disposed to reject as devoid of all foundation, begin to take more consistency, and demand more notice. The statements in the public papers, combined with the information contained in letters from officers in the Austrian army induce the belief that the Emperor will really abdicate, or that some great change will take place in the Austrian system. The reforms which were promised after the peace of Villa Franca are beyond the Emperor's powers to effect, and he must stand before his people and the world as a sovereign whose word is not to be relied on. If, however, the inability to execute his expressed

ishes for his people's welfare were the sole reason of his resolution to abdicate, he might be considered almost super-chivalrous; and the generality of people, I entertain little doubt, would think him the very last sovereign whom they would desire to be rid of. The idea of a prince descending from his throne, and retiring into private life, because unable to keep his word, pertains altogether to the regions of fiction the most romantic. It may be one ground; but the great and glaring fact is, that the Hapsburgs have lost the confidence and sympathy of the most intelligent part of their people, who have no longer any attachment to their persons. With the outer world Austria has lost all credit—a man is ashamed to own that he possesses Austrian state notes. Her defeats in Italy have dissipated all respect for her military prowess. Love, honour, money—all are gone; and she stands now tottering like a tree without roots.

The Commission, whose task it was to recover the deficit in the treasury, have held four meetings, but appear to have arrived at no result in the right direction. One member proposed the reduction of all official salaries to the extent of 5 per cent. but, as might be expected, found no seconder. Nor would such a measure have been of any beneficial effect, for so long as Austria regards it necessary to her existence to maintain a standing army out of all proportion with her population and their means, the deficit is irremediable. It has been continually rumoured that the Government had resolved to reduce the army by 200,000 men; the third and fourth battalions were to have been dissolved long ago. Now it is said that the officers are to dispense with their servants—each officer having been hitherto allowed one at the expense of the Government—their number is 27,000 men. But no faith can be put in these reports, for it is difficult to understand how such a step can be ventured upon with the national yearning of the Magyar and Slavonic nations so resolutely ardent. These longings after a separate nationality, which cause her so much trouble and are replete with so much danger, Austria has to thank the German propaganda for—this propaganda she herself was the foremost to encourage, little thinking that her rival, Prussia, would reap all the benefit of it.

Your readers may, perhaps, be inclined to ask what is meant by the term German propaganda? It will be shown best, in my limited space, by the following epistle addressed to the *Pangermane*, a publication just brought out at Brussels. The letter is from Ernst Moritz Arndt, the whilom war-bard of Germany. It is dated Bonn, Dec. 5th, and says:—“The *Pangermane* has reached my hands well and merry (i. e., safe and sound, I presume).

Oh! the Germans and their ways (*Art*). Whatever of good and worth that lives and moves (i. e., effectuates) upon European earth has sprung from the most German tribes (i. e., tribes that have most of the Teutonic element in them). God bless their Germanic blithesome *Lebung, Hebung, und Belebung und Erhebung* (I must refer your readers to their German dictionaries for the interpretation of these *bouts-rimes*. I confess my inability to translate them. That they have a meaning is certain for Arndt is a poet of celebrity, and may venture upon an *amphigourie* without suspicion). “It is to be hoped,” continues the poet, “that soon a happy German hour will arrive for the world, and likewise a God-born German hero, whose advent has long been awaited in vain, who with sharp iron and the heavy stick, called a sceptre, will beat up into a grand whole the so-and-so many petty lordship and kingship fractions. Yes, long live the *pan-German*, and the *pan-Roman's* and the *pan-Slavonians* will never create another world-history. With this hope I salute my esteemed Belgians. You know that according to the derivation of the word it means the *Schwellenden*, the *Wogigen*, i.e., the heavy ones, the raging ones—*Balg, Boeljæ*. Thus shall they heave, rage, swell, roll, and toss like the waves and billows of the great German Ocean, ever braving and dashing like the gamesome main.—In German truth, Yours, E. M. Arndt.”

This will afford your readers a slight idea of the German propaganda. Can they wonder at the Scandinavians, the Slavonians, the Magyars, the Italians, and others paying them back in their own coin and setting up each a propaganda of their own?

A reduction of the Austrian army with the prospect before them of a war of races is altogether out of the question. Reform is equally impracticable. There remains hardly any resource but an abdication; but in what way this will serve the turn of the Hapsburg is still a question. The imperial edict, granting the Jews throughout the empire permission to marry in future without the interference of the district authorities will mostly affect the Jews in Bohemia and Moravia. In German Austria, Hungary, and Poland the Children of Israel were not condemned to single blessedness at the whim of an official. It may not be uninteresting to your readers to hear something of the hitherto slavish thrall in which the Jews of Bohemia and Moravia were held. The Jewish communities were limited to a fixed number. A young man was not permitted to marry till it pleased Providence to remove from this world some married member of the persuasion. Thus, the brother waited with criminal longing for the death of the brother, the friend for the departure of the friend. The happy man, who after a thousand anxieties managed at last to get possession of the concession which enabled him to take home his bride, was termed a *familyant*. He had to pass through a vast number of ceremonies and examinations; the chief object of which, however, was the fees. If he could not provide himself with the needful, it was in the power of the official to keep him a bachelor as long as he pleased. The change has caused, as may be imagined, much joy amongst the poor Jews.

ARCHITECTURE IN BERLIN.—The number of monumental buildings in Berlin is to be increased by three edifices, which, if they fulfil the expectations of the proprietors, will become masterpieces of art. The municipal authorities are building a town hall, larger than many now existing in the principal cities of Europe, and on the whole forming a combination of everything that is magnificent and costly. The corporation of the merchants have already commenced the construction of an exchange, by the side of which the edifice hitherto used as the shrine of Mercury will look like a dog kennel at the foot of St. Paul's; and, to relieve the sterner aspect of Northern architecture by an admixture of the fantastic element of the Orient, the Jewish congregation will in the early spring lay the foundation stone of a monster synagogue capable of holding 3,000 worshippers, and designed in the style of the Alhambra. These are symptoms of the growing importance of Berlin, which, but fifty years ago, was more like the county town of a province than the capital of a powerful kingdom. The great majority of the edifices in the Prussian capital are of very recent date; and up to the second half of the reign of Friedrich Wilhelm III., the old towns in the south and west of Germany far surpassed this city in elegance and external appearance. It was not until a very short time ago that the dull perceptions of the people of Northern Germany were awakened to a sense of the beautiful; and even now the architectural enthusiasm of the Berliners refers less to the art and style of the piles they are about to erect than to the accidental importance reflected upon the place they adorn by the accumulation of stately structures.

FOREIGN INCIDENTS.

THE WINTER FAIR AT MILAN.—The Milan correspondent of a contemporary writes:—“The ground, which on ordinary week days is in the exclusive possession of a few solitary vendors of patent blacking, walking sticks, singing birds, and shivering puppy-dogs, is now invaded by shoals of booths and stalls, teeming with every imaginable description of merchandise, winter clothing of all kinds, gloves, mittens, embroidered collars, pocket-handkerchiefs, needles, and pins, cravats, felt hats and caps for the National Guard. After these come shining rows of pots and pans, and kitchen implements of every sort. Not a single available inch of space is left unoccupied. The basement of the cathedral is hung with oil paintings, lithographs, and engravings, many of the latter of the old English school. There are coloured sheets of ‘characters and scenes,’ and miniature theatres for children, confused heaps of newspapers, pamphlets, and second-hand books, and—a new importation since the departure of the Austrians—gilt-edged rows of Italian Bibles and New Testaments, printed by one of the religious societies of London. A little further on we are informed by means of a huge linen placard, that the great Lorenzo Scaccabarozzi from Perugia has taken up his residence, for a few days only, in this distinguished capital, for the purpose of disseminating his world-renowned infallible specific for the removal of corns and chilblains. Near this professor stands a man, who is busily engaged in sharpening pencils with an instrument in size and shape resembling an ordinary scythe, both instrument and pencil being held behind the back of the operator. These pencils are entirely new to the respectable public of Milan, being exclusively manufactured for the present proprietor in the famous lead-mines of Spain. They may be cut with any implement, from a razor to a reaping-hook. From their capacity of being driven through a deal board without injury to the point, they will, at a pinch, admirably serve the purposes of a hat-peg, a gimlet, a corkscrew, or a weapon of defence. But the largest throngs are gathered round the lottery-tables, which are many and various. Let us take one as a specimen. A large wooden tray, lined with white paper, is divided into a hundred partitions, each partition being marked with a number, and containing a sugarstick; a few comfits, or an almond-cake, with which are interspersed, at rare intervals, objects of greater value, a fat capon, a *panettone*, an accordion, a sausage, and a bottle or two of wine. A buxom dame invites the attention of the bystanders by shaking a little bag, containing the numbers which decide the fate of the adventurous speculators:—‘Forward, worshipful public; forward with courage! Only five cents. the draw; all prizes and no blanks! Remember, every hand wins; forward, forward. (A number is drawn)—Seventeen! Only think, if it had been fifteen you would have carried off the accordion. (Another draw)—Forty seven, Three burnt almonds! Thirty-six would have won the capon, &c.’”

AMERICAN REPORTERS.—The special correspondent of the *New York Herald*, sent to report the proceedings at the execution of “Old Brown” gives the following description of callous impudence on the part of himself and fellows, which equals the worst that Dickens or Trollope ever said of his countrymen.—“During yesterday, Mrs. Brown kept her room. Several persons, members of the press in particular, anxiously sought interviews with her, but the gentlemen who accompanied her invariably objected. She is not disposed to be communicative, and is said to be particularly reserved when aware of the presence of any one connected with the press. I was one of a party of three gentlemen who were admitted to her room last night. She was seated near a table in the centre of the room as we entered. One of her male companions, through whom we had secured the privilege of an interview, introduced each of us as we went in, after which we all took seats. A gentleman connected with a New York illustrated journal took a position immediately opposite her at the table. He commenced a conversation with her by asking if she had an interview with Mr. Brown. She replied that she had. ‘Did he seem to be in good spirits?’ asked the gentleman. She said, ‘Yes; he expressed a wish that God would be with her, and assured her that God was with him.’ The next question was, ‘Did he receive you warmly, madam?’ She answered in the affirmative, and then rose from her seat, and, removing back from her interrogator towards the bed, held down her head and began to weep. At this time the gentleman who introduced us interposed, and said he would allow no more questions to be asked. We all then left the room, leaving her and her lady companion together.”

“WAR TO THE KNIFE.”—Another letter received by M. Melendez says of the Moors:—“There are a great many of their priests among them; these are to be distinguished by their long beards, their wild

appearance, and their peculiar yells, which are invocations to the Prophet. These priests take a particular care to finish the wounded Spaniards that lay on the ground, and they are seen to administer heavy blows with their muskets on the head and shoulders of those of their own men who show any signs of mercy. This sight enrages very much the Spanish soldiers, and the officers have no small trouble in preventing them from imitating the atrocities of the Moorish priests. One of the latter, remarkable for his dirty tunic and his terrific screams, had killed with his 'gumia' a young ensign and a soldier. He was preparing to stab a wounded artilleryman, and was uttering then a perfectly diabolical yell, when a Spanish sergeant rushed upon him and plunged a bayonet into his opened mouth. The death of their 'saints' always causes great discouragement among the Moors. My friend adds that he is now obliged, as well as the other officers, to allow the soldiers to despatch with a bayonet their wounded enemies, as these, when they can do no more, bite the legs of the Spaniards. The Emperor of Morocco has offered large prizes to those of his soldiers who should take guns. This explains their wild and obstinate attacks against the artillerymen."

INDIA, AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

THE FIDELITY OF THE MADRAS ARMY. The present number of the *Calcutta Review* contains an admirable article on the Madras Army. The writer, throwing aside for the moment all arguments on the constitution best adapted for an Indian Army, describes the internal working of a Madras Regiment. His sketch may be a little too favourable. The reviewer obviously sympathises strongly both with the men he commands, and the system they obey. But the sketch none the less proves its own truthfulness by its minuteness of detail, and its author has accomplished at least one feat—he has explained why the Madras Army—we speak of the Infantry line—remained faithful, and is likely to remain so.

An organization more opposed to European ideas of military discipline it is difficult to conceive. Every one knew as a fact, of course, that the Madras sepoy carried his household with him; but the effect of that arrangement, the boundless influence its exercises on the daily life of the soldier, can only be realised by a description minute and accurate as a photograph. The Madras regiment is, in fact, a clan engaged in British service, and encamped with all its women, children, baggage and property around it. The single fact that a Madras sepoy accumulates his property in his hut, spends his income in the lines, instead of remitting it to a far-away village in Oude or Rohilkund, explains much. It is the wives, however, who exercise a direct restraining influence. A native, with his imagination fired by the prospect of infinite gain to be secured as soon as society is overturned, may throw his property to the winds. He will not throw his wife. A Madras regiment in mutiny must either remain stationary, awaiting the hour of retribution, a course no regiment ever takes, or leave the women behind to be, as they fancy, the victims of the European soldiery, and without pay, or lumber along the road helplessly encumbered. The risk is too great, and the sepoys themselves quote their wives, as a final argument against the possibility of mutiny. Mutiny is an exceptional case, but the wives, it is asserted, exercise a direct influence in favour of daily discipline. They are often daughters of the regiment, always thoroughly acquainted with the regulations, hours of drill, and calls of duty. They cannot abide that their husbands should expose themselves to punishment, and as their tongues are as long as those of all Asiatic women, or, for that matter, of all women, unrestrained by civilisation, the unlucky sepoy fears the curtain lecture at least as much as the reprimand of the orderly room. A pensioner's wife expressed her notion on the point in the following very intelligible terms. Her husband, we must premise, was a pensioner just turned out of the lines for misconduct:—

"I, too, am a servant of the Government, my father was a soldier. My husband served thirty-two years, and I have given my two sons to the same flag. Do you suppose if I had been here, this old fool (pointing to her husband) could have misbehaved himself in this way? Do you think I do not know the regulations of the service? I, too, am a child of the regiment; I was born, brought up, and married under your flag; and under your flag

I will die. You have turned me out among a strange people, and I have been so for months now. Let me come back. I will swear below the colours of the regiment that no fault of this kind will occur again. If it does, shoot me with musketry or blow me away from a gun."

With the wife comes a troop of relatives, and the Madras soldier, wherever he may be when not on service, is at home in his lines.

Another institution, not by any means so widely known, is that of recruit boys. The son of any native soldier, within the limit of seventy per regiment, may be entertained as a recruit or pension boy. In practice they are entertained as babies, and are taught to salute on parade as soon as they can walk. At fourteen they are regularly paid, and at sixteen are drafted into the ranks, where they have some special privileges. So certain, indeed, is their promotion, owing to the education Government provides and enforces, that in one regiment, out of twenty native commissioned officers, ten were recruit boys, while of the havildars, they had four times their fair proportion. The benefit of this institution to the soldier is extreme. It enables him to keep his son under his own eye, without burdening himself, a privilege the force of which only those who know Asiatics can understand. An English father prefers that his fledglings should quit the nest and build for themselves. A Hindoo father looks on any migration of the kind as the greatest of misfortunes, and will coolly encounter comparative poverty to avoid it.

With the old organization of the Bengal army the introduction of either of these systems was impossible. Hindostanee wives will not emigrate, and the sepoy served anywhere from Thyatmyoo to Saugor. The sons, therefore, stayed at home to be inoculated with village prejudices, left uneducated, and brought at last into the regiment as most loutish specimens of humanity. But should the plan advocated by the Lahore Committee be adopted, and all native forces be employed within a short distance from their homes, the separation of families would cease to be imperative. The Hindostanee wife who will not go to a "foreign" country, will and does travel over the division. Indeed, we are not certain whether—sea service apart—the prejudice is wholly insuperable for longer distances. The Hyderabad Contingent, for example, all Hindostanees, are accompanied by their families. It seems certain that no arrangement could paralyse sepoys so completely for sudden and murderous *emoutes*; and it is the rapidity and secrecy rather than the power of the native soldiery which make them formidable mutineers.

It is worthy of notice that the combination of castes and races recommended by most of the officers who have written on reorganisation is partially secured in Madras. In the regiment described there are:—Native Christians, 69; Mussulmans, 305; Hindostanees, 34; Mahrattas, 15; Telengas, 517; Tamul, 129; other low castes, 80; Indo-Britons, 18; total, 1,167. For ourselves, we have no belief in these divisions; the bond of military brotherhood, and the subserviency of all Hindoo castes to the Bramhun, soon destroy the centrifugal force of differences either of caste or creed. But the fact is still one to be honestly recorded on the side of the officers who have defended that view. It is, however, in the powerlessness for sudden *emoutes* produced by the presence of their families, and the contentment caused by the presence of their children, that we look for the sources of the fidelity of the Madras sepoy.—*Friend of India*.

COTTON MANUFACTORIES.

Few men are better able to deal with the question of cotton culture in India than Dr. Royle, the well-known Indian botanist. Long resident in this country, officially connected with the cotton experiments lately instituted, and evidently qualified by educational pursuits, bent of mind, and education, to investigate such a subject, Dr. Royle's opinions are of sufficient importance to demand attention. He expresses, we see, his firm belief that no real progress will be made in the culture of cotton in India until the manufacturers and merchants of England shall send out European agents to reside permanently in the tracts in which the plant may be raised with success. The settlement of Europeans or their agents in the cotton districts, with the express purpose of encouraging the natives to improve the cultivation of their own, or to grow the American cotton, is the measure which has been recommended as the one thing essential for the extension and improvement of this great staple. As the trade has been described to be profitable, it, indeed, appears remarkable that no planters should have established themselves for an object which is considered of such importance by the manufacturers of Lancashire.

The fact that very little interest has hitherto been taken in the manufacture of cotton is one of

the reasons that have prevented the employment of European enterprise in the field offered by this country. There are hopeful signs, however, for the future. Two cotton mills have been in operation here for some time, and a third has been in contemplation since 1857. It was said six months ago that the last, which belongs to the East India Company, had ordered machinery from England, the selection of which was left to the managing director; but owing, we fancy, to some disagreement as to the terms proposed by him for undertaking the work, no steps have yet been taken to effect this object. The company, we believe, are besides deficient in funds, and thus the completion of the works, which have been commenced, has been put off for the present. It is to be hoped, however, that there is no cessation of interest on the subject; for if the Company will carry out their scheme they will find it has advantages in its favour which fully guarantee its success. The Cowasjee Nanaboy Company is earning at the rate of 30 or 40 per cent., the mills turning out 2,500 lbs. of cotton twist daily, and this is but an index of what may be expected from a mill more advantageously situated. Land is cheap at Callian, labour easily procured, good water found in abundance, and the station is at the junction of the Berar and Jubulpore lines of railway, by means of which the transport of cotton from the Deccan and the North-West Provinces will be cheaply and conveniently effected, and the twist from the manufactory expeditiously sent to the interior.

European manufacturers in this country have a vast field of usefulness before them. Their establishment, in the different districts interested in the improvement of the cotton of India is all that is required greatly to extend and improve the culture and commerce of all kinds in the country. Then we may expect that the condition of the people will also be materially improved. There will be a fall in the cost of all the articles of comfort and clothing required by the working classes; and this alone will be in its effects equivalent to a social change of the most important kind. In England the manufacturing interest has lately made great progress. Our hardware is the very *beau ideal* of what iron should be, and our Manchester goods are the best that can be had for the money all the world over. The great improvement in these arts has not been without its influence on the condition of the people, inasmuch as the real or commodity price of their labour is a great deal better than it was a few years ago. The marvels and triumphs of the last fifty years would have been impossible but for the steam engine, the loom, and the spinning jenny. Sidney Smith had a semi-serious glimpse of this truth when he averred that the modern destiny of the British people was, mainly, the weaving of calico. In plain earnest, from this vulgar-looking process came the power that humbled Napoleon. Since his fall it has founded colonies, changed the face of politics, and given new laws to commerce. The loom and its appliances will be found at the root of most of the reforms that have been pressed on the Government of England—and few reforms, we know, have ever been obtained except by some outward pressure.

In India we want professional men of experience and ability to superintend manufactories; every other circumstance is favourable to their success. Cowasjee Nanaboy, in establishing the first cotton manufactory in Tardeo, and by his perseverance ensuring success to the experiment, has shown a degree of energy and enterprise which is rare among his own countrymen. His shares are now at about fifty per cent. premium. He gave twelve per cent. last year, when his mill was only working partially. This year a much higher dividend will be expected—say twenty-five or thirty per cent.—*Bombay Gazette*.

AN IMPROMPTU BULL FIGHT.—The special correspondent of the *Times*, describing the lubberly way in which the landing of Spanish troops and stores at Ceuta was effected says:—"An incident characteristic of Spain diversified, and for a time enlivened, the wearisome toils of the night. Two bulls got loose when landed, took up their station in a dry part of the creek, and would not be captured or listen to any terms of capitulation. For the better part of an hour they were completely masters of the situation. The horses could not be brought up because *toro*, with lowered horns and menacing front, barred the way. The bystanders were of course delighted. While two or three bold fellows made attempts, long fruitless, to fetter the bulls, the crowd filled the boats that lay upon the quay, looking down upon the scene as from the *tendidos* of a bull-ring, and shouting and applauding as the two wild animals dashed at their antagonists, and compelled them to a speedy retreat. At last the beasts were secured, and the landing continued, but it was long past midnight before it concluded."

MUSIC, THE DRAMA, ETC.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.—The grumbler's rest—if such a thing can be imagined—is again disturbed. The prophet of evil, ever in wait with his carping auguries of failure, has once more lost for a while his occupation, as far as this enterprise is concerned; for the gift of what he sighed for has forbidden him the pleasure of sighing, and should he venture to condemn the quality of the boon, he would find but a paltry minority to hear him. The production, by an English Opera management, of "Victorine," an English three-act opera, written by a thoroughly English composer, Mr. Alfred Mellon, and sung by a wholly national company, must be accepted as another excellent instalment in redemption of those managerial pledges, whose tardy fulfilment, due more, we believe, to the slowness and prosperity of composers than to any anti-national predilections of Miss Pyne and Mr. Harrison, has been a fruitful theme for the malcontents of the day. The "Victorine" of old Adelphi days, with whose memory is associated that of the best periods of the late Mrs. Yates, and of Messrs. Buckstone and Wright, has unquestionably suffered by its reduction to the limbo of longs and shorts by the librettist, and by the substitution of lyric comicality for the broad farce of the Buckstone-upon-Scribe original. The melodramatic suicide, again, which, in one form or another, was made the *finale* of both the French and English plays, has given way in the opera to a happy-ever-after conclusion, which, as giving room for the introduction of a highly elaborated *rondo finale*, has been more convenient to both the *prima donna* and the composer, and is certainly more agreeable to the public at large than the delineation, however skilful, of long-drawn agonies terminating in a death climax. The overture to "Victorine," we are glad to say, has the merit of being neither spasmodic or disjointed, but a brilliant and continuous whole. At its close, we are introduced to the *chambre garnie* of the *ouvrière* Victorine (Miss Parepa), an aspiring damsel, who falters between the virtuous love of her equal, Michel (Mr. Haigh), and the worldly proposals of the man of fashion, Julien (Mr. Santley). She is encouraged to aspire to the questionable honours of the *demi-monde* by her companion, Louise (Miss Thirlwall), and one Griffon (Mr. Honey), a cynical member of the working class, who parades before her the charms of furniture, horses, dress, and delicate hands, contrasted with the troubles attendant upon love in a sixth floor. She resolves, as all playgoers are aware, "to sleep on it," and the second act presents a dream, in which the moral of the tale is argued so correctly that the third brings us to a waking decision in favour of virtue, and a wholly satisfactory conclusion. We can hardly pretend here to give a thematic catalogue of the two-and-thirty *morceaux* of the opera (of which Messrs. Chappell and Co. have published fourteen), interspersed with critical remarks for which they offer ample field. But we can find space to mention a few of those which produced the most notable effect upon an audience of more than usually appreciative calibre. The first great sensation—after the charming overture—was caused by Michel's ballad on the Balfour model, "For I love thee alone," in which the worthy upholsterer declares his passion, when he bursts in on the insinuating counsels of Griffon and Louise, and finds to his discomfiture, upon how unstable a basis stand the affections of his ladylove. In this—in "The Heart that is too lightly Won,"—(Act II.)—and in "Wilt thou Forsake Me" (a duet, excised after the first representation, but a morsel of high lyrical quality—Mr. Haigh displayed to advantage the fine quality with which a portion of his voice is endowed, and did justice to the music committed to him. Mr. Santley has but one charming ballad, which he sings beautifully, called "I Never can Forget," preceded by a delicious prelude for the clarinet of Lazarus, and in which he, of course, gains nightly the honour of an *encore*. That this will become the air of the opera, as far as the music shops are concerned, we have no doubt. There is no other great opportunity for this artist throughout the work, except the cleverly written graceful duo "Good Sir, etc.;" but Mr. Santley is clearly and rapidly improving as an actor, while as a singer, his eminence has been long assured. The burden of the opera, by no means a short or trivial one, as well as nearly all the honours, fall to the soprano, and Miss Parepa, whom we congratulate upon now confessing her nationality, bears so well the first that she richly deserves the last. She has presence, physical power, dramatic appreciation, rich vocal quality in parts of her range, and highly scientific vocalisation: a collection of gifts that place their possessor highly among lyric artists. In the beautiful airs "To love and be loved," and "The Voice of Midnight," in Act I.; in the truly romantic "Why Lingering Mourner" (a true spark of the composer's higher genius); in the bravura

rondo at the end of all; and in the whole of the second act, on which Mellon has been lavish of his treasures of harmony and melody, she honourably won, as we have said, the liberal applause of the discerning, and maintained the high position she acquired before the production of *Victorine* by her impassioned performance as *Leonora*. Subordinate parts are allotted to Mr. Honey and Mr. Corri, the artistical basso, whose aid is invaluable in the concerted music throughout, and especially in the superb *finale* to Act II. Neither have we space now to enlarge upon the merits of this long and excellent portion of the composition, in which the gracefulest of melodies are supported by grand masses of sound in a manner that does honour to the musician, and favours the presumption that the public may look for other works of pretension by the same hand.

The first performance of a work by the lieutenant of Costa, the better musical half of Jullien, the chief of the Orchestral Union, the director of the Musical Society of London, could not fail to create a sensation, among the profession, and all amateurs; and it is gratifying to be enabled to state that the hopes all indulged in for the success of one so socially as well as professionally popular have been answered. To say that there is not still more to hope for, would be to say that the young *maestro* has reached the limits of his capacity and of his ambition. But we look for more and yet more; auguring from the "Victorine"—which has been extorted from Mr. Mellon's modesty rather than blossomed from his self-confidence—that there are power and facility behind, which may some day, if time permits, bring forth far greater things. Now that the unconsidered gems of melody—the efflorescence of young fancy—that have waited an opportunity in the composer's portfolio, have been fixed upon the framework of "Victorine," and are disposed of, we may fairly hope, that deeper seated and richer veins of the musical soul will be found to yield abundantly to the labour of so accomplished a workman.

MONDAY POPULAR CONCERTS, ST. JAMES'S HALL.—The novel and most interesting feature in last Monday's programme was the appearance of Miss Poole and Mr. Ramsden, to give some of those exquisite English ballads which Mr. Chappell is so lovingly devoting himself to exhume and to popularise. This talented antiquary may be congratulated on having secured such able coadjutors in his meritorious enterprise; and, after the specimen of the joint exertions of the party furnished on Monday, we have no hesitation in wishing good-speed to his old ballad movement. First on the list was "Sally in Our Alley," given with a simplicity that lent additional charm to Mr. Ramsden's otherwise excellent singing; and we are mistaken if more than one of the many fair damsels who ornamented the *parterre* might not have felt half disposed to accept the gallant artist, "box and all," after his charming delivery of that point in the ballad. Miss Poole is fascinating as ever. A deaf man might see her sing with pleasure: a blind one could not half appreciate her. For, really, the archness and grace of her performance must be seen to be understood; and we are like to be haunted, having both seen and heard, by her "Woodstock Town," and "The Oak and the Ash, and the Bonny Ivy Tree."

Miss Arabella Goddard played first Bach's "Suite de Pièces," in F major. So far she failed to carry with her the sympathy of the audience; but when she gave Handel's "Harmonious Blacksmith," they rose *en masse* to demand its repetition. This illiberal, ungenerous, vulgar encore practice, against which we protested in our last, bids fair to rise to the dignity of a nuisance, and almost forces the warmest hearted equality-monger to long for popular concerts without "the people." The victims on Monday were Miss Goddard, Piatti (who had opportunity for playing his best, and did so), and Mr. Best, whose Handel Concerto in C major produced a whirlwind of applause. These artists yielded with grace, but yet reluctantly; but Herr Becker, the first violin of the evening, had the moral courage to refuse his charming strain again at the clamorous bidding of his unfeeling admirers.

The prospectus of the fifth season of the VOCAL ASSOCIATION has this week been issued by the Secretary, and, without making pretensions to "large doings" in the coming season, there appears to be a significance in the intentions of the directors which argues well for the perfect satisfaction of the subscribers, and for the advancement of the art. G. A. Macfarren's cantata, "May Day," C. E. Horsley's new oratorio, "Gideon," and a variety of new and charming part-songs, have already been put in rehearsal, and will be performed during the series included in the subscription. The indefatigable and eminent musician, Mr. Benedict, is, as before, the conductor, and the Right Hon. Lord Ward has kindly consented to become the president.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The Christmas entertain-

ments, commencing on the great holiday, Boxing-day, will be varied and extensive. The naves and great transept will be fitted up with stalls for exhibitors, and during the holidays a fancy fair will be constantly held. The ample space at the Crystal Palace affords room for an extensive display of articles suitable to the approaching season. At dusk it will be brilliantly lighted up with varied gas devices—a delightful evening promenade, secured from wet and cold. A huge Christmas tree will be placed in the centre of the building, which will be decorated with holly and evergreens and a profusion of flags. The new hall for lectures and concerts is nearly finished, and will be opened by Mr. Pepper, with a new and complete series of dissolving views and photographic illustrations. The Christmas recreations will be provided by Mr. Nelson Lee, who has been commissioned to provide a round of amusement from morning till night. The Campbell Minstrels, from St. James's Hall, a *ballet troupe*, the grotesque singing of Mackney and Sam Collins, with athletic magic performances, will be represented on a stage in the great transept. At dark, laughable shadows and phantasmagoric views will be exhibited. In addition to the gas devices, a large number of illuminated lanterns will be displayed. During the holiday period, the Crystal Palace Company will grant tickets at excursion rates to large clubs, schools, and societies; there is no doubt that very large attendances may be looked for.

THE GREAT GLOBE.—Amongst all the Christmas shows and exhibitions this geographical pourtrayal of the world we live in is amongst the most interesting. The Great Globe itself was deemed, on the first opening of this building, sufficiently attractive, and not without reason, for it is one of the most ingenious contrivances ever invented to give a comprehensive idea of the planet we inhabit. The institution, however, has greatly grown with increasing years, and now contains many exhibitions and models, which form geographical, ethnological, geological, hydrographical, and astronomical illustrations of all that can interest the intelligent spectator. Lectures take place at various times, almost every hour, which are illustrated by well painted dioramas. In this the visitor moves down the Rhine, having presented to him forty-four views of interesting and picturesque places. In the like way he may penetrate into Japan, sail up the Peiho into the interior of China, or visit all the places rendered interesting by the late contest in India; and in the same mode he may renew the late campaign in Italy. Indeed, it would require a long catalogue to recount all that may be seen at this exhibition, which may with the greatest truth be said to be one of the most instructive, rational, and entertaining in this metropolis, abounding as it does in such institutions.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—On Wednesday the company of this theatre presented the *Lessee* and Manager with a claret jug. We know how often these matters are a part of a system of puffing, but we believe in the present case the presentation was perfectly spontaneous, and a genuine manifestation of the esteem in which Mr. Harris is held by all engaged.

CRYSTAL PALACE COMPANY.

THE report adopted by the proprietors of the CRYSTAL PALACE on the 20th inst. states, that the gross income of the year has amounted to £134,068 12s. 1d., and the expenditure to £88,753 1s. 5d., leaving a balance to the credit of revenue, for the twelve months ending Oct. 31st, amounting to £45,315 10s. 8d. Compared with that submitted in June, 1858, the present shows that while the net earnings of 1857-58 were £35,073 17s. 10d., those of the past year are £45,315 10s. 8d., an improvement arising almost entirely from the reductions made in the charges against revenue for the year. The directors also very correctly exclude the receipts and expenditure connected with the Handel Festivals from both accounts; and it will then be perceived that, while the charges for the year ending April 30th, 1858, were £72,890 4s. 11d., for the past year they have been but £65,362 10s. 7d., and even this latter sum includes permanent additions and improvements which might legitimately have been charged to capital. The sum available for division amounts, with the reserve brought forward, to £57,940 10s. 11d., which the directors propose to apportion as follows: To the payment of preference dividend and interest on debenture stock for the year, £26,668 5s. 6d.; to the payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares of 2s. per share, which will amount to £20,059, leaving a reserve of £11,218 5s. 6d. to be carried forward to the next year's account.

The whole of the debenture stock has been allotted; the balance of the purchase money for the land, £64,293 4s. 4d., due on the 1st of July last, has been paid. Only one item has been added to the capital account, viz., £9,500 paid to the refreshment contractors, for additions to the plant. The total

number of visitors in the period embraced in the accounts, the report states, has been 1,384,163, being an increase of 20,000 on the average of the four preceding years, and a marked proof of the favourable estimation in which the Palace is held by the public, as shown by the gatherings of Foresters and Odd Fellows surpassing those of the previous year. The exhibitors' department is reported to be making steady progress, and in a sounder condition than heretofore. The alterations, improvements, and repairs in the building are most specially referred to in the report, which also alludes to the appropriation of ground for practice by the London Rifle Brigade; arrangements being also in progress with other metropolitan corps for the same purpose. The directors go on to state, that the construction of the Victoria station, and of the line for connecting the West End Railway thereto, is proceeding rapidly, and there is every prospect of their being opened early in the coming summer. This direct communication with the centre of the West-end of town cannot fail to cause an important addition to the traffic to the Palace. It will also prove indirectly beneficial, by encouraging building operations in the surrounding districts. The houses which the company are erecting on their property at Dulwich Wood are approaching completion. The report submitted to the last general meeting having been printed before the conclusion of the Handel Festival, only a short general reference to it was then possible; the favourable financial anticipations therein expressed are fully borne out. The directors record their sense of the valuable assistance and the cordial co-operation which they received in carrying out the undertaking from the committee of the Sacred Harmonic Society. The great services rendered by Mr. Costa to the festival are also specially referred to. As the Crystal Palace is now fitted up with the most complete and extensive orchestra in the world, at a cost of nearly £7,000 (the whole of which has been paid out of revenue), and as the great transept is an unrivalled locality, the board, in conjunction with the committee of the society, have under their consideration the establishment of periodical musical festivals, equal at least in extent to the Handel Festival. It is proposed that the first of these shall take place in 1862. The directors are unable to report an adjustment of the difference between this and the Brighton Railway Company. The Crystal Palace Art Union is stated to have been very successful during its first season, and there is a prospect of a considerable increase in its operations for the coming year. More prominence will, in future, be given to pictures among the prizes; and such arrangements have been made for this as will be to the mutual benefit both of the company's picture gallery and the art union.

It is not without regret that the unbiassed spectators of the Crystal Palace progress observe the prominence that certain shareholders insist upon giving to their ill-considered wish for more dividends, at the expense of the efficiency of the staff, and of diminished attractions. We are fain to think, when we hear, not the reported orations, but the *ipsissima verba*—all main and halt, as they often are—of such shareholders as these, that they must be, not those who have borne the burden and the heat of the day—who have seen and paid the way of the undertaking through good and evil report, and under faulty management, over the turbid waters of jobbery into the rest of comparative prosperity—but the new holders of last week or last month, who may have cannily speculated in stock at frightful discounts, with a view, first, to realising speedy and exorbitant interest for their money, and then, to a re-sale of their holding at prosperity prices. Though little faith can be reposed in those members of the present board, who are of the more fee-seeking and ornamental orders, and though the independent observer cannot view without apprehension the proposal to confound the democracy by converting shares into stock, it is impossible not to support the board in their sagacious resistance to these "killers of the goose for the golden egg," and in their recognition of the principle of popularisation, or, in other words, of providing the greatest number of happinesses for the greatest number of visitors. The directors of the Crystal Palace, to whom the enunciation of that principle may be ascribed, may be many and various. It has probably been, and it probably will be, a portion of the platform of every candidate, past, present, and to come. But, platitude though it seems, its working out has been practically left to Messrs. England and Horsley, two junior members of the present board, whom it is the fate of the shareholders to lose "by rotation," as the phrase goes, at midsummer next. By what contrivance the roulette wheel of fortune has been made to indicate for retirement the two candidates who were carried into office on the shoulders, as it were, of a long board-ridden and tardily-roused proprietary, we are not advised. But

the result is no less to be deplored; and this coming to the knowledge of the press, it seems to us the duty of the press (ever invited to familiarise itself with the working of this institution), to pass timely word of warning to the general body, that the lot of *retirement* has fallen, or will fall, upon the men who have been mainly instrumental in reversing the progress of the Company on a downward gradient, and in procuring that respectable dividend that once would have been too large to dream of, but is now small enough to be sneered at. By their commonplace and common-sense deeds they have sinned, we believe, against the demon of red-tape directorism that never learns nor forgets; and by whom their re-election is, we hear, to be opposed; and if they are cast out, their places will, in due course, be filled up as the Act directs, with men of the old leaven. But, if those whom it concerns will neither hear nor move, why should we be chorus?

TERrible FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—Between two and three o'clock this (Friday) morning a fire broke out at a house occupied principally as offices in Little George-street, Westminster. There were in the house at the time four women and three children. The flames gained complete mastery in a wonderfully short space of time, and before help could arrive the lives of two women and two infants were sacrificed; the others are saved but are much hurt.

THE TASMANIAN SUBMARINE CABLE.—The first submarine electric cable of any considerable length in this part of the world has now been successfully laid and open for public use. The 120 miles of Bass's Straits is thus annihilated, so far as the communication of intelligence is concerned, and the island of Tasmania is for many important purposes as closely united to the mainland of Australia as though no sea rolled between them. This, it will be admitted, is a work of some magnitude for these colonies, and is creditable to the enterprise of Victoria and Tasmania, who have themselves found the whole of the funds for the undertaking. In this case the object to be gained is worth even some annual expenditure in excess of returns, if the line cannot be maintained without it; for there can be no question that to Tasmania the advantage of instant communication with these colonies must be very great. The annual trade transactions between that island and the mainland are stated by the Launceston papers to be now represented by a sum amounting to more than £1,000,000 sterling; and, as the markets of the one colony are entirely regulated by those of the others, it cannot be otherwise than a matter of deep importance that a close intercommunication should exist between them. One chief source of risk and expense said to be connected with this line is, that it has been laid in four separate sections—first, from the north side of King's Island to Cape Otway, on the Australian coast, then in the opposite direction from King's Island to Hummock's Island, thence to Circular head on the north coast of Tasmania, and from that point along the coast to the entrance of the Tamar, where it joins the land line to Launceston and Hobart Town. From this arrangement the shore-ends of the cable are numerous, and all of them are said to be considerably exposed to injury from the nature of the places at which the landings have been made. Under those circumstances it is being urged upon the Governments of Victoria and Tasmania that they should at once incur the additional expense of procuring from England sufficient surplus cable to make good any injury which either of the four sections may sustain; and this, we think, is a very reasonable suggestion, seeing how many chances of accident the line is exposed to.

MOORISH AND SPANISH TROOPS.—A letter from Gibraltar says:—"Persons who have been lately and frequently in Morocco express their conviction the Moors will fight desperately, under the influence of fanaticism, and of that utter contempt of death which is one of their well-known characteristics. With regard to the armament and equipment of the bulk of their army, it is difficult to obtain positive information. The chief arm, both of infantry and cavalry, seems to be the *espingarda*, or long musket, of which some handsome specimens have already been taken, and are now in the Spanish camp. An English officer, lately in Morocco, fetching away British subjects tells me he saw some of their cavalry with bayonets fixed to the end of their guns, which thus are converted into lances of considerable length. The same authority, which I consider a good one, expressed confidence in the bravery of the Moors, but said that good European infantry ought to march through them in the plains, both horse and foot. The question is whether the Spanish infantry will prove good enough to do this; whether those young soldiers have nerve and resolution sufficient to withstand without flinching or confusion the fierce onset of those wild desperadoes of the desert, and to receive them with a close fire and a firm, unbroken line of bayonets.

Postscript.

"THE LEADER" OFFICE, Friday Evening, Dec. 23rd.

FRANCE.

THE French Cabinet has this day (Friday), by telegraph, informed the Powers concerned that the opening of the Congress will not take place before the 19th January next.

The *Constitutionnel* publishes an article signed by its principal editor, M. Grandguillot, approving in general the contents of the pamphlet "Le Pope et le Congress," declaring, however, a resolve to combat some of the propositions made by the author.

RUSSIA AND PIEDMONT.

THE policy of Russia is inferable from *L'Invalide Russe*, which to-day attacks the *Ost Deutsche Post*, refuting the allegation of that Austrian mouthpiece, which went to deny Piedmont a deliberative voice in Congress, attributing to the kingdom of North Italy only a consultative presence, and placing Sardinia in that respect on a level with Naples, Portugal, Spain, and Rome. The Russian oracle scouts such a notion, and positively says:—"Piedmont alone can have any pretension to represent Italy in Congress, for the simple reason that, if the people were polled from the Alps to the Straits of Messina or Cape Lilibaeum, the universal suffrages of the peninsula would be in exact accordance with the already established vote of the inhabitants of Tuscany, Romagna, Parma, and Modena."

INDIA.

BOMBAY journals of the 26th ult. have been received this morning.

The Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief left Cawnpore on the morning of the 5th, and arrived at Futteghur on the 12th. They encamped at the Luckpore Bagh, and immediately held a station levee. The durbar was held next day, and was attended by a large number of native chiefs. Lord Canning's camp is expected to be at Delhi about Christmas.

Of the state of the rebel army in Nepaul, the rumours are perfectly contradictory—it is now said that the Nana intends to maintain his position—then that he intends to retreat. One report is that he is dead, another that there was a consultation in his camp, and that the several leaders agreed to unite their forces and place them under his orders. "One thing is certain," says the *Bombay Gazette*, "that our troops have taken the field against the rebels." It is now stated again that Jung Bahadoor is to give us his assistance in driving them out of Nepaul.

In Central India, it is feared that it will be necessary to carry on the war in the jungle. The hill tribes in the Deccan are giving some trouble, and a party of Rohillas have been creating disturbances near Hingoleo.

The *Bombay Times* has been told that a very important change is about to take place in the constitution of the executive council of the Viceroy, which is to be modelled somewhat after the fashion of her Majesty's cabinet. The members of council will become secretaries of state, and, as such, responsible for the conduct of all matters in their several departments. We are told that the new Indian cabinet will stand as follows:—President and Secretary for Political Affairs—Lord Canning. Home Secretary—Sir Bartle Frere. Secretary at War—Sir James Outram. Minister of Finance—Right Hon. James Wilson.

The power of opinion will give India a good government yet. We are also assured that the admission of non-official members to the Legislative Council has been decided upon.

CRYSTAL PALACE.
ARRANGEMENTS FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY DECEMBER 31ST.

MONDAY—Open at Nine.
TUESDAY to FRIDAY—Open at Ten. Admission, One Shilling; Children under 12, Sixpence.
SATURDAY—Open at Ten. Admission, Half-a-Crown; Children, One Shilling.
The Christmas Festivities will commence on Boxing Day, December 26th, and be continued during the week. For particulars see Special Advertisements.
SUNDAY—Open at 1.30 to Shareholders gratuitously by tickets.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GREAT CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL.
COMMENCING MONDAY, DECEMBER 26TH, AND CONTINUED DAILY DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

THE entire building lighted and warmed to Italian temperature, with a continued round of attractions and amusements from morning till night.

Among these will be found The Great Fancy Fair and Feast of Lanterns, will stalls specially fitted in the Naves and Great Transept decorated.—Christmas Tree.—Daily Concert, with the patriotic Rifleman's March.—The highly popular Campbell's Minstrels.—The Chantrill Family.—Complete Ballet Troupe.—The Drolleries of Sam Collins.—Professor Sinclair, the Great Wizard.—Mackney, the Inimitable, with his farm-yard illustrations. These, with the Evergreen Decorations of the Palace—the Fountains in play—the Camellias in bloom—the Picture Gallery—the varied attractions of the Fine Arts Courts, and other collections within the Palace—the Dissolving Views and Newly-Illustrated Lectures by Mr. J. H. Pepper, with special Pictorial Representations by Messrs. Negretti and Zambra—the Grotesque Shadows and Phantasmagoria on the Screen in the Great Centre Transept the Juvenile Recreations.—Punchinello and all sorts of Collections of Toys—terminating with the delightful Illuminated Promenade—must render the Palace the resort of all holiday seekers.

The amusements under the direction of Mr. NELSON LEE.

The Gigantic Christmas Tree by Mr. T. F. Trebeck.

On Monday, the Great Holiday, the doors will be open at 9—other days at 10. Admission, One Shilling; Children, sixpence.

Saturday, Half-a-crown.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. The NEW LECTURE ROOM and CONCERT HALL will be open daily on and after Monday, 26th December, at 11.30, for Mr. J. H. Peppers New Series of Illustrations, Dissolving Views &c.

The Grotesque Shadows and other Comic Illustrations will be displayed each afternoon at dusk.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—On Monday, the GREAT HOLIDAY, the doors of the Palace will be opened at Half-past Eight o'clock. Frequent trains as often as required, will run from London Bridge and Pimlico. The Entertainments will commence at Half-past Eleven o'clock.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Season Tickets at Half-a-Guinea, may be had at the Railway Stations and Palace entrances. These tickets admit up to 1st May.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—At MECHI AND BAZIN'S Counters in the Great Transept Gallery, will be found everything appropriate for presents.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—During the holidays, visit HOLT'S Great Depot of French Jewellery and Parisian Articles.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—STIEGERWALD'S Bohemian Glass Court has the Finest Collection of Bohemian and other coloured Glass in the world. Most appropriate for presents.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—If you want to make a present, visit MAPPIN'S Sheffield and Cutlery Stall.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—At SEARLE'S Fine Art, Stationery, and Book Court will be found the most extensive assortment of Juvenile Books and Presents.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—HEWETT'S Chinese Stand, in the Great Transept.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The China and Glass Court is replete with the novelties of the season.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—CREMER'S Conjuring Tricks and Toys. Every novelty of the present season.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Purchasers of Christmas Presents will find at the Crystal Palace the greatest variety concentrated in one spot.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The beautiful objects selected for the coming season of the Crystal Palace ART-UNION will be on view in the South Nave and Sheffield Court. Subscriptions may now be paid, and articles at once selected.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S Stalls include every novelty in the Photographic line.

Their Portable Stereoscope, with miniature Views of the Palace, price 6s. each, are the prettiest present of the season.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mann's Riflemen's March, played Daily, with enthusiastic applause, may be had at CRAMER, BEALE, and Co.'s, 201, Regent-street, or at the Crystal Palace.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—The GREAT CHRISTMAS TREE is furnished by TREBICK and Co., Sun Street, Bishopsgate Street, who will have on sale a great variety of CHRISTMAS TOYS.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

Under the Management of Miss LOUISA PYNE and Mr. W. HARRISON.

Boxing-night, December 26th, and during the week, will be presented an entirely New Opera, entitled, VICTORINE, The music composed by Alfred Mellon. The Translation and Poetry by Edmund Falconer. Characters by Messrs. Santley, Henry Haigh, H. Corri, G. Honey, Walworth, Bartleman, Lyall, Terrott, and De Solla; Misses Thirlwall, Ranoe, St. Clair, and Parepa. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.

After which, will be produced, a Comic Christmas Fairy Pantomime, to be called

PUSS IN BOOTS :

Or, Harlequin and the Fairy of the Golden Palms. The opening by J. V. Bridgeman, with new Scenery, Dresses, Decorations, and Machinery. The Scenery by Messrs. Grieve, Telbin, Danson, Cuthbert, Dawes, &c. The machinery by Mr. Sloman. The Pantomime arranged and produced by Mr. Edward Stirling. *Dramatis Personae*—Mealoft, Mr. Anderson; Huon, the deceased miller's youngest Son, Miss Emily Scott; Puss-in-Boots, Miss Craven; the King, Mr. Bartleman; Count Von Grabenau, (Court Chamberlain and Siverstick-in-Waiting), Mr. W. H. Payne; Wilfulwight (his Son, a regular pickle), Mr. F. Payne; Gulpmountain (an ogre), Mr. Tallien; the Princess Blanchefleur (the pink of perfection, who pinks to Huon to the heart), Miss Clara Morgan; the Countess von Grabenau Mr. W. A. Barnes; Innocentia (Queen of the Fairies), Miss Kate Saxon; Worldiness (a Fairy Potentate), Miss Morrell. Scene I.—Interior of the Mill. Scene 2.—The Court of Queen Innocentia. Scene III.—The Royal Palace. Wilfulwight in Hot Water. Scene IV.—Cornfields, with river in the distance. Scene V.—Gulpmountain Castle. Scene VI.—Fingal's Cave, off the Scottish coast, by moonlight. Scene VII.—Transformation, which the management has endeavoured to render worthy of the palmiest days of Fairy Lore, being "The Grove of Golden Palms." Characters for the Transformation. Harlequin, Mr. F. Payne; Clown, Mr. H. Payne; Pantaloons, Mr. W. A. Barnes; Sprites, Messrs. Tallien; Columbine, Miss Clara Morgan. Lilliputian Harlequin and Columbine, Master and Miss Lauri. Mists and Clouds of Dust dispelled, by the Congress of Nations, assembled in the Fairy Halls of Peace.

Doors open at half-past 6. Commence at 7. To conclude by half-past 11. A grand morning performance on Wednesday 25th, and each succeeding Wednesday at 2 o'clock.

Stage Manager, Mr. Edward Stirling. Acting Manager, Mr. Edward Murray.

No charge for Booking, or fees to Box-keepers. Stalls, 7s. Private Boxes to hold four persons, from 10s. 6d. upwards. Dress Circles, 5s. Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. Pit, 2s. 6d. Amphitheatre, 1s.

THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)

On Monday, Dec. 26th, and during the week, will be performed Bayle Bernard's Original Comedy, in Three Acts, entitled THE EVIL GENIUS. As performed by Mr. Buckstone and the Haymarket Company in November last, at Windsor Castle, by command of Her Majesty. Hill Cooley, Esq., Mr. Chippendale; Tom Ripstone, Mr. Buckstone; Walmsley, Mr. W. Farren; Barton, Mr. Edwin Villiers; Joe Withers, Mr. Compton; Lady Aurora Ringwood, Miss Reynolds; Clara Fielding, Miss M. Ternan.

After which, the New Haymarket Comic Christmas Pantomime, entitled VALENTINE'S DAY; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE FAIRY OF THE TRUE LOVERS-KNOT. By the author of "The Three Bears," "Little Bo-Peep," "Butterflies' Ball," "Sleeping Beauty," "Undine," &c. The magnificent scenery, and opening of the Fairy Valentine, painted by Mr. Frederick Fenton. The scenery of the Harlequinade by Messrs. O'Connor and Morris. The Pantomimists, the unrivalled Leclercs.

The First Morning Performance of the Pantomime, on Thursday, Dec. 29th, and every Thursday.—To commence at two, and conclude by half-past four precisely.

Stage-manager, Mr. Chippendale.

The Box-office is open daily from ten to five o'clock.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessees, Messrs. F. Ronson and W. S. EMDEN.

Monday, and during the week, THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY. Messrs. H. Wigan, W. Gordon, and H. Rivers; Miss Cottrell and Mrs. Stirling.

After which, a new Extravaganza by Robert B. Brough, Esq., entitled, ALFRED THE GREAT. Characters, Messrs. F. Robson, H. Wigan, G. Cooke, F. Vining, F. Charles, Rivers, H. Cooper, Franks; Misses Nelson, Hughes, Cottrell, Mrs. Stephens, and Mrs. W. S. Emden.

To conclude with a Farce, from the French of "La Contre Basse," by Mr. H. Wigan, to be called A BASE IMPOSTOR. Characters by Messrs. G. Cooke, H. Cooper, and H. Wigan; Miss Cottrell and Mrs. Stephens.

Doors open at 7. Commence at half-past 7.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM, with the BRITISH PICTURES, presented by Messrs. Sheepshanks, Vernon, Turner, Jacob Bell, and others, together with the Art Schools for Male and Female Students, will be open, free, every day (Ten to Four), and evening (Seven till Ten), from 26th December to the 3rd January, both inclusively.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD PAUL.

IN their brilliant, comic, and Musical Illustrations of Characters at the ST. JAMES'S HALL, Piccadilly, on Monday, January 2, and every evening (Saturday excepted), for a limited period. New Songs and Characters. The wonderful "Living Photograph" of MR. SIMS RICHES in "The Death of Nelson" and "Young Agnes" every evening. Morning Representations on Tuesdays at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Areal, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Commence at Eight.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

LESSEE, Mr. E. T. SMITH.

The lessee has great pleasure in announcing the REOPENING of this NATIONAL THEATRE on BOXING-NIGHT, Monday, December 26th, with the

GREATEST PANTOMIMIC COMPANY IN THE WORLD:

Harry Bolen, Dickey Flexmore, Tom Matthews, Izzy Deulin, Milano, St. Maine, Tanner, Buckingham; Signors Nicolo, Maria, Gratzany, Timberley, Guardany, Lieco, Digny, and Co.; Miss Sharpe, and Madame Bolen; when he hopes to receive his old friends who have so kindly patronised him for the last seven years.

Mr. E. T. Smith begs to remind his friends and patrons that he was the first public caterer who gave MORNING PERFORMANCES of PANTOMIME, which he has continued on Wednesdays during the run of the Pantomimes for the last seven years. His brother managers, with their usual consideration and courtesy, have invariably fixed on other days of the week for their morning representations. Mr. Smith has therefore much satisfaction in announcing that Old Drury will be open EVERY WEDNESDAY, at Two o'clock, from Boxing-day, until further notice, for a MORNING PERFORMANCE of the Pantomime, with the first pantomime company in London.

The REDUCED PRICES as usual at this theatre, viz., upper gallery, 6d.; lower gallery, 1s.; pit and upper boxes, 2s.; first circle, 2s. 6d.; dress circle, 4s.; stalls, 5s.; private boxes, to contain two persons, 10s. 6d.; do., four persons, £1 1s., £1 1s. 6d., and Two Guineas each.

Doors open at half-past six; commence at seven precisely.

Tickets and places may be secured from 10 till 5 daily, at the box-office of the theatre, under the superintendence of Mr. C. Nugent, late of Her Majesty's Theatre; of Hammond (late Jullien), 214, Regent-street; Mitchell, Ebers, Chappell and Co., Bond-street; Cranmer and Co., Regent-street; Leader and Cock, Bond-street; Keith, Prowse and Co., Cheapside; and of all Librarians and Musicsellers.

Monday, December 26th, 1859, Her Majesty's servants will perform (first time at this theatre).

KING RENE'S DAUGHTER.

King Rene, Mr. Emery; Count Tristan of Vaudemont, Mr. Verner; Sir Geoffrey of Orange (his friend), Mr. Delafield; Sir Almeric, Mr. Farrell; Ebu Jahia (a Moorish Physician), Mr. Peel; Bertrand, Mr. Mellon; Iolanthe, Miss Page (her first appearance); Martha (wife of Bertrand), Mrs. Downton.

After which, will be produced, on the usual scale of magnitude and magnificence, the new Grand, Original, Magical, Comical, Historical, Pastoral Pantomime, founded on the old English story of the name, and entitled,

JACK AND THE BEAN STALK;

OR,

HARLEQUIN LEAP YEAR,

AND
THE MERRY PRANKS OF THE GOOD LITTLE PEOPLE.

The New and Splendid Scenery, with Novel Effects, by WILLIAM BEVERLEY.

Assisted by Messrs. Brew, Craven, Gompertz, W. Brew, &c. The extensive Machinery by Mr. J. Tucker and assistants.

The Tricks, Properties, Changes, and Transformations, by Mr. Needham, assisted by Mr. Glindon, &c. The Masks, Allegorical Devices, and Designs by Dykwynd, the celebrated artist in Pantomime physiognomy. The Overture and whole of the Music, partly founded on old English melodies, composed and arranged by Mr. J. H. TULLY.

"The Christmas Chimes Waltz," Konig's last waltz, "The Fairies' Haunt," and "Volunteer March (Gallop)," published by Hammond (late Jullien), 214, Regent-street. The Comic Scenes by Mr. BOLENO and Mr. FLEXMORE.

The Grotesque Burlesque Opening invented and written by E. L. BLANCHARD,

Author of Drury Lane pantomimes of "Hudibras," "Humming Top," "Jack and Jill," "Seven Ages of Man," "See Saw," "Jack Horner," "Robin Hood," &c.

The Gas Appointments by Mr. HINCKLEY.

The Costumes by Mr. PALMER and Miss DICKENSON.

The whole arranged and produced under the direction of

MR. ROBERT ROXBY.

SYNOPSIS OF THE PRINCIPAL SCENERY AND INCIDENTS.

THE ATMOSPHERE.

Forty-five miles above the surface of the earth, Remarkable appearance of the Weather in her Aurora Borealis Car.

The Weather, embodied on this occasion by Miss Mason, Heat and Cold (her attendants), Miss Fahrenheit and Miss Reaumur, Snow, Hall, Sleet, Mist, Rain, and Dew (her Aerial agents), Masters and Misses White, Brown, Black, Grey, Drizzle, and Mizzle.

Old Moore, Mr. Vox Stellarum; Zadkiel, Mr. G. *** n; Hannay, Mr. U. Tilly; Pocket Almanack, Mr. Giltedge; Illustrated Almanack, Mr. D. Sign; Nautical Almanack, Mr. A. One.

January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December—Messrs. Slippy, Drippy, Nippy, Showery, Flowerly, Bowery, Hoppy, Croppy, Poppy, Wheezy, Sneezy, and Frooty.

Twenty-ninth of February (his first appearance these four years), Mr. Bissot; Twelfth Night, Mr. Sweetane; Plough Monday, Mr. Yokel; St. Valentine, Mr. Billy Doo; Shrove Tuesday, Mr. Pancake; St. David's Day, Mr. Tally; St. Patrick's, Mr. O'Whak; Lady Day, Miss Wantrent; All Fool's Day, Mr. Makegaine; Easter-Monday, Mr. Holliday; Whit-Monday, Mr. Picnic; Longest Day, Mr. Short-night; St. Swithin, Mr. Heavywot; The Dog Days, Masters Bark, Yelp, Snap, and Growl; St. Partridge, Mr. Pop-abit; Michaelmas Day, Mr. Greengoose; St. Crispin, Mr. Cobbler; Fifth of November, Mr. Guido Fawkes; Lord Mayor's Day, Mr. C. T. Guy; Shortest Day, Mr. Long-night.

THE DON-JON IN JACK LAND.

Jack Cade, John Frost, Jack Straw, Jack and Jill, Jack Horner, Jack Sprat, Jack-the-Giant-Killer, and Jack-and-the-Beanstalk by a number of Jacks, who have kindly consented to turn up to make a good game.

Mystic Invocation, Incantation, and General Evaporation.

JANUARY.

JACK'S COTTAGE AND WINTRY LANDSCAPE IN DEVONSHIRE.

Jack (the Hero of the famous history)....Mr. W. Templeton
Goody Greyshoes (his supposed Mother) Tom Matthews
Rose .. { (betrothed to Jack, afterwards) Madame Boleno
Columbine)Pettifogger (a Limb of the Law), Mr. Blacksheep; Sheriff's
Officer, Mr. Graham; Schoolboys, Masters Hopscotch,
Whitstop, Leapfrog, Hockey, Snowball, and High Bar-
baree.

The Mystification, the Agitation, and the Visitation.

FEBRUARY.

GROTTO OF THE PIXIES.

Prism { Queen of the Pixies, or "Good" Miss Helen
Little People" HowardCrystalline (her principal attendant)....Miss Grace Darley
BALLET FANTASTIQUE.By MADAME MOLARCHA, BALBO,
And upwards of One Hundred Coryphées and Ladies of
the Ballet.

MARCH.

A BREEZY HEATH.

The Calf by an Offspring of the Performing Bull—How
Jack exchanges his calf for the seed of a leguminous plant;
and puts his best foot foremost, Raising the Wind.

The Probation, the Altercation, and the Inflation.

APRIL.

JACK'S KITCHEN GARDEN—EARLY DAWN.

Pixy Pas d'Arresoir—The Mystic Movement.

The Growth of the Beanstalk.

Nota Bene.—A lapse of a month is supposed to take
place between Jack's ascent and his arrival at the summit.

The Speculation, the Elevation, and the Ejaculation.

MAY.

THE GATES OF THE GIANT'S CASTLE.

Fairy of the Harp Miss Thirlwall

Fairy of the Golden Hen Miss Brown

Fee-Fo-Fum (the Giant) Mr. Longlegs

The Giant's Baby Master Toddler

The Retaliation, Capitulation, and Congratulation.

JUNE.

THE GOOD FAIRY IN HER FLORAL HOME.

The Animation, Illumination, Resplendent Decoration, and

BRILLIANT TRANSFORMATION.

Harlequins Signors MILANO and St. MAINE.

Clowns HARRY BOLENO and FLEXMORE.

Pantaloons Messrs. G. TANNER and BECKINGHAM.

Columbines Madame BOLENO and Miss SHARPE.

Sprites { Signors NICOLO, MARIA, GRATZANY,
TIMBERLEY, GUARDANY, LIECO,
DIAGONY, and Co.

JULY.

MARINE PARADE.

(Boleno, Tanner, Milano, Deulin, and Madame Boleno.)

Visitors: Messrs. Slouce, Douce, Dip, Flounder, and Flatfish;

Boatmen—Messrs. Gammon, Pulhard, and Keep-em-out

(natives); Lodging-house Keepers—Messrs. Nailem, Nible,

Knobble, and Collar; The Talking Fish—Madie.

Sealena; Household Brigade and the Marine Parade

Volunteers by Mesdames Anna Maria Jane Duster, Dish-

erup, Mopsy Whopsy, Topsy, Pout, Pest, Pert, and Pretty-

Lips, with Forty more British Maidens. Un-sea-sonable

weather for the seaside: A regular sou'-wester: Squally

and bawly too—Want a boat, yer Honour: Fine Day for

a sail: Only 2s. 6d. per hour: Splendid time for fishing: A

good day's sport, one whiting and two eels between five."

A Bath chap in a Bath chair. Arrival of Madie. Sealena

at the seaside for the benefit of her health. Happy meeting

with her long-lost parents. Introduction to her Guardians.

Clown and Pantaloons obtain two very airy situations, and

both appear suited.

Character pas de Brittany by the Harlequin and Colum-

bines.

"My pretty page, look out afar." Strong opposition. A
division in the family. A severe struggle, which terminates
in quite an 'arm-less' way. The aid of the Force required.The Force is forced to take charge of an armless female in
distress. Fresh Arrivals. The town full. Lodgings at an
enormous premium. Adam and Martin, house agents, in a
fix. No more room. The "Quarterly Review." How to
settle with a tax-collector. The French invasion. Riflemen
form. The letter. The result. Clown's domestic corps.

A "slight" charge by rail, and a

Grand Review of the Household Troops

by General Boleno, mounted on his fiery war steed "Buce-

phalus," the largest horse in the world; during which the
whole of the brigade will go through their evolutions, con-

cluding with their wonderful science of ball practice!!! In-

vasion and retreat of the French (cooks),

AUGUST.

VILLAGE AND MANSION OF THE MARQUIS OF

FLOWERDALE.

(Flexmore, J. Beckingham, St. Maine, Deulin (Clown turned

footman: Count Extravagant), and Miss Sharpe.)

Pas Castella et Aragon Harlequin and Columbine

Highdays and holidays. Mirth, merriment, and music.

Fashionable arrivals. A French breakfast versus an Eng-

lish dinner. Music helps digestion, so Clown volunteers a

song—

"Chapter of Clowns."....Flexmore.

A great rise in provisions, and a great fall in other ways.

How Clown "sets the table in a roar." The Chair and the

Vice-Chair, Pantaloons gets slightly elevated. All in hot

water. The old man in the cold water butt Clown gets him

out again. The village belle, which Clown don't feel much

inclined to ring,

Comic Pas de Trois, by Flexmore, Miss Sharpe, and

St. Maine.

Tricks upon travellers. Clown finds a berth a little too

hot for him. A row on the premises and general confusion.

SEPTEMBER.

AS WE WERE IN 1759 (SLOW).

A STREET IN LONDON (A HUNDRED YEARS AGO).

(Boleno, Tanner, Milano, Deulin, and Madame Boleno.)

Pas de Fascination Diabolique, by Harlequin and Columbine.

Night constable: Mr. Dosey Dogberry; Watchmen, Messrs. Snoozy, Boozy, Bawly, Pully, Hawly and Co. Proprietor of the Lottery Office, Mr. Dish. Mailcoachman and Guard: Messrs. Crawl and Creepalong; Passengers: Messrs. Rumble, Grumble, Gapey, and Goslowly. Horse Patrols, Sedan Chairmen, Lamplighter, the Public, &c., by a lot of old fogies. The Good Old Times, £30,000 at one draw. All a lottery. Harlequin a lucky holder. Short pockets and long faces. Quick travelling in the olden time. The royal mail. London to York in six days, "Dei Volente." The Saucy Sally, Margate Hoy, calling at Gravesend (weather permitting). Partridge shooting at Islington. Hare shooting extraordinary. "Hark! 'tis the nightwatch." He "goes his lonely round." "Past 8 o'clock and a moonlight night." Boxed up and boxed out. Charlie Nap-here. How our hours were kept. A row and a row of houses make a change for the better. The old and new watch. Past and Present.

AS WE ARE IN 1859 (FAST).

A STREET IN LONDON IN THE PRESENT DAY. Everything new, even the moon. "The light of other days has faded." Fast times and fast lines: To York in six hours; "Advertising Times;" Indicators; a Walking Advertisement. A light-headed gentleman. Two of our gals. A move in the right direction. A strike, but no other strike than twelve. A prolific Twelve Cake. Boleno's Perambulating Indicator. Every man his own advertiser. Too much of a good thing. "Move on!" "I shan't!" A burning shame. The Bobbys clear the street of all "light characters." "Put out the light, put out the light, and then"—on we go to the next month.

OCTOBER.

A KENTISH HOP GARDEN.

(Flexmore, Beckingham, St. Maine, and Miss Sharpe.) Pas Bosquette d'Azil Harlequin and Columbine. A hop, skip, and a jump, and here we are. Clown picks his hops, and afterwards pockets them. "All among the barley." Mischief brewing. Clown makes the malt-ster.

A WELL-KNOWN BREWERY.

A strong brewing (bruin): Pantaloons wants a barrel, but Clown gives him a butt. I likes a drop of good beer, I does. A barrel, versus a barrel organ. Clown's method of teaching anybody to dance. Hopping extraordinary. Clown makes a little PORTER stout and hale. A general row and a general "Haynau" skirmish with the brewers, Clown, and Pantaloons.

NOVEMBER.—F O G !

Harlequin and Columbine become DUE. Clown and Pantaloons are MIST. The Sprite's REIGN is over, and the audience begin to think that it is time to MIZZLE. But stop; there is something more yet:

"Pray remember the fifth of November,
Gunpowder Treason and Plot?
I know no reason why Gunpowder Treason
Should ever be forgot."

DECEMBER.

THE MERRY HALLS OF HAPPY OLD CHRISTMAS.

"Christmas cometh but once a year, when he brings forth jollity."

"Then rest ye merry gentlefolk, and send ye all good cheer,
A pocket full o' money, and a cellar full o' beer."

Vide OLD CAROL.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Lessee, MR. A. HARRIS.

Re-engagement of the Wonderful Dancer, Mons. Espinosa. First appearance of Mlle. Marietta Rosetti, Principal Danseuse of La Scala, Milan; and first time of the Delapierre Family. These highly talented Children will appear every night. The Royal Princess's Rites on Parade every evening.

On Monday (Boxing Night) December 26th, and during the week, HOME TRUTHS.

After which, a New Grand Comic Christmas Burlesque PANTOMIME, by H. J. Byron, entitled JACK THE GIANT KILLER, OR, HARLEQUIN KING ARTHUR, AND THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE. Jack, Miss Louise Keeley; Harlequin, Mr. Cormack; Pantaloons, Mr. Paulo; Columbine, Miss Caroline Adams, and Clown, Mr. A. F. Forrest.

Morning Performances, Monday, January 9th, 16th, and 23rd. Commence at 2 o'clock.

THEATRE ROYAL LYCEUM.

Sole Lessee and Directress, Madame Celeste.

To-morrow, Monday (Boxing-night), Dec. 26, and during the week, the performances will commence with Planche's popular drama of THE CHILD OF THE WRECK, Maurice, (her original character), Madame Celeste.

After which will be produced a New Grand Christmas Extravaganza and Comic Pantomime, founded on one of the popular German tales, by the Brothers Grimm, and entitled KING THRUSHBEARD, THE LITTLE PEG AND THE GREAT PASSION; OR, HARLEQUIN HAFIZ AND THE LITTLE FAIRY GOOD HUMOUR, in which will be presented one of the most novel, costly, and brilliant effects ever witnessed on the boards of a theatre, designed and painted by Mr. William Callcott.

Characters in the Harlequinade—Clown, Mr. H. Marshall; Harlequin, Mr. J. Marshall; Pantaloons, Mr. Naylor; Columbine, Miss Rosine, Box-office open from eleven till five daily.

ROYAL ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

KING-STREET, ST. JAMES'S.

Lessee, MR. F. B. CHATTERTON.

Nearest theatre to Chelsea, Pimlico, and Westminster, the Park being open to carriages and foot-passengers all hours of the night.

Reduced Prices—Pit, 1s.; Gallery, 6d.

Morning performances on Boxing Day, and Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 2 o'clock.

On Monday, Dec. 20th, boxing day, and during the week, New Farce, GARIBALDI'S ENGLISHMAN. Messrs. Charles Young, and Barrett.

New domestic sketch, A HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. Miss Wyndham, and Mr. H. J. Craven.

Concluding with the Gorgeous Pantomime of PUNCH AND JUDY; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE FAIRY OF THE CRYSTAL CAVES. Introducing Miss Lydia Thompson, and the Corps du Ballet. Two Clowns, Messrs. Paul Herring, and Alfred Granville; Columbine, Miss M. Fowler; Harlequin, Mr. Ash; Pantaloons, Mr. Wilson Parker.

Now domestic sketch, A HOUSEHOLD FAIRY. Miss Wyndham, and Mr. H. J. Craven.

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And the wonderful PERFORMING DOGS. Box-office open from 11 till 6 daily.—Commence at 7.

NEW WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

OF POLITICS, LEGISLATION, LITERATURE,
SCIENCE, AND ART.

THE OLD-FASHIONED WEEKLY NEWS-PAPER, as regards mere news, is fast being superseded by the Cheap Daily Press in Town and Country, and in consequence, the long-established and intellectual paper, THE LEADER, will, ON AND AFTER SATURDAY, 7TH JANUARY, initiate a NEW SERIES, to be issued as

THE LEADER

AND

SATURDAY ANALYST,
CONSISTING ENTIRELY OF
ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND ESSAYS,
BY WRITERS OF THE HIGHEST ABILITY IN THEIR VARIOUS
PURSUITS.

The character of a newspaper will so far be abandoned that nothing will be admitted but SPECIALLY WRITTEN ARTICLES, although a RECORD of the most important events will still be afforded, and occasionally highly important and historical Documents reprinted for future reference; but nothing will be inserted that has not undergone such revision or re-writing as to entitle it to rank with the original compositions.

The fearless independence of thought and expression which has always characterised THE LEADER will be continued with renewed and increased energy, and it is hoped that the abandonment of the mere news, and the substitution of

A COPIOUS SET OF ORIGINAL ARTICLES, will not be displeasing either to its old Subscribers or its new readers; for, being news-crammed by the daily papers, it is anticipated that they must prefer, to the unavoidably stale intelligence, able commentary and powerful elucidation of the topics of the

No EXPENSE or labour will be spared in keeping together

A NUMEROUS STAFF

OF ABLE AND INFLUENTIAL WRITERS,
WHO WILL ANALYSE AND REVIEW ALL THE IMPORTANT
LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS,
POLITICAL EVENTS,
LITERARY PRODUCTIONS,
ARTISTIC WORKS,
SCIENTIFIC MATTERS, AND
SOCIAL OCCURRENCES
OF THE WEEK.

PRICE FIVEPENCE—STAMPED, SIXPENCE.

A QUARTER—6s. 6d. per Post.

Published every Saturday. A Friday edition for
the evening mails.</

and distinctly apart from one another—intellectually and morally we are all united. "We all row in the same boat," or, as a lugubrious and classical authority says, are "all like slaves chained to the same galley." The intellectual communication of ideas by which knowledge is imparted from man to man, and all that has ever been acquired, or ever will be acquired, may be made common to all, is not, however, more wonderful than that sympathy, which makes the kindly heart "leap back to kindness," and makes the beheld, or even imagined, sufferings of others suffering to ourselves. We cannot—such is the law of nature—hear the screams of agony without being alarmed or terrified; we cannot witness distress without being, at least, so much pained by it as to wish there were no distress in the world; and we cannot know of woe without desiring to have power, like the fabled owner of the four-leaved shamrock, to put an end to it. We may all help to bring about, as we all wish for the time—

"When not a tear, nor aching heart,
Shall in the world be found."

This moral sympathy, like intellectual communication, binds us altogether, and in "one fate, our hearts, our fortunes, and our being blends."

How it shall operate depends on times and circumstances. In the desert it stores up the gushing stream, and guides the wayfarer to the source whence alone he can draw the means of living. In scantily-peopled countries it opens the door of hospitality to the stranger, and bids him, though an enemy, to eat and live. In our old and long-peopled, and generally well provided land, where, however, unfortunately, there are yet many poor and destitute, it induces those who are well-off to provide at one time employment and education for the neglected young; at another to distribute food and clothing, or build houses for the sick and aged. There never can be, we presume, any want of sympathy for suffering—it is natural to us all; and there never is, we know, any real necessity to excite our well-to-do-classes to administer to the wants of their brethren.

Our land teems with charities, and our nation is renowned for its system of beneficence, founded on the grand principle, that in the midst of plenty no man shall be suffered to perish of want. Never does an occasion arise for contributing to relieve distress but subscription lists are filled to overflowing. That there is much destitution and much suffering every one is aware; and he must be equally aware that there is much opulence and much sympathy, much good-will, ever ready to open its stores and give both comfort and consolation to the woe-stricken and the needy. The sufferings of the poor and the charities of the rich are parts of the same system, and if they did not exist together, and there were no sympathies between them, human nature would be shorn of some of its noblest attributes, and denuded of some of its greatest enjoyments. The patience to bear suffering, the fortitude to stand up unflinchingly to the stroke of calamity, and the delight of lessening or relieving them would have no existence. Not merely are the classes bound together by their moral sympathies, human nature is elevated by them, and made by the delight of giving delight like the Divinity.

We need not now recommend, nor can it be any part of the duty of the press to enforce the charity which all at this particular season are ever ready to manifest. If any counsel be required it should rather, perhaps, take the direction of recommending discrimination in the exercise of charity. The emotion is at all times and places so powerful that it is always more necessary to direct it carefully and properly than increase the impulse. Admiring much the sympathy which connects unseen intangible mind with mind, and wondering still more at the many blessings it confers on us, our few additional remarks will be directed rather to the regulation of it, than to encourage the belief—derived from its attributes approximating us to Divinity—that it cannot lead us astray.

It is at once remarkable and discouraging to observe that the appeals made to stimulate alms-giving into activity are as numerous and as urgent now, when wages are on the average 20 per cent. higher, than they were before the Corn Laws were repealed, while the price of almost all necessaries has fallen in an equal degree, as when the major part of the people were almost famishing. They are as urgent now, when the paupers in the metropolitan workhouses are in number

22,625 fewer, or nearly 28 per cent. less, than at the close of 1856. The patrons of Field-lane refuges, the lords bishops and the curates who solicit alms for others, and all the usual staff of high-bred philanthropy, are as active in their calling now as when the people were really suffering, as we know from unanswerable facts, much more than at present. It is perfectly plain, therefore, that their exertions are not now, and probably never are, actually in conformity to the wants and needs of the people, but in conformity to their own desire for notice. It must be equally plain that their exertions being dictated and regulated by this desire, extraneous to actual sufferings, are misdirected, and are very likely to misdirect the exertions dictated by the noblest sympathies of our nature. We are alarmed at noticing that these demands increase year by year, though the actual suffering decreases, and we can only apprehend a continual factitious and wrongful excitement of sympathy if such exertions be continued.

It is quite unavailing now for any man to pretend to hide from himself, or others, the great fact that at all times the noblest sympathies of our nature have been traded on by those who aspired by such means to gain wealth or distinction. It is a matter of notoriety that charitable institutions are founded in the metropolis for the benefit of governors and secretaries—that a considerable number of men live in opulence by undertaking, as Le Sage described one of their predecessors, to provide for the poor; and their calling, their emoluments, their secretaryships, would be at an end were there no poor to provide for. They must necessarily keep the poor in existence, and must as necessarily continually alarm the public by accounts of their numbers and their destitution. They know, instinctively, if not from observation and science, that the number of claimants on the public bounty will be always very closely in proportion to the funds they can raise; and in their own interest; following their calling only with due diligence, they do continually harrow the public with tales of destitution, and continually augment the fund which they thus raise and devote to keeping alive distress. While a diligent and somewhat improved administration of the national funds devoted to relieving the poor, and very much improved fiscal regulations, have, in fact, diminished the number of paupers in England and Wales by 29,199, or 3·60 per cent., since last year, in a rapidly increasing population, the exertions of the so-called philanthropists tend continually to counteract this beneficial progress and increase the number of persons dependent on charity.

The same classes, it may be noticed, and nearly the same individuals, always take the lead in getting up these periodical impulses to public charity. They do not originate with the sufferers; the philanthropists are always collecting funds for some special purposes, and always aiming, therefore, at keeping in strength and power some individuals or some institutions which nature and the course of society are against preserving. They appeal perpetually to the public and always succeed in fixing its attention, through the indigent or suffering classes, on themselves. There are demagogues in charity as well as in politics who excite public feeling by exaggerated representations. There are traders on the public sympathies as well as on the public alarms. If the noblemen and gentlemen who are so forward in writing to the *Times* and appealing to the public for contributions, were content to allow their warm sympathies to melt their own purse-clasps we should have a better opinion of them than we have, and believe that the public alms-giving they promote would be more efficacious in diminishing the number of the poor than in enlarging their reputation and influence. They should work more in private and less in public.

"Who builds a church to God and not to fame,
Will never mark the marble with his name."

NAPOLÉON AND THE POPE.

NAPOLÉON III. is Emperor of Pamphlets, as well as of the French; and, through his scribe, disciple, or amanuensis, M. de La Guerronière, he has just favoured the world with an *Essay on the Papacy* that is calculated to delight the descendants of Galileo, and make the evangelical bricks of Exeter Hall skip for joy. In order to find reasons for supporting the ingenious proposition, that "the

smaller the territory the greater will be the sovereign," the new pamphlet thus blandly shows why the Papal dominions should not be large. "A great State implies certain requirements which it is impossible for the Pope to satisfy. A great State would like to follow up the polities of the day, to perfect its institutions, participate in the general movement of ideas, take advantage of the transformations of the age, of the conquests of science, of the progress of the human mind. He cannot do it. The laws will be shackled by dogmas. His authority will be paralysed by traditions. His patriotism will be condemned by faith. * * * * The world will advance and leave him behind." With the poor old Papacy thus afflicted by forces of life and motion; neither able to move itself nor to stop the progress of humanity, what is to be done? The difficulty is great, and the solution clever, if not profound. Rome is to be made the very opposite to the oasis in the desert. It is to be a little field of barrenness, which no rude ploughshare of improvement shall venture to till—a small dark corner, where the owls and bats of superstition may have refuge from a world of light—an elysium turned topsy-turvy, where tradition may usurp authority, and science be shut out, and patriotism become the target for the shafts of faith. We can figure the Pope enjoying his paradise, oscillating in his apostolic chair like Foucault's pendulum, in one unchanging plane, and making conspicuous the movement which he does not share. While so many doubt—in practice, at least—the progress of humanity, we can have no objection to a Foucault-pendulum Pope, which will tend to popularise the joyful fact, and when by this subtle invention in mental mechanics, and other more positive aids, the universal conviction is in favour of going diligently ahead, why, some fine morning, the apparatus being no longer wanted, will not be wound up, and the pendulum will stop!

Rome may be necessary as the future capital of a regenerated Italy, but it is not worth quarrelling about now, and if the Papal dominions are to be limited within narrow bounds, and municipal institutions are to replace Cardinal Antonelli and the abomination of sacerdotal rule, Young Italy should be contented to wait the operation of opinion, and not compromise much valuable liberty by a premature employment of force. As for the Romagna, it is satisfactory to learn from M. de La Guerronière, that France cannot restore the Papal authority, and will not permit Austria to neutralise Magenta and Solferino by undertaking the task. In the words of the pamphlet which, we trust are true, prophetically if not actually, "the dominion of Austria in Italy is at an end." Thus deprived of his best friend, the Pope must permit his case to be decided in Congress, and fortunately the "eldest son of the Church" considers that "it is permitted to pious, but independent minds, to discuss the extent of its territory," which "territory history has proved to be divisible." It does not matter that the majority of the great Powers are schismatic, for if they gave territory to the Pope in 1815, they may take it away in 1860. So runs the argument, and if England joins in no guarantee for maintaining the Pope at Rome, she may usefully recognise as part of the public law of Europe the severance of any portion of his dominions, in accordance with the wishes and interests of the people concerned. This pamphlet confirms the view expressed some time back in these columns, that Napoleon III. was anxious to emancipate himself from priestly control, and would need the alliance of England to ensure his success. If, without compromising ourselves, we aid him well in this useful endeavour, we shall greatly diminish the chances of war, which will be lessened in proportion as the French Government is allied with the intellect of its subjects, and divorced from the craft and malignity of the Jesuit Propaganda.

The course that the great statesmen of Elizabeth's time would have taken is clear enough, but we are not confident it will be boldly followed by our present rulers. If France adopts a more Protestant policy, Austria, under her ignorant, incurable young Emperor, is likely to be more slavishly Popish, and it would be the part of wisdom entirely to give up the idea of maintaining her as a great European power, and to look to the rise of united Germany as the natural and rational way of adjusting its balance that is being disturbed by her decay.

It is well known that the Whig leaders are not prepared for this: they formed certain ideas on the subject in 1815, and they have passed the period of life at which ordinary men preserve the capacity of developing new thoughts. Their fossil intentions may be well meant, but they are unwittingly playing the game of Russian aggrandisement; and, while their pet, Austria, is steadily driving the Hungarians into revolt, the agents of St. Petersburg are traversing the country, and representing to the discontented people that as England condemns them to be tied to the dying carcass of Hapsburg despotism, their best course will be to unite themselves with the Czar. Our Tory statesmen did not like to see Austria disturbed in Italy—not that they were hostile to the Italians, but because they had ridiculous notions of the value of Austria as a Conservative power. The Whigs have long seen that Italy was a cause of weakness to Francis Joseph; but they have opposed Hungarian independence because it would be fatal to the old-fashioned notion of making Austria a counterpoise to France. If Austria had entered upon a career of progress, this scheme might have worked well, but her conduct has long been utterly hopeless, and entirely directed to combat the enlightened ideas of the age in which her Government is an anachronism as well as a disgrace. A thorough and safe friendship with France cannot be made until the Austrian delusion is uprooted from the minds of our statesmen. It is absurd to look upon her as a Conservative power, for the principle of her existence is a chronic dry rot.

THE SLAVERY CAUSE IN AMERICA.
AMERICAN slavery has long been a great crime, and a reproach against republican institutions, which has caused grief to the friends of liberty, and enabled the abettors of despotism to slander the cause of popular government. It was a bitter and disgraceful mockery for the Declaration of Independence to assert that all men were created equal, and endowed with the inalienable right of liberty, while those with a black skin were cruelly reduced to the condition of cattle, and even a suspicion of negro blood was held an excuse for insult and outrage on the part of those who professed a Christian religion of brotherly love. The greatest men of the United States have always felt ashamed of the "peculiar institution"—Franklin, Washington and Jefferson were members of the Abolition Society of Pennsylvania, and the latter declared that "God has no attribute which can take part with the American slaveholders." How then is it that the pro-slavery party has succeeded in obtaining so much power in the Union? The answer is—through fraudulent representations and the establishment of a fictitious constituency, consisting of three-fifths of the slave population. By this extraordinary arrangement the slaveowners, long after they became a small minority, amounting to about 350,000 in 27,000,000, have been able to hold their ground. The Southern States have, in fact, an unjust predominance, similar to that which enabled our landed class to impose and maintain a corn law in this country. This has been partly from the action of the fictitious constituency upon the House of Representatives, which is established upon the basis of numbers, but still more from the provisions of the constitution with regard to the Upper Chamber. In the Senate, all States are equal, the largest and the smallest sending alike two members, and hence the policy of the slaveholders has always been to make as many new slave states as possible, and to support every form of aggression and robbery likely to further this design.

In 1820, the "Missouri Compromise" was expected, by the admirers of shuffling measures, to allay the virulence of the quarrel between the two sections of the American community. By this scheme, slavery was prohibited north of a certain line in Louisiana, and the efforts of the slavery party were thus directed south of the free boundary, and the strife went on, with various circumstances of embitterment, until in 1853 the Nebraska Bill overthrew the Missouri Compromise, and left the establishment of slavery in the new state or states to be decided by their own constitutions. From that time to the Harper's Ferry insurrection, the conflict has threatened to assume the form of a final struggle, and the slaveholders will now find that the brutal trial and execution of Captain Brown was, what unscrupulous

politicians consider worse than a crime—a mistake. The act for which Brown suffered was most unwise, and founded upon calculations of the most erroneous kind; but it was nobly meant, and if it had succeeded would have made his name one of the proudest in the annals of the Union. Moreover, the character of the chief actor cannot fail to win respect in the New England States. He may have been deficient in judgment, but he had that stern love of duty and that fervour of religious conviction which characterise the hero of the Puritan school. To bring such a man to trial, covered with recent wounds and unable to stand in court, and then to hang him, in a paroxysm of cowardly and frantic vengeance, were acts that might have been worthy of Austria and Haynau, but are profoundly disgraceful to America and Governor Wise. Victor Hugo, hoping to avert this disgrace, spoke the voice of civilised Europe in his eloquent letter, and it is satisfactory to learn that similar feelings animate the best minds in the Northern States.

Governor Wise's annual message to the Virginia legislature is a singular specimen of spasmodic terror, and could only be interpreted as an immediate appeal to arms, if the balance of force were not so overwhelming on the side of the northern States as to make such a course ridiculous. He calls the anti-slavery spirit "a fanaticism which maddens whole masses of the country, and which enters into their religion, politics, prayers, courts of justice, and legislatures, and which has trained up three generations in moral and social habits of hatred to the masters of African slaves in the United States, and which would have sent rescue to assassins, robbers, murderers, and traitors, whom it has sent to felon's graves." This rant of Governor Wise is well matched by the demand of the pro-slavery leaders for a law prohibiting persons of an opposite way of thinking from entering the Slave States; and it is to be hoped that these examples of unreasoning fury belong to that sort of madness, which often entails speedy ruin on an evil cause.

If the slaveholders attempt to carry out their threat of withdrawing from the Union and holding a Congress of their own, they will put American institutions to a severe test; but we cannot doubt that they would soon succumb before the greater vigour and far larger population of the north. Their slaves would, in such a contest, be a source of weakness, and more than half their free population belong to the class of "mean whites;" that is, whites too poor to live honestly and decently without labour, and detesting it as only fit for the inferior race. These men constitute a great criminal population, who would fight for slavery, or against it, according to the prospects of pay and plunder, and would embarrass, rather than aid, the operations of the planters. Europe has a strong interest in the settlement of this question, both on the grounds of public morality and political expediency. Liberal institutions and popular Governments will rise in estimation when America has wiped away the foul stain which slaveholding has made upon her banner, and the chief inducements to filibustering expeditions would be removed. We may be near the triumph of right—if not, its advent must be hastened by the death of Brown.

INFALLIBLES AND MUTINEERS.

We are much pleased to see merchants, bankers, and others, of the City of London, petitioning the Queen "to exercise her prerogative of *mercy*" in behalf of that part of the crew of the Princess Royal "now undergoing imprisonment in Winchester gaol for an offence against discipline." They do not "impugn the justice" of the court-martial; they are convinced that the offence arose from no mutinous spirit, but from "momentary disappointment at the announcement of the recall of an order for *leave* under very trying circumstances." The *Times* backs the petition, and humbly implores for "clemency," as a Christmas gift, to the so-called mutineers. It admits that what the men have been "condemned for in batches, without much attempt at investigation," was "the mildest act of mutiny which stands recorded in the *causes célèbres* of the British navy"—that it was a mere "row," which it is "absurd to call a mutiny." It further states that the officers "may have been acting under a series of misapprehensions." But surely, if the officers acted under misapprehensions, if the men have been

punished without due investigation as mutineers, when they only kicked up a half-drunk row, to speak of the remission of the felon punishment to which they have been and condemned, as "*mercy*" and as "*clemency*," is a gross abuse of the English language. When the circumstances are considered: that the men had just returned from a foreign station—had done all their work, and fully prepared the ship to be paid off—that their request for leave, instead of being confined on board the ship almost within sight and hearing of friends, wives, and sweethearts for the whole of Sunday, had been sanctioned by their own officers, and was, as must have appeared to them, most arbitrarily, first in fact denied, and the partial permission afterwards withdrawn,—and that under such extremely irritating circumstances—they acted "like a parcel of riotous school-boys"—to remit the punishment to which they have been condemned would be neither clemency nor mercy. It would be confirming an injustice. The men, on the showing of the *Times*, have been most unjustly and cruelly treated, and they will degrade themselves and degrade humanity if they accept as a boon what they may and ought to claim as a right. If ever there was a case in which a civil court would give damages for false imprisonment, judging equitably, without reference to barbarous technicalities, this is such a case; and the so-called "mutineers" will not act wisely and resolutely, will not protect themselves and the rest of the seamen from similar treatment hereafter, and will scarcely deserve to be protected from a repetition of such treatment, if they do not demand compensation for injustice, instead of accepting mercy as a *Christmas gift*, which is to buy their sanction to their own continued degradation.

There is much more at stake in this matter than at first appears. It is not a trifling, we think, to find our languages so abused and ideas so perverted as to call the remission of this felon outrage on 108 brave seamen "*mercy and clemency*." It is still less a trifling, when we know that this terrible perversion takes place with a view to preserve the power of imbecile Admiralties over the seamen, and continue the barbarous system they love. Already, it has done the nation great dishonour and great injury, and is pregnant with ruin to the Navy. The subject becomes of vast importance when we know that the object of this perversion is to keep alive the notion that authority is infallible. To confess, by offering compensation to the outraged seamen, that authority can do wrong, is to shake the whole system, and expose civil society, it is supposed, to the danger which Protestant religious society incurs of wanting an infallible head. The outrage is followed up by the perversion, in order to impose, if possible, a falsehood on the nation. The attempt is now, however, as palpably silly as it is erroneous; for authority, in civil or military matters, is continually proved to be much more fallible than authority in religion.

The *Times* will probably class our remarks sneeringly amongst those "in our periodical literature" which tend to give us "better laws and a better constitution." We admit that they have such an object, and deserve the censure of a journal which, worse than its own "duck-legged drummer," is not only now always behind the regiment, but always making a "thundering" noise to frighten it from its onward march.

A DEBT OF GRATITUDE.

In an obscure corner of an obscure periodical, we caught sight the other day of an obscure paragraph, containing a list of a number of obscure individuals to whom testimonials had been presented by obscure admirers. Everything connected with the matter was obscure, we even fancied that our eyesight had grown obscure, when last, lowest, and least upon the list, we read the name of Cox, of Finsbury. Surely our eyes deceive us. This cannot be the great Cox, the old original Cox, the Cox of history, our own Cox. How are the mighty fallen! Belisarius at the gates of Rome; Sampson bound to the mill; Louis Philippe as Smith of Newhaven; were not more instructive examples of the vanity of human greatness, than Cox, the senator and statesman, parading at a pot-house in Pentonville, testimonialised with a teapot, and puffed in the penultimate paragraph of a penny paper.

The heartless and ungrateful world may have

forgotten the very name of Cox. We alone are true to our old love. Amongst the faithless we will be found faithful. Cox, in his prosperity, was to us such a fruitful source of comment, such a rich fund of illustration, that we will not desert him in adversity. Our old *Hansard* opens of itself at the name of "Cox, William, Finsbury." Our pen runs more glibly as it traces the three letters of that expressive and euphonious name.

We could have better spared a baster man! We could have parted with Roebuck, and should not have missed Roupell, even the loss of "the Viscount" would not have broken our hearts, but when shall we behold again another Cox! While he was amongst us we scarce knew his value; now that he is taken from us, we mourn over the "dear departed," with a grief exceeding the grief of widows. We have no eye to a second nuptials, but are left Cox-less and comfortless.

The present state of Cox is to us a mystery. Apart from his senatorial attributes we cannot realise the abstract Cox. Who can fancy Sir Peter Laurie divested of his aldermanic robes, or Charles Kean unsurrounded by puffs, or Spurgeon out of the pulpit? So it is with us and the ex-member for Finsbury. Stern fact tells us that the mystic union between the letters M.P. and the name of Cox is broken off, and heartlessly rent in twain. It may be so, but we doubt it still. The allied sovereigns dethroned the great Napoleon, and exiled him to St. Helena, but to all true French hearts he was, and is still, the Emperor of France. The allied powers of Duncombe and of Peto dethroned the great Cox, and exiled him to—nobody knows where; but to us he is still Cox, the member for Finsbury. It may be that this delusion is not confined to ourselves—nay, that it is shared in by the very object of our fond regret. Is it true that the forlorn Cox wanders round the purlieus of Westminster like a peri about the gates of Paradise; that he is preparing an improved and enlarged edition of all his speeches; that he is having his portrait taken, in the act of bearding the Premier, after the fashion of Tell defying Gessler, and that he intends to distribute copies to each of his ex-constituents? Are any of these rumours true, or are they equally false with the report that Mr. Cox is studying history?

Our adhesion to a fallen hero is not, we fear, altogether disinterested; we have an eye to the future. The "Cox-ium Sidus" is only eclipsed, not annihilated. Cox, and such as Cox, never die. They are not of the class whom the gods love. Noisy impudence and vulgar ignorance are sure to last out our time. Others may put their trust in Gladstone, or believe in Disraeli, but we pin our faith to Cox. He is our coming man—the prophet of our new faith. Seven thousand one hundred and ten rational and respectable Englishmen were found ready to nominate Mr. Cox as the representative of their political aspirations. Stranger still, electors of Finsbury are found to this day ready to testify their appreciation of the manner in which they were represented. Every man to his taste. If, like Titania, we have a fondness for Bottom's ears, why should our taste be thwarted. We give in our adhesion to Cox; we request his favourable remembrances when he comes back into his power, and for the present we part with him to meet again.

TEMPORAL DOMINION OF THE POPE.

The cloud which has for the past few weeks been hanging over the affairs of the Peninsula seems to be gradually clearing away. It is with no small amount of satisfaction that the friends of liberty and liberalism find it a settled point that Count Cavour is to represent Piedmont in the approaching Congress. With equal certainty, Cardinal Antonelli is designated as the representative of the Pontiff, and bright hopes are entertained in some quarters of the brilliant triumph of the system he represents. Our faith is, however, so strong in the eventual victory of right over wrong, of liberty, progress, and civilisation over tyranny, retrogression, or even the mere negation of advancement, that we anticipate the happiest results from the upholders of the opposite systems being brought into contact. We trust that ample opportunity will be afforded to the champions of each principle to express their views and aims, and explain to Europe what are their projects and desires for the future. Certainly Piedmont will

have little cause for fear if a comparison be instituted between her doings and those of Rome during the past ten years; between her actual institutions and plans for future government, and those of the States of the Church. On the one side, we see order and progress in every department, with the most devoted attachment to their sovereign on the part of the people. On the other, the grossest and most barbarous mismanagement and neglect, intellectual, financial, agricultural, and commercial; the utmost disinclination of the rulers to initiate or submit to the slightest change tending to reform, and the struggles of the people to rid themselves from a rule which is felt to be utterly incompatible with the requirements of the age. Though we cannot and do not hope that our Irish fellow-subjects will be brought to compassionate the miserable position of the subjects of the Pope, yet we are sanguine that the result of the Congress will be to make reasonable and thinking men of every political and religious creed and party sympathise in the efforts of the Bolognese to escape from the horrors of ecclesiastical misgovernment, and sanction their union with Piedmont and Central Italy. The question of the temporal government of the Pope, considered under its multifarious aspects, is not one that is now raised for the first time. Long ago it was examined by the fathers of the Church, in all its religious bearings. Dante and Machiavelli saw its incompatibility with an Italian constitution, and celebrated statists, both Italian and foreign, and, chief among the powers, the Republic of Venice, by facts and deeds, sought to destroy the consequences of that system under which princes are nothing more than mere lieutenants of ecclesiastical authority. By the separation of civil from religious affairs, this authority has been gradually diminished in the States of Europe, and is now concentrated upon the populations which were once considered as feoffs of the Church, and which, after the Restoration of 1815, experienced, with the loss of the municipal franchises they had previously enjoyed, how heavy and onerous was the weight of the secular arm of the Church which the other nations had succeeded in throwing off. The whole weight being centred on one point, the civil condition of the people was fearfully embittered; so that when the States of the Church re-entered the European family as a Power, the form it assumed, in accordance with the example of other Governments, only rendered the abuses and incongruities of the combination of spiritual and temporal government the more flagrant and manifest. Disquietudes and impatience, which were at first shown only in the investigations of the philosopher, the solicitude of the political economist, or the pensive meditations of the devout and religious, soon became the universal sentiment and the thought of the multitude. The evils and their consequences foreseen by the publicist forty years ago, are now unfortunately realised in the actual condition of the people. Now that it is sought to repair the mischief which has already accrued, and remedy the injustice which has been committed, it is found to be a task beset with difficulties, both on account of the natural impatience of the people, and the reaction to be feared on their part, and the intemperate violence and haughty and selfish claims of those who are in power. High above these two contending parties, which stand armed in antagonistic array, each reciprocally seeking the destruction of its adversary, reigns, impassable and inexorable, the necessity of things, a power of comparatively modern birth—public opinion, and the irrepressible laws of progress and civilisation. Were it not for this, nothing would exist to prevent the perpetual recurrence of Romagnole revolutions and Perugian butcheries, and Europe would have nothing to do but look on and yield sterile approbation, or shed a few equally sterile tears. Under existing circumstances, however, the solution of the Roman question does not depend upon the will and power of any single man, of a State, or a population, but upon general sentiment and universal conscience, which, already convinced of the incompatibility of the temporal power of the Pope with the claims of modern civilisation, proposes, as an efficacious remedy for the dangers which at present alike assail the people and the Church of Rome, the separation of the temporal and the spiritual power of the Papacy. The Pope

will never consent to any reforms under existing circumstances. In the height of his Catholic zeal, the eldest son of the Church undertook to assure Europe, but a few weeks ago, that his Holiness, Pius IX., had agreed to certain reforms; but very soon the Pontiff made it his business to inform the world that nothing could be further from the truth;—that the reforms to be made in the *Roman States* had been greatly exaggerated. No; reforms are altogether out of the question, since the Pope is not a man, but an institution, which exists simply by virtue of the canon law, immutable in its very nature. The Pope is a mere depositary of authority, in the exercise of which he enjoys but little freedom. Enlightened temporal government in connexion with priestly rule is utterly impossible, because good and equal laws for all classes, and agents responsible to the Sovereign for their administration, are utterly repugnant to the nature of the Papacy. Moreover, in the present state of public feeling in the States of the Church, it would be an equally violent and impossible undertaking to impose a Government so reformed upon the people. In order to get rid of the difficulties which beset the subject of the separation of the priestly and the temporal rule, it has been proposed to neutralize Rome. The eternal city, according to the modern writer Giorgini, should be declared free and self-constituted, governed by its own municipality, and treated as totally distinct from Italy. The foreign element, more largely introduced into the sacred college, would give a truly cosmopolitan character to this institution, and an equal share to all Catholic nations in the election of the Pope as well as in his Government. To the expenses of the Papal Court, of the sacred college, nunciature, congregations and pontifical arrangements of every kind, the whole catholic world would then contribute, as was formerly the case to a great extent, and the cessation of which contribution has compelled the subjects of the Pope to defray the charges. Surrounded by the representatives of the Catholic Powers, and receiving the homage of the Catholic world in a state limited to a single city and its suburbs, the Pope would seem to fill it with himself, so to speak. He would hold a perfectly unique position in the world, as neither Subject nor Sovereign, and thus, material force, which he could not exert over others, and which no one could exert over him, would be banished from the spiritual kingdom. Undisturbed by temporal cares, he could give his whole attention to the concerns of the Church. The Romans might be indemnified for their political isolation by the enjoyment of Italian citizenship, to be guaranteed to them in any part of Italy, where they might choose to establish themselves. This would involve nothing contrary to the instincts or the traditions of Rome. Possessing a history more glorious than that of any other people ancient or modern, after having accomplished the political and religious unification of humanity, Rome, crowned with the fame and deeds of her ancestors, as her mythological founder is with those of her children, would retire within herself to enjoy the repose of dignified age.

Should this proposal be deemed sufficiently practical to be worthy the attention of those most concerned in the question, we see nothing in it calculated to infringe the rights and claims of other nations, but on the contrary, a happy solution of a very embarrassing problem.

LETTERS FROM ITALY.

(SPECIAL.)

ROME, 17 Dec.

We are in the midst of the Italian winter. The snow is falling in heavy flakes while I write. The thermometer points to eight degrees below freezing, and the cold raw wind—cold and raw, as only Italian winds, those "spoilt children of Aeolus" know how to be—blows through the ill-closed windows and the doors that never shut. If this is not a genuine bitter winter day, I can only say, the imitation is so successful, that I cannot detect the difference. The only thing in our favour, compared with England, is that we have hope, next week or to-morrow, or this afternoon, we may have a deep blue cloudless sky, a warm balmy wind, and a hot summer sun. Now in the North, the sun-worshippers, to which sect I plead guilty of belonging, have to lay aside all hope whatever at the approach of winter. So I try to warm myself

with the pleasures of hope, with the expectations of heat and sun. The attempt, however, is not very successful. Meanwhile, one evil effect of the cold has been to shake one of the few remaining articles of faith, which I still cherish. If, in the days of Rome, the cold was what it is now, it is utterly impossible to believe that the Ancient Romans wore togas, and reclined upon marble couches. Not all the historical and antiquarian evidence in the world will stand this *deductio ad frigidum*. The thing is impossible; and we all know that what is impossible can never be. If, however, you once destroy my belief in the *toga* and the couch, I really must give up the whole concern. A clergyman of my acquaintance once propounded a simple solution of all the theological difficulties connected with astronomy, by stating that the stars were placed in heaven to try our faith. According to the same scientific system, I can only suggest that all the history of Rome is a fiction invented to try our patience.

But, indeed, if one lived long in Rome, I think one would get to doubt the reality of everything. I can hardly believe, now, that in the last six months there has been war in Italy, within two hundred miles of Rome; that the fate of Italy still hangs trembling in the balance, and that the chief province of the Papal States is still in open revolt against its rulers. There is no sign, no trace, no symptom even of what has passed, or is passing, to the world without. We seem spell-bound in a dull, dead, dreary circle. There are no advertisements in the streets, except of devotional books for the coming season of Lent; no pamphlets or books placed in the booksellers' windows, which, by their titles even, imply the existence of the war or the revolution; no prints for sale of the scenes of the campaign. In one shop alone I saw a portrait of the Emperor Napoleon and Victor Emmanuel. The *Roman Gazette*, the only political newspaper allowed to be published here, would be almost unintelligible if taken by itself. Of domestic news there is absolutely none, except a long and pompous narrative of the opening of an American college for the priesthood, inaugurated at Rome, under the especial auspices of the Pontiff. The foreign news consists of long extracts from the Spanish papers about the war with Morocco, which, of course, meets with the special approbation of the Pontifical Government, a few garbled paragraphs about the movements of the crowned heads of Europe, and an indistinct allusion to the approaching Congress.

Rome itself is more dreary and desolate than ever. There are more priests and more beggars, if that is possible. I hear, too, a fact possible enough, that there is great want amongst the poor. Rome has no commerce, and no manufactures, and one half the town lives either directly or indirectly upon the strangers who come here. This year the number of strangers generally, and English especially, is extremely small. House-rents are barely half what they were last season. House-hunting, at best a dismal task, just now is really melancholy work. Every other house is empty, and the owners are pitifully anxious to secure one as a tenant. However hard one's heart may be, it is not pleasant to be told, in the impassioned accents of Italian supplication, that unless your excellency condescends to take the apartment the speaker will have to go to prison for debt. Servants out of place stop one in the streets to solicit employment, and long stands of empty carriages seem waiting hopelessly for the fares that never come.

It is the custom now, in taking lodgings at Rome, to insert a clause in the contract, that the tenant is at liberty to throw up his agreement if the French troops leave Rome. The proviso is, I believe, a perfectly unnecessary one, as there is not the remotest probability of the French doing more than threaten to leave for many a long day to come; and even if the event occurred, the chances of one's rent being returned is extremely small; but the fact that such a proviso is required and given, is a strange comment on the state of Rome, and one, which I should like to see explained by the Hibernian sympathisers, and Lord Fielding at their head. I was present the other night at the Philharmonic Concerts, where Rossini's "Moses" was performed. The society is rather an aristocratic one, the admission entirely by private tickets, and yet in so select a company it was deemed advisable to omit passages which referred

to the liberation of the Children of Israel, and could by any means be twisted into an allusion to the position of Italy.

I forgot to mention at Florence a fact which I think may be interesting to the readers of the LEADER. Our fair countrywoman, who is now the petted *prima donna* of the Florentine public, Miss Anna Whitty, is the sister of Mr. T. H. Whitty, so well known as a contributor to your columns. I hear that Miss Whitty is thinking of appearing shortly in France, and will then, I trust, come on to England where she is sure of success.

LITERATURE.

LITERARY NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Commercial Travellers' School, for some reason, appears to excite peculiar interest in the breasts of our literary magnates, and Mr. Thackeray and other celebrated writers having already officiated as chairman at its annual dinners, that post was this week filled by Mr. Charles Dickens, who made several of those admirably witty and eloquent speeches for which he has such an especial talent. In the course of the "speech of the evening" he said—"He wished to God that the members of his own order would follow the example of the commercial travellers, and, united, to an equal amount of good.

Mr. Dickens has written an article in the last number of *All the Year Round*, earnestly repudiating the imputation that in the portrait of Harold Skimpole, in his novel of "Bleak House," he had intended to pourtray the character of his deceased friend, Leigh Hunt. He was aware, he says, that such a belief existed, but as that opinion was only publicly expressed in American journals, he thought it expedient to let the report "go by," giving due consideration to the astonishing character of the information about European celebrities so frequently to be found in the Transatlantic press. Mr. Dickens, nevertheless, confesses that some of the more amiable weaknesses of the deceased poet were present to his mind's-eye during the delineation of the ridiculous and swindling Skimpole. We here merely allude to this painful subject as a part of the current gossip of the day, but shall return to it, as the truly generous and noble character of Leigh Hunt should be cleared of any possible imputation of being akin to such a contemptible wretch as Mr. Dickens has chosen to delineate in his almost impossible Skimpole. Mr. Hunt might as well be supposed to be delineated in Pecksniff.

Mr. Hotten, of Piccadilly, has in the press a volume of Political Sketches, by Mr. J. Hollingshead, author of "Under Bow Bells," and which, like that work, is a collection of papers from *Household Words*.

Messrs. Bradbury and Evans will publish, on the 7th of January, the first number of a new military paper, entitled *The Army and Navy Gazette, and Journal of Militia and Volunteer Forces*, under the editorship of Mr. W. Howard Russell, "late the Special Correspondent of the *Times*." It will be devoted exclusively to discussions on questions relating to military service and national defences.

Two new books, "L'Examen Critique des Doctrines de la Religion Chrétienne," and "La Rénovation Religieuse," by M. Larroque, formerly rector of the Lyons Academy, have just been seized at M. Bohne's foreign library, Rue Rivoli. These works, like the "Question Romaine" of M. About, were published in Brussels.

German literature has sustained a loss by the death of William Grimm, the younger of the celebrated brothers. He was in his seventy-fourth year.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Telegraph* has this week given a most interesting account of the literary treasures discovered by Professor Tischendorf, who has been searching for manuscripts in various Greek, Syrian, Abyssinian, and other monasteries. The greatest treasure is the very oldest Greek manuscript of the Bible extant. Besides the Old Testament, of the same text as that used by the Apostles in their quotations, the manuscript contains the whole of the New Testament. The various European libraries all possess many MS. copies of the Bible, but not a single one of the few written before the tenth century that contains all the New Testament. The two hitherto regarded as the oldest and most complete, and held in the highest estimation, are those in the libraries at Rome and London. But the former wants four entire Epistles of St. Paul, and nearly the half of another, as also the Book of Revelations; while in the latter the whole of the Gospel of St. Matthew is missing, as well as some parts of St. John and the Pauline

Epistles. The manuscript discovered at Mount Sinai, and now brought to St. Petersburg, is not defective, even in the smallest degree; on the contrary, it contains two works even in addition; one complete, the other but partially so. In the second and third centuries these latter were included in the canon of Holy Writ, and always received the deepest reverence as precious heirlooms of the earliest inspiration of the Church of Christ. Of one of them, the Epistle of Barnabas, nearly the whole of the first half has been wanting until now, in the original Greek text; while of the other, only one very imperfect copy was known to exist up to three years ago. No other copy of the Bible is of higher antiquity than this—indeed, the far famed *Codex Vaticanus* is the only one that can at all put in any claims of competition.

CEYLON: AN ACCOUNT OF THE ISLAND, PHYSICAL, HISTORICAL, AND TOPOGRAPHICAL; WITH NOTICES OF ITS NATURAL HISTORY, ANTIQUITIES, AND PRODUCTIONS. By Sir James Emerson Tennent, K.C.S., LL.D., &c. 2 vols. —Longman, Green, Roberts and Longman.

THIS is the third edition, thoroughly revised, of an elaborated work, and illustrated by numerous maps, plans, and drawings. Of a production already so celebrated, it is needless now to attempt an analysis; but, as a British possession, Ceylon is too important a place, and this book upon it too important a work, to be summarily dismissed. The first volume of this great publication is occupied with descriptions of the physical and historical condition of Ceylon, and Sir J. E. Tennent has taken the utmost advantage of his official position to accumulate a large amount of material, exceedingly various in character and valuable in kind. Of the physical descriptions, rich as they are, we cannot venture to give any detail; the abundance of nature defies selection. Palm trees, and strangely picturesque plants, and stranger insects, products highly vitalised or inanimate, perplex the traveller; while customs, ways of life, and modes of pursuit, excite surprise, it may be dislike, and sometimes envy. There are, however, some peculiarities pertaining to this third edition of an excellent work, some alterations and additions, which demand notice.

Among these, the author mentions having inserted a chapter on the doctrines of Buddhism as it develops itself in Ceylon. His sketch, however, is confined to the principal features of what has been denominated Southern Buddhism amongst the Singhalese; as distinguished from Northern Buddhism in Nepal, Thibet, and China. In making this sketch, immense difficulties had to be surmounted from the various forms in which Buddhism appears in various localities, and the different interpretations of which it is capable. Brahmanism is, probably, more ancient than Buddhism; but the point is yet far from settled. The latter, however, dates many centuries before Christianity. Its present influence extends over three hundred and fifty millions of human beings, more than one-third of the human race. The Buddhists were expelled from Hindustan some centuries after the Christian era by the Brahmins, and being thus dispersed over Eastern and Central Asia, Buddhism became an active agent of civilisation, furnishing to some of the far Asiatic nations both an alphabet and a literature. Buddhism inculcates self-reliance, intellectual elevation, and the perfection of virtue and wisdom, as within the reach of every created being. Nevertheless, schisms and heresies have been introduced into its doctrines. These, as cherished among the Jainas of Guzerat and Rajpootana, differ widely from its mysteries, as administered by the Lama of Thibet; and both are equally distinct from the metaphysical abstractions propounded by the monks of Nepal. The worship of Buddha regards him as a guide and example to teach mankind how, by self-reliance and self-effort, they may secure perfect virtue here and supreme happiness hereafter. In common with Brahmanism, it teaches the doctrine of metempsychosis; the result of the transmigration leading the purified spirit to *Nirvana*—that is, "the exhaustion, but not the destruction of existence, the close but not the extinction of being." It recognises, also, the full eligibility of every individual for the attainment of the highest degrees of intellectual perfection and ultimate bliss. It denies the Brahmanical superiority of the "twice-born," and repudiates the sacerdotal supremacy of race, and also the supremacy of caste. The Buddhists, therefore, readily admit that the teaching of virtue is not necessarily confined

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to their own professors. Hence the indifference of the Singhalese as to the comparative claims of Christianity and Buddhism, and the facility with which, both under the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the British, they have combined the secret worship of the one, with the ostensible profession of the other. In their cosmogony, they seemed to declare the eternity of matter, and its submission, at remote intervals, to decay and re-formation; such changes, with the organisation of animal life, being the results of spontaneity and procession. They believe in the state of pre-existence, and in the existence of heavens and hells,—in the latter, the wicked undergo purgatorial imprisonment. Adverse events in this life are the general results of *Akusala*, or moral demerit in some previous stage of existence. The moral code of Buddha prohibits the taking of life under any circumstances, from even the humblest created animal; together with intemperance and incontinence, dishonesty and falsehood, hypocrisy and anger, unkindness and pride, ungenerous suspicion, covetousness, evil wishes to others, the betrayal of secrets, and the propagation of slander. On the other hand, it enjoins the forgiveness of injuries, the practice of charity, a reverence for virtue, the cherishing of the learned, submission to discipline, veneration for parents, care for one's family, a sinless vocation, contentment, and gratitude, subjection to reproof, moderation in prosperity, submission under affliction, and cheerfulness at all times. It only remains to be added, that demon-worship prevailed amongst the Singhalese before the introduction of Buddhism by Mahindo.

One of the most original parts of this work is the portion devoted to the natural history of the elephant. It is extensively treated, correcting old fallacies, as well as adding new information. Elephants abound in Ceylon, frequenting both the open plains and the deep forests. Their numbers in recent times, however, have been considerably reduced; the animals, in fact, have been forced to retire to the low country; but thither the hunter pursue them, either to capture or to slaughter. The Ceylon Elephant is in general without tusks. Its life is harmless and peaceful, and nature appears to have left it almost unprovided with any weapon of offence. Their love of solitude and dislike of intrusion are extreme; hence the shyness the elephant evinces towards man. He is not instinctively vicious, or even highly irritable.

"But" then continues, Sir Emerson the 'elephant is said an extraordinary dislike to all quadrupeds; that dogs running near him produce annoyance, that he is alarmed if a hare start from his form; and from Pliny to Buffon every naturalist has recorded his supposed aversion to swine. These alleged antipathies are in a great degree, if not entirely, imaginary. The habits of the elephant are essentially harmless, his wants lead to no rivalry with other animals, and the food to which he is most attached is found in such abundance that he obtains it without an effort. In the quiet solitudes of Ceylon elephants may constantly be seen browsing peacefully in the immediate vicinity of and in close contact with others animals. I have seen groups of deer and wild buffaloes reclining in the sandy bed of a river in the dry season, and elephants plucking the branches close beside them. They show no impatience in the company of the elk, the bear, and the wild hog; and on the other hand, I have never discovered an instance in which these animals have evinced any apprehension of them. The elephant's natural timidity, however, is such that he becomes alarmed on the appearance in the jungle of any animal with which he is not familiar; he is said to be afraid of the horse, but from my own experience, I should say it is the horse that is alarmed at the aspect of the elephant, in the same way, from some unaccountable impulse, the horse has an antipathy to the camel, and evinces extreme impatience, both of the sight and smell of that animal. When enraged, an elephant will not hesitate to charge a rider on horseback; but it is against the man not against the horse that his fury is directed, and no instance has been ever known of his wantonly assaulting a horse.

The following story is a gem:—

"It is true that in captivity, and after a due course of training, the elephant discovers a new use for his tusks when employed in moving-stone and piling timber; so much so, that a powerful one will raise and carry on them a log of half a ton weight, or more. One evening, whilst riding in the vicinity of Kandy, towards the scene of the massacre of Major Dane's party, in 1803, my horse evinced some excitement at a noise which approached us in the thick

jungle, and which consisted of a repetition of the ejaculation—'Umph! umph!'—in a hoarse and dissatisfied tone. A turn in the forest explained the mystery, by bringing one face to face with a tame elephant, unaccompanied by any attendant. He was labouring painfully to carry a heavy beam of timber, which he balanced across his tusks, but, the pathway being narrow, he was forced to bend his head to one side to permit it to pass sideways, and the exertion and inconvenience combined led him to utter the dissatisfied sounds which disturbed the composure of my horse. On seeing us halt, the elephant raised his head, reconnoitering us for a moment, then flung down the timber, and forced himself backwards among the brushwood, so as to leave a passage, of which he expected us to avail ourselves. My horse still hesitated: the elephant observed it, and impatiently thrust himself still deeper into the jungles, repeating his cry of 'umph!' but in a voice evidently meant to encourage us to come on. Still the horse trembled; and, anxious to observe the instinct of the two sagacious creatures, I forebore any interference. Again the elephant wedged himself further in among the trees, and waited impatiently for us to pass him; and after the horse had done so, tremblingly and timidly, I saw the wise creature stoop, and take up his heavy burden, trim and balance it on his tusks, and resume his route, hoarsely snorting as before his discontented remonstrance."

The habits of the wild elephant are dwelt on at great length by our author. To these we direct the reader's especial attention. The illustrative engravings are admirably executed.

A DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH ETYMOLOGY. By Hensleigh Wedgwood, M.A. Vol. 1.—Trübner and Co.

THAT there are fountains in the world as well as cisterns is too frequently overlooked in critical inquiry. It has been the custom, for instance, to trace the words of a language to their roots, and where these have been the same or similar to refer them to a common origin. The learned author before us is at pains, on the contrary, to show that the roots in question arise from the instinctive imitation made, by the human organs of speech, of natural sounds, and that therefore they may be found originally produced among distant peoples that were never related to each other. His argument on this point forms the introduction to the present work. It is lucidly stated and lavishly illustrated. That the instances will not appear as convincing as they are numerous, to all readers, may be expected. Etymological theories presuppose an acquaintance with the subject, and much is sometimes required before the value of a particular instance can be appreciated. The study is a wide one, and involves the labour of years—perhaps of lives. At any rate we have the names of Todd, Richardson, and Webster, as labourers in this field of inquiry; and we find that it is not yet exhausted.

Mr. Wedgwood speaks, therefore, with some contempt of those who too readily adopt an arbitrary theory, and too easily satisfy themselves that they have solved the difficulty when they have traced a word to a Sanscrit root. He somewhat indignantly demands, "In what condition is it possible that roots could have existed, before they were actually used in speech?" Nor will he admit the answer, that they were implanted by Nature in the mind of man—such a suggestion being opposed to daily observation in regard to infants. But he is disposed to accept them as fictions of the grammarians, to indicate the core of a group of related words having similar significations. "If," he adds, "we are to regard them as the remains of some former condition of language, then they cease to afford a solid resting-place; and the origin of the roots themselves becomes as fit an object of inquiry as of the words in actual use at the present day."

The origin of language, then, is to be recognised in the tendency to imitation which Aristotle long ago remarked in the child, and to which he attributes the production of the drama. Still, as of old—

"with new joy and pride
The little Actor cons another part;
Filling from time to time his humorous stage
With all the Persons, down to palsied Age,
That Life brings with her in her equipage;
As if his whole vocation
Were endless imitation."

In manhood, as in childhood, the instinct is manifested; and human speech is subject to the universal influence. Words, then, according to the book before us, are made to imitate or re-

present sounds characteristic of the objects intended to be designated. Such, for instance, as *bang*, *crack*, *purr*, *whizz*, *hum*. Too frequently such words have been received by etymologists as exceptional cases—nay, there is a constant tendency, says Mr. Wedgwood, in the progress of civilisation, to regard the words, whose imitative character is most clearly marked, as a sort of illegitimate pretenders to the dignity of language.

"We are apt to look upon words like *fizz*, *whack*, *bump*, *hang*, clearly representing different kinds of sound, or the actions which they accompany, as make-shifts of modern invention, not entitled to take place in sustained composition with elements which appear to derive their significance from the mysterious source of universal speech. The discredit, however, into which words of this description have fallen, is a prejudice resting on no solid foundation. There is no reason for supposing them less ancient than the most time-worn particle, of whose origin in a sensible image we cannot form a guess. To *slam* the door is a colloquial expression in which the verb seems as if it might have been suggested yesterday by its appropriateness to express that kind of noise, but the word is used in a much wider sense by the Laplanders, with a special application to this very instance of slamming the door; and what countless ages must have elapsed since their ancestors and ours parted from a common stock!"

"A little examination shows that the principle of imitation has a wider range than we are at first inclined to suppose. In some words the imitative character is so strongly marked, that it will be admitted by every one as soon as the question is raised. In others, though not consciously recognised, it heightens the power of expression, and gives much of that vividness of imagery which we admire in the poetry of Spenser and Gawaine Douglas. In others, again, the power of direct representation is wholly gone, and the imitative origin can only be shown by a detailed examination of a mode in which the meaning of the word has been developed."

Such is a plain, straightforward expression of the idea that pervades this work, which it is supposed two more volumes will complete. Its merit cannot be too highly appreciated.

DISTRICT DUTIES DURING THE REVOLT IN THE NORTH-WEST PROVINCES OF INDIA, IN 1857: With Remarks on Subsequent Investigations during 1858-9. By H. Dundas Robertson.—Smith, Elder and Co.

THE writer of this book is in the Bengal Civil Service, and being detained in the capital of British India, employed his enforced leisure in making a memorial of the scenes through which he had passed during the Revolt, in 1857. It relates, in part, to a town and station under the Government of the North-west Provinces, where the author was frequently left alone. He was a joint-magistrate in the Saharunpore district, and afterwards became officiating collector of it. Towards the close of 1857, he was, in conjunction with Messrs. J. C. Wilson, and T. D. Forsyth, placed on a commission for the investigation and trial of cases connected with the mutiny and rebellion, being vested with jurisdiction extending over the North-west Provinces, Oude, Bengal Proper, and Central India. Such are the author's claims to notice.

Saharunpore, about eighty miles from Delhi, is, fortunately for the victims of revolts, an isolated place; for its isolation during the revolt of 1857 was an important feature of strength as long as internal mutiny and insurrection could be repressed. The eastern and western boundaries of the district, are protected by the Ganges and the Jumna; the north is screened by a range of uninhabitable mountains. The inhabitants present a mongrel mixture of races—Moghuls, Puthans, Brahmuns, Goojurs, Rajpoots, Ranghurs, Ghurias, &c. As in India, persons of different races and creeds never intermarry, they remained as distinct and separate from each other, as if they had all inhabited different countries, pertinaciously retaining the national peculiarities, and the characteristic virtues and vices of their ancestors. There are waste lands, on which "the promoters of Christianity might, with advantage, plant Christian villages."

There is little of personal adventure in our author's descriptions, contenting himself, as he does, with such as illustrate the general character of the times rather than as referring to himself. Caste, according to him, is the only religion of the East. The cause of the massacre at Futtahgurh was the presence of women and children, which paralysed the action of the men. Amongst the

causes of discontent was our legal provisions for the recovery of small debts. To this he attributes the Sunthal rebellion, and the ill-feeling prevailing throughout the North-west provinces. The villagers at Manpore, he tells us, joined in the murder of English ladies and children; their conduct being the result of the action of our civil courts. They were, for the most part, dispossessed landholders of the smaller class, and many of them Brahmins—a caste who rarely joined in such deeds.

The effect of the fall of Delhi on the native mind demonstrated the religious character of the original movement. The indiscreet zeal among the missionaries is much censured; though frequently deprecated by their superiors, it is sometimes excessive and ill-timed. The ingratitude of the moneyed classes is thus exemplified:—

"In the month of October, 1857, when sadly pressed by the deficiency of means to enable me to meet the necessary disbursements of the district, I called on the Saharunpore mahajuns or bankers, to furnish me with by no means a heavy loan. This they positively refused to do, declaring their inability to meet my wishes; that is, to that Government who has never imposed any description of tax upon this class (a great oversight, by the way), and through whose protection alone they had been enabled to accumulate their wealth, these men refused a portion of that capital which would have disappeared with the Government which had fostered them. At such a juncture, indeed, their refusal would have been of little moment; for had I not almost immediately received an unexpected supply from other quarters, these vermin might have learnt that necessity is sometimes superior to laws, and that we had not protected their property at the risk of our lives without expecting some reasonable return, should circumstances render it necessary. But never will Indian bankers, while they can avoid it, lend money to the state, as they somewhat justly argue, that the Government, on seeing their wealth, might at last open its eyes, and suggest some trifle towards the expense of defending their vast accumulations."

Our author's experiences seem to have somewhat disheartened him. He takes rather a desponding view. "Had," he says, "the alliance of the Seiks, prior to the outbreak, been judiciously courted by the Hindustani, hardly a European would have escaped in all Northern India." Of the classes of Hindoos most averse to our rule, the Rajpoots and Chutries are the worst. Their impression was, that with the suppression of the revolt, their religion, not their race, had been conquered. The Hindustani mind, however, is pliable, and has now adapted itself to the change. Never has the success of Christian missionaries been so great in the Ganges-Jumna Doab, as since our re-occupation of that part of the country. The book before us merits attention.

TALES FROM MOLIERE'S PLAYS. By Daere Barrett Lennard.—Chapman and Hall.

We all recollect the delightful tales that Charles Lamb constructed from the dramas of Shakspeare. It was a happy idea with Mr. Lennard that led him to Moliere with the same view. Sixteen stories are here given from the plays of the great comic writer of France. They are exceedingly well told, and come upon us, familiar as are the subjects, with admirable freshness. Mr. Lennard retains the vivacity of the original treatment; and sometimes, even, we feel more interested in this modification of the narrative than in the drama itself. This is the case, for instance, with "Sagittaire." The liveliness of the incidents and the neatness of the outline remain, while what might be tedious in the dialogue has been altogether eliminated. "Brevity is the soul of wit," and here brevity has been consulted with the happiest result.

Sometimes Mr. Lennard has accompanied his translation with a slight critical commentary, or historical notice. This service he has done in the case of "Tartuffe," which he describes as Moliere's *chef-d'œuvre*. He defends it from the charge of an irreligious tendency, and cites Hallam on the point, who rules that the comedy is so well conducted, that it guards most carefully against any infringement of the boundaries between the reality and its false appearances. According to him, no exception at all can be taken against its moral; and he slyly counsels those who take umbrage at the "Tartuffe" to read it again, "for there may be good reason to suspect that they are themselves

among those for whose benefit it was intended." The analysis of "Tartuffe" is accomplished in a masterly style. Not a trait is lost in the transfer so skilfully, so felicitously is it photographed.

We have been also much pleased with the version of "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme," and "Le Malade Imaginaire." Both are rendered with spirit and accuracy. The wit is brought out with precision and point; and the sentences are chiselled with the sharpness and skill of a literary sculptor. To continue the figure, we may add, that the marble, too, is of the highest polish. The works of Moliere present instances in which the matter and form are equally excellent. The setting of the diamond is of as much value as the jewel itself. Mr. Lennard has not been unmindful of this peculiarity in the style of Moliere. The publication ought to be one of the most attractive works of the season.

TRAVELS IN MOROCCO. By the late James Richardson. Edited by his Widow. 2 vols.—Charles J. Skeet. At the present time, when the old contest between the Spaniard and the Moor appears to have been revived, any book, with a competent authority to support its claims, that treats of Morocco must possess great interest. The late James Richardson has left imperishable records of his energy and ability in the path of researches in Central Africa and the Saharan desert, and every remark of his will be a contribution to what may be called the science of travel. One remark may be accepted *in limine*—that the Moorish women were never so profligate as since the arrival of the French in Algeria. But we must take this observation of our author's with some modification; for he likewise states that the licentious actions of the men and women, particularly on the feast days, present the worst side of the character of the Moors. The presence of the French, after all deductions are made, must have a civilising tendency.

The prospects of the Jews in Barbary are improving, and the ambition of Jewesses to obtain Christian husbands is very great. They have some privileges not permitted to the male sex. The Atlas Jews are physically superior to their brethren who reside among the Moors, and are better off, being permitted to bear arms, and wearing the same attire as the mountaineers, from whom they are not distinguishable.

"As to the peculiarities of the religion of the Atlas Jews, they are said not to have the Pentateuch and the law in the same order as Jews generally. They are unacquainted with Ezra, or Christ; they did not go to Babylon at the captivity, but were dispersed over Africa at that period. They are a species of Caravaites, or Jewish Protestants. Shadai is the name which they apply to the Supreme Being, when speaking of him. Their written law begins by stating that the world was many thousand years old when the present race of men was formed, which, curiously enough, agrees with the researches of modern geology. The present race of men are the joint offspring of different and distinct human species. The deluge is not mentioned by them. God, it is said, appeared to Ishmael in a dream, and told him he must separate from Isaac, and go to the desert, where he would make him a great nation. There would ever after be enmity between the two races, as at this day there is the greatest animosity between the Jews and Mahometans.

"The great nucleus of these Sholah Jews is in *Jebel Melje*, or the vast ridge of the Atlas, capped with eternal snows; and they hold communications with the Jews of Ait Mousa, Frouga or Misfuva. They rarely descend to the plains or cities of the empire, and look upon the rest of the Jews of this country as heretics. Isolation thus begets enmity and mistrust, as in other cases. A few years ago, a number came to Mogador, and were not at all pleased with their visit, finding fault with everything among their brethren. These Jewish mountaineers are supposed to be very numerous. In their homes, they are inaccessible. So they live in a wild independence, professing a creed as free as their own mountain airs. God, who made the hills, made likewise man's freedom to abide therein. Before taking leave of the Maroquine Israelites, I must say something of their personal appearance. Both in Tangier and Mogador, I was fortunate enough to be acquainted with families, who could boast of the most perfect and classic types of Jewish female loveliness. Alas, that these beauties should be only charming *animals*, their minds and affections being left uncultivated, or converted into caves of unclean and tormenting passions. The Jewesses, in general, until they become enormously stout and weighed down with obesity, are of extreme beauty.

Most of them have fair complexions; their rose and jasmine faces, their pure wax-like delicate features, and their exceedingly expressive and bewitching eyes, would fascinate the most fastidious of European connoisseurs of female beauty."

This statement is very curious, and suggestive of a world of reflections, which will undoubtedly arise spontaneously in the reader's mind, but on which we cannot enlarge. We could have desiderated more information on the political relations of France and Spain with Morocco; but, unfortunately, we find nothing in these two volumes that could fairly be quoted in illustration of the quarrel now existing between the two Catholic powers and the Mahomedan Moor. In other respects, undoubtedly, they are highly instructive. However, they have not been carefully edited; grammatical and typographical errors being frequent.

POEMS. By the Author of "John Halifax."—Hurst and Blackett.

MISS MULOCHE, whose merits as a prose-writer have received public acknowledgment, has, it appears, been in the habit of contributing occasional verses to Chambers' and other journals. In this publication she has claimed her errant offspring, and assembled them in one family, in honour of the Christmas season. These poems—(for, notwithstanding the author's modest doubt, they are such)—are very peculiar, and perhaps bear on them the stamp of originality. The sentiment of piety is eminently conspicuous. Like Spinoza, Miss Muloch may be said to be "intoxicated with deity." This idea is omnipresent in her verses. Sometimes it is loudly pronounced—as thus:—

"O Thou supreme All-satisfying and immutable One,
It is enough to be absorbed in Thee
And vanish—though 'twere only to a voice
That through all ages, with perpetual joy,
Goes evermore loud crying, 'God! God! God!'"

The predominance of this sentiment marks out Miss Muloch as a poet of the highest class. She is a Hebrew of the Hebrews, and should be reckoned as one of the sweet singers of Israel, a daughter of the prophets. There are poets of many kinds, as well as of many degrees. There is the feeble singer, to whom rhythmical sound is sufficient; and who, with imperfect rhyme and syntax, makes tentative efforts at verse in the process of self-education. Next, there is the commonsense singer, who gives expression to maxims, common-places and literal descriptions. Then comes the intellectual singer, who solicits the aid of fancy and embellishes his theme, whether love or patriotism, with pleasant conceits, figures, and illustrations. To a higher elevation climbs the imaginative poet, and invests with abstract beauty the more abstruse conceptions of man and nature which he is gifted to form. At length appears the inspired poet, not always intelligible, who breathes the pure ether of ideas and thoughts, and with difficulty invests his immortal creations with earthly shapes. Of the last of these is, decidedly, Miss Muloch. Hence her sublime dissatisfaction with the imperfect and shifting scenes, whose illusory qualities she has experienced;—her forced resignation to the actual, and her wish to make the best of it;—her continual yearning for an invisible beloved;—her sympathies with nuns and *solitaires*, and her general sense that in a blighted world the condition of the recluse is the happiest, and the life of the novice or the Sister of Mercy the most virtuous and beneficial. Poetry to her is the means of arming herself against the disappointments that the affections suffer in an ill-assorted world, and in finding a remedy for the wounds incurred by the too-sensitive in their temporal attachments. From all this she flies to the Divine, and would find solace in that serener radiance, which the fiercer contact of the merely human forbids. She has formed her own world—a sinless paradise, a supernatural Eden, with the tree of life in it, but none of knowledge; in which Innocence would substitute Virtue. Our poetess, however, has an eye for the external features of the natural world, and sometimes catches the points of a picture with singular felicity. The following poem, which is graced with an illustration in the book, is a favourable specimen of the writer's powers:—

A STREAM'S SINGING.
O how beautiful is Morning!
How the sunbeams strike the daisies,
And the king-cups fill the meadow,
Like a golden-shielded army
Marching to the uplands fair!—

I am going forth to battle,
And life's uplands rise before me,
And my golden shield is ready,
And I pause a moment, tiring
My heart's paean to the waters,
As with cheerful song incessant
Onward runs the little stream;
Singing ever, onward ever,
Boldly runs the merry stream.

O how glorious is Noon-day!
With the cool large shadows lying
Underneath the giant forest,
The far hill-tops towering dimly
O'er the conquered plains below;—
I am conquering—I shall conquer
In life's battle-field impetuous:
And I lie and listen dreamy
To a double-voiced, low music,—
Tender beech-trees' sheeny shiver
Mingled with the diapason
Of the strong, deep, joyful stream,
Like a man's love and a woman's;
So it runs—the happy stream!

O how grandly cometh Even,
Sitting on the mountain summit,
Purple-vestured, grave, and silent,
Watching o'er the dewy valleys,
Like a good king near his end:—
I have labour'd, I have govern'd;
Now I feel the gathering shadow
Of the night that closes all things:
And the fair earth fades before me,
And the stars leap out in heaven,
While into the infinite darkness
Solemn runs the steadfast stream—
Onward, onward, ceaseless, fearless,
Singing runs the eternal stream.

Among the less ambitious pieces there is one on "Mary's Wedding," which has a quiet beauty; there are also some sonnets which, in their skilful structure, indicate the artist. In a word, these poems, in point of form, are almost unexceptionable. It may be added that her genius is decidedly lyrical.

THE OPHTHALMOSCOPE: ITS MODE OF APPLICATION, ETC., IN THE EXPLORATION OF INTERNAL DISEASES AFFECTING THE EYE. By Jabez Hogg.—Churchill.

Of all human organs, that of the Eye is the most delicate and the most complicated in structure, and is subject to a vast variety of disease, but too commonly calamitous in its result. The Eye, therefore, demands all the resources of science, both in diagnosis and treatment. With respect to the former of these, the author of the work before us justly observes, that the study of symptomatology, whereby we are enabled to arrive at a just conclusion regarding the true nature of disease, should be devotedly pursued. Let the exact nature of the disease be discovered; show the *rationale* of the symptoms, local and general; and, if the case be curable, the cure is commonly simple enough. But, unfortunately, with incompetent practitioners, mistreatment has but too often, by huddling eye diseases under technical error as amaurosis, glaucoma, &c., brought about consequences which defied any after attempts to remove them. It must be allowed that there have been difficulties in the way of due examination of the internal structure of the eye: but these are now happily removed by the invention of a simple but ingenious instrument called the Ophthalmoscope. Of this instrument, which is mainly a perforated mirror, Mr. Hogg has given a lucid explanation, and has illustrated its value by cases examined and treated at the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital, and in private practise.

There are many engravings, showing the forms of disease of the eye; and the subject is altogether treated in a way that must render it of great interest to the profession, and, through that body, to the public generally.

TWO NEW NOVELS.

BEULAH. By Augusta J. Evans, New York.—Derby and Jackson.

NARRAGANSETT; OR, THE PLANTATIONS. A Story of 177—. In three volumes.—Chapman and Hall.

"BEULAH" is a novel of "The Wide Wide World" and "Quoeddy" type, and is, we see, by the American papers, quite a favourite on the other side of the Atlantic. It is one of those novels with a "good purpose," in which the principal characters rise from the lowest poverty to a distinguished position in life, without evidencing the least signs throughout the work of being more than very ordinary common-place people, with a "gift of the gab," which enables them to talk a good deal on theology, with which they prove, by their own talk, to have a very superficial acquaintance. Such a fiction is Beulah. At the commencement

of the story, the reader is introduced to the heroine, Beulah Benton, as an inmate of an orphan asylum, from which place she goes to service in a "pious family." While here a Dr. Guy Hartwell adopts her, and, of course, in time, wishes to marry her; Beulah refuses, thinking him an atheist. Guy leaves her, but not unprovided for. Beulah refuses, however, to live on his bounty, and turns authoress. She makes her name known throughout Europe, and in the end Guy returns a religious man. Thus matters being conveniently arranged, they are married. The narrative is not very brilliant, and the characters appear to us very uninteresting persons, but they are able to shed a good many tears, and talk more nonsense than will please the most ardent admirers of this class of fictions.

"Narragansett" is a work that defies description, and disarms criticism. The writer labours hard to prove that he is a scholar and a philosopher; doubtless, he is both, but of a very eccentric kind. In trying to prove that he is a scholar, he commits such errors in the rules of grammar that a schoolboy would be whipped for them; and, in endeavouring to show his philosophy, he gives unmistakeable evidences of insanity; whilst his use of the English language rather confirms than lessens such a notion. To give an outline of the story is a thing impossible. From the title page we learn that it is a story of American colonist life, just previous to the War for Independence. It is lucky this eccentric novelist informed us of the fact in this manner, for after the opening chapter, it would puzzle the most "cute" reader to understand on what subject or principle the work was written. Of the ninety and nine individuals that figure on the stage of this domestic drama we will select two. They are of a different type: one will give the reader some idea of the writer's highest flights of portrait-painting, and the other will best speak for itself. We transcribe them as they appear in the work. Before doing so, however, we should state that a Mr. Harvey Church is, in the opening chapter, on a journey from Tiverton to Newport, and, among other persons, he meets a Quaker:—

"The intruder in a lonely road on a Polish day, had his facial prominences tinged with fiery red, and his nose, in addition, bedewed with touching moisture, while his eyes wept cold tears, and his legs continually moved as if only pausing in a race, as he asked, with a wild air and high-pitched voice, Hast thee encountered a dog or any other furious enemy of the kind, respected sir? But the answer being slower, as it seemed, than he wished or expected, he continued rapidly articulating question after question: Art thee goin to Newport? Art thee come from Tiverton? Hast thee heard any news? hast thee seen any crowd? hast thee met any trouble? hast thee a journal? hast thee a broad sheet, young man?"

Seeing, however, Harvey's dog, Flog, which had leapt the hedge, was "coming up with the velocity of a war missile, and a low growl that exploded at near the final point, in sharp treble passages, meant to be derisive, but easily mistaken for displeasure," the man of peace leapt a three-barred gate, "and was out of sight in a twinkling!" Here is a sketch of one of the heroines:—

"She was a well-born minion, in green taffeta, with broad crimson stripes, whose form more than twenty summers had moulded into wondrous symmetry. The sleeves of her dress, certainly not a riding one, ended above the elbows in a hand's breadth of worked linen, out of which came an arm whose comely shape a long mit did not conceal, nor stout-gloved fingers at all impair. But the heavy taffeta was looped up like a ship's sails in the slings to show a purple skirt, for a petticoat at that day, like the roof in architecture, was a capable feature in design. Her rich brown hair was parted over a forehead beneath which eyes of the softest hazel shed light and kindness. Still this beautiful hair was whitened like the fir-trees of a highland in winter, while on top of it sat a low-crowned cover tied with cherry ribbons. Her countenance, at times the abode of severest dignity, was always warm with thought and feeling, while a peculiar archness of expression about the mouth seemed the home of a gaiety and good-humour that were ever streaming its rays from the sun."

There are touches in this portrait which evidence that the writer, when he refrains from trying to be funny, can, and we hope will, write much better works than "Narragansett."

Notes on Noses.—Richard Bentley.

This is a new edition of a very clever work. Nasology to some may seem ridiculous as a science; but the fact is that it really forms a branch of physiognomy, and comprises a field of observation that is fruitful in philosophical results. Noses are capable of classification, which comprises six sorts, of which all others are combinations:—1. The Roman, or aquiline nose. 2. The Greek, or straight nose. 3. The cogitative, or wide-nostripped nose. 4. The Jewish, or hawk nose. 5. The snub nose. 6. The celestial, or turn-up nose. The author gives satisfactory proofs that the nose is an index to character, and furnishes his reader with a large stock of illustrative information.

The Day of Small Things. By the Author of "Mary Powell."—Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

This is a sort of diary, supposed to have been written by an invalid, and comprises some sketches of domestic character which will be recognised as familiar acquaintance at the fireside. The book, taken altogether, may be said to represent Authorship in Idleness—so slight is the thread of interest and so inconsecutive the materials. It leaves off, too, without a catastrophe—it is verily a story without an end. But it is delightful reading.

Reliques of Father Prout.—H. G. Bohn.

This clever and witty work is reprinted, with Mr. Maclise's illustrations, and will be highly valued by the judicious, both on account of its literary and its artistic merits.

Lectures on the Rifle. By Colonel E. C. Wilford.—John W. Parker and Son.

The volume contains the subject of three lectures delivered by the author at different times, and is well calculated to teach the art of properly using the same.

The Whiskey Demon, or the Dream of the Reveller. By Charles Mackay, LL.D. Illustrated by Watts Phillips, and W. P. Nimmo.

Dr. MACKAY having granted permission, this well-known song of his has been reprinted in a large quarto volume, and profusely illustrated. Mr. Watts Phillips has appended the sketches, which, if calculated to aid the cause to which the publication is devoted, are certainly not to be criticised as works of art.

Emmanuel. By Joseph Parker.—Judd and Glass.

The author of this brochure is the minister of Cavendish-street Chapel, Manchester. He is evidently an eloquent preacher. His style is ornamental. He delights in picture and in figurative expressions. This little volume appears to consist of the more showy passages from a series of sermons, illustrative of the life of Christ. They are fervent and oratorical; they are also brief, and may be read, not only without weariness, but with pleasure,

Chronicles of an Old English Oak; or Sketches of English Life and History. Edited by Emily Taylor.—Groombridge and Sons.

THESE chronicles are in the shape of conversations by a boy and his sister with an old oak, which is supposed to describe to them the condition of England at the historical intervals of fifty or a hundred years; thus giving, in an entertaining manner, the more striking pictures and portraits of our national story. The idea is good, and the execution clever. The development of the dialogue embraces the result of considerable reading.

Adventures and Histories of Remarkable Men. By M. S. Cockayne.—Dean and Son.

A work illustrated with engravings. The number before us is entitled "The Hero of Waterloo," and contains a brief life of Wellington. It is neatly written, and gives an intelligible outline of facts which, as an epitome, is not without its use. A series of such, which we suppose is intended, will be serviceable for reference, and well adapted for juvenile perusal.

The Church and its Living Head. By the Rev. Wm. Hanna, LL.D.—Thos. Constable and Co.

This is a sermon, preached at Edinburgh, in advocacy of the principle of the Free Church, and in justification of its disruption from the State, which is claimed as a sort of cardinal testimony to the supremacy of conscience. The argument is rationally conducted and eloquently enforced. Every effort, we believe, is made by the General Assembly to gain for it an extensive circulation; and it merits attention as an official manifesto.

Ree's Improved Diary and Almanac for 1860.—John Renshaw.

This is the twenty-ninth year of this useful publication, which has been enlarged by twenty-four pages.

COMMERCIAL.

TRADE AND WAR.

THE merchants and shipowners of Bremen are prudent. They have much property to defend, and little power. In the great war which ended finally in 1815, they were almost ruined, and they naturally dread the consequences of another war such as has lately been much talked of, and they are wisely trying to obtain protection for property at sea by public opinion. They say that the inviolability of persons and property is the sole basis on which civilisation can be freely developed. In other words, under no pretext should men murder or should men steal either at sea or on shore. Whatever may be the origin of the pithy precepts, "Thou shalt not murder" and "Thou shalt not steal," there can now be no doubt whatever that the rigid observance of them, and all their consequences, is essential to the welfare of society. The whole experience of mankind has demonstrated that they are the true expression of the laws of man's social existence. All aggressive war is a violation of them, as much to be censured for its folly as a violation of the laws of health.

In carrying on war in modern times, even when the desire to weaken an enemy has been thought to justify very harsh measures, a respect has been generally professed for private property. But while it has been stigmatized as "barbarous violence" to deprive individuals on land of their liberty and property, it has been considered just and honest to take or destroy merchant ships and their cargoes, and detain their crews as prisoners. This practise was followed in the last war, and as soon as Bremen was occupied by the French, its ships and goods were seized by the English, and they ran the risk of being plundered at sea while their territory was taken from them. Their only fault was, that they were willing to serve both belligerents, and by both in turn they might be plundered. This mode of dealing with property at sea is of very ancient date, and is clearly a remnant of the old practises of the Sea Kings, in which Bremen and the other Hanse Towns for many years largely participated, and of which open-handed robbery was the foundation. Gradually the practises have been improved—gradually States have adopted the conclusion, though feebly and imperfectly, that they are subject to the great moral laws referred to, and have adopted the principle, to a great extent, that private property at sea should be respected.

In the war against Russia, France and England agreed, for the first time, not to allow of privateering. Prior to that it was customary for belligerent states to authorise their subjects to fit out armed vessels and seize the property and persons of enemies wherever found. This was an authority to plunder and murder, and it was not unfrequently used against the subjects of neutral and friendly States. As civilisation advanced, this wild license to men under no control was felt to be little better than a sanction to piracy, and it could not be tolerated in an age when philanthropy put an end to extorting labour by coercion. The Congress of Paris, in 1856, declared that privateering is, and remains, abolished; and, though the United States would not accede to this, unless it were accompanied by a declaration that private property at sea should, under no circumstances, be liable to capture, privateering, or robbery by individuals authorised by a belligerent State, is now at an end.

But the Congress of Paris would not agree to the proposition of the American Minister, and, though it improved the international laws of war, it still left the property of the subjects of a belligerent on board a private ship of their own country liable to seizure and confiscation. It sanctioned the principle, that the neutral flag protects an enemy's goods, except contraband of war; and, also, that neutral goods on board enemies' ships are not liable to capture. These regulations give much greater advantages to neutrals and much more security than they formerly possessed, while the possibility of a ship belonging to a belligerent being captured would give them a monopoly of carriage in case of war. It is all the more to the honour of the Bremen merchants and shipowners, therefore, that they have raised their voice against the remnant of the

old practises, which appear only to affect belligerents, while the neutrality of their country is hereafter pretty sure to be respected. It is impossible, indeed, to say what European States may be forced to take part in a maritime war, should one break out, and, therefore, the Bremeners, with true foresight as well as respect for the moral laws, justly require that the long-established and unjust practice of taking the private property of an enemy at sea should be completely abolished.

The only argument which is even hinted at in opposition to their views is, that to subject the merchant ships and property of the individuals belonging to a belligerent State to seizure and confiscations, hasten the conclusion of peace. To give them immunity is to relieve a large portion of a belligerent community from the horrors of war, and prolong them for the rest of the people. Whatever might formerly have been the case, now war is so completely an art, it is carried on so exclusively by one class of men, and brought to a conclusion by their defeat or victory—this argument has lost all force. As long as the trade of neutrals is left entirely free, the trade of the belligerents will be carried on under the neutral flag, and the only effect of the remaining restriction will be to make the trade of the belligerents somewhat less advantageous. The restriction can only be effectual to weaken an enemy if it be extended by blockade, or otherwise, to all neutrals, and that condition be renewed which existed under the Berlin and Milan decrees and our Orders in Council. Then the trade of neutrals, as well as of belligerents, was much impeded. Our own trade suffered by our own acts, and we may be sure that the principle is bad, for it involved us in almost universal hostility. It made enemies of those who naturally should have been our friends, and hostile to the conquering Emperor of the French.

There is, however, another consideration which may make this principle of confiscating the property of belligerents in their own ships extremely injurious to neutrals. It would, of course, come into operation immediately war was declared, and the property of neutrals in such ships would be detained, and the detention, even if confiscation did not follow, would occasion much trouble, loss, and anxiety. Moreover, the property of individuals of different trading countries is so mingled together, whether belligerent or neutral, that it cannot be easily distinguished, and both will suffer from an injury done to either. Take, as an example, the cargo of our Cunard steamers bound to New York. It may consist partly of German linens and French silks, as well as English woollens. They may all equally be shipped by English houses, and be in possession of Englishmen. They would be all liable to seizure, were we at war, as the property of Englishmen in an English vessel. In fact, however, the property of the silks and the linens may be in the German and French manufacturer, who has only used English agency to ship them. So it is with a very large proportion of all the merchandise which passes to-and-fro on the ocean. A Bremen ship has just sailed from Newcastle, for New York, carrying a general cargo, which probably belongs to people of different countries. The possession is in the subjects of one State, the property in the subjects of another. Every week, almost, gold is sent from the United States in our vessels on French account. Our statement is equally true, therefore, of return cargoes as for cargoes which go out. One cargo is to pay for another, and the gold sent hither from Australia very often belongs to the French or German wine grower.

The property of all trading people, though ultimately it all goes to its rightful owners, is so mingled in the several sorts of merchandise as they are on their road from the producers to the consumers, that there is great difficulty in deciding at any moment to whom it belongs, or who has the greatest interest in it. This circumstance affects not only neutrals, it affects belligerents; and unless they assent to the general principle espoused by the United States and the Bremeners, they are sure, in case of a maritime war, while they inflict injury on their opponents, to injure their own subjects. Perhaps some of our readers may recollect the long discussion in Parliament about the "Danish claims," which were demands made by some of our own people, chiefly inhabitants of Sheffield, for compensation on account of property which they lost by our attack on Copen-

hagen. Since then, trade and the property in merchandise has become wonderfully complicated, and has increased the difficulty of any State avoiding to injure its own subjects while it aims a blow at another nation's trade.

These facts have another aspect, and speak with another tongue. They say that all traders have a common interest in preventing war. It is not enough, therefore, for the Bremeners to seek immunity for their own ships and property—though this is extremely laudable—in case of war, they must raise their voice against war itself. Money is the sinew of war; but all money is now, as it was originally, the "money of the merchant." In the language of science and the language of fact, all wealth is the produce of industry. It belongs, therefore, to industry; and when industry declares that war shall not be supported, war will come to an end. This is more rational than appealing to Governments to support trade by extending colonies—to force it into foreign countries, such as China, by embassies, ministers, and war; or to promote it by any kind of regulations. The essence of trade is mutual exchange and mutual service, and any interference with it by constraint or force impedes or ruins trade.

MONEY MARKET & STOCK EXCHANGE.

CITY, FRIDAY EVENING.—There is, as is usual at this season of the year, a somewhat increased demand for money, but there is no alteration in the terms for discount. Never was business—whether in money or goods—more steady than of late, and the prospect is that the year will close in uninterrupted ease and prosperity. The funds through the week have undergone very little variation. They have gravitated about 95*1/2* through the week. They opened to-day at this figure, and closed a little better—at 95*1/2*, $\frac{1}{4}$. Business generally has been dull in the Stock Market, and funds remain without serious change. Railway shares continue good. The Bank returns, which we subjoin, show very little alteration in the funds of that establishment, and give us reason to suppose that there will be no important change concerning money for some time.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, the 21st day of December, 1859:

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	£30,757,625	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,459,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion 16,282,625
		Silver Bullion

£30,757,625

£30,757,625

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital.....	£14,553,000	Government Securities (including
Rest.....	3,148,926	Dead Weight
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	9,575,020	Annuity)..... £10,925,157
Other Deposits....	13,310,224	Other Securities .. 10,586,090
Seven Day and other Bills.....	750,107	Notes 10,112,015

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

	This Week	Last Week
STOCKS.		
3 per cent. Consols—Money	95 <i>1</i>	95 <i>1</i>
Ditto Reduced	95 <i>1</i>	95 <i>1</i>
Ditto New	95 <i>1</i>	95 <i>1</i>
Bank Stock	227 <i>1</i>	227 <i>1</i>
India	226 <i>1</i>	226 <i>1</i>
Exchequer Bills	31 <i>1</i>	29 <i>1</i>
Canada Government 6 per cent.	117 <i>1</i>	117 <i>1</i>
New Brunswick Government 6 per cent.	112 <i>1</i>	112 <i>1</i>
New South Wales Government 5 per cent.	102 <i>1</i>	102 <i>1</i>
South Australia Government 6 per cent.	115 <i>1</i>	115 <i>1</i>
Victoria Government 6 per cent.	108 <i>1</i>	108 <i>1</i>
Austrian Bonds, 5 per cent.	102 <i>1</i>	102 <i>1</i>
Brazilian Bonds, 5 per cent.	70 <i>55</i>	70 <i>55</i>
French Rentes, 3 per cent.	22 <i>1</i>	22 <i>1</i>
Mexican Bonds, 3 per cent.	82 <i>1</i>	82 <i>1</i>
Peruvian Bonds, 4 <i>1</i> per cent.	45 <i>1</i>	45 <i>1</i>
Spanish Bonds, 3 per cent.	77 <i>1</i>	77 <i>1</i>
Turkish Scrip, 6 per cent.	77 <i>1</i>	77 <i>1</i>
RAILWAYS.		
Bristol and Exeter	105 <i>1</i>	104 <i>1</i>
Caledonian	93 <i>1</i>	93 <i>1</i>
Eastern Counties	59 <i>1</i>	58 <i>1</i>
East Lancashire	108 <i>1</i>	107 <i>1</i>
Great Northern	69 <i>1</i>	69 <i>1</i>
„ „ „ Western	100 <i>1</i>	99 <i>1</i>
Lancashire and Yorkshire	67 <i>1</i>	67 <i>1</i>
London and Blackwall	114 <i>1</i>	115 <i>1</i>
London, Brighton, and South Coast	98 <i>1</i>	98 <i>1</i>
London and North-Western	98 <i>1</i>	97 <i>1</i>
London and South-Western	109 <i>1</i>	109 <i>1</i>
Midland	62 <i>1</i>	62 <i>1</i>
North British	34 <i>1</i>	33 <i>1</i>
North Staffordshire	37 <i>1</i>	37 <i>1</i>
Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton	83 <i>1</i>	83 <i>1</i>
South-Eastern	74 <i>1</i>	74 <i>1</i>
South Wales	100 <i>1</i>	100 <i>1</i>
Bombay, Baroda and Central India	100 <i>1</i>	100 <i>1</i>
Calcutta and South Eastern	1 <i>1</i>	1 <i>1</i>
Eastern Bengal	103 <i>1</i>	103 <i>1</i>
East Indian	101 <i>1</i>	100 <i>1</i>
Great Indian Peninsula	93 <i>1</i>	94 <i>1</i>
Madras	20 <i>1</i>	20 <i>1</i>
Scinde	54 <i>1</i>	54 <i>1</i>
Buffalo and Lake Huron	43 <i>1</i>	42 <i>1</i>
Grand Trunk of Canada	13 <i>1</i>	13 <i>1</i>
Great Western of Canada	43 <i>1</i>	42 <i>1</i>
Antwerp and Rotterdam	4 <i>1</i>	4 <i>1</i>
Dutch Rhine	26 <i>1</i>	26 <i>1</i>
Eastern of France	7 <i>1</i>	7 <i>1</i>
Great Luxemburg	13 <i>1</i>	13 <i>1</i>
Lombardo-Venetian	40 <i>1</i>	39 <i>1</i>
Northern of France	37 <i>1</i>	37 <i>1</i>
Paris, Lyons, and Mediterranean	58 <i>1</i>	57 <i>1</i>
Paris and Orleans	22 <i>1</i>	22 <i>1</i>
Southern of France	24 <i>1</i>	23 <i>1</i>
Western and North-Western of France	24 <i>1</i>	23 <i>1</i>

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES.

THE prospectus has been issued of the LONDON AND COLONIAL COMPANY, with a capital of £150,000 in 1,500 shares, of which 500 are to bear a preference interest of 5 per cent. The object is "to carry on the business of hop-merchants, warehouse-keepers, maltsters, and coopers, to supply the Australian colonies with hops, malt, and beer."

A meeting of the IRON SCREW COLLIER COMPANY took place on Wednesday, to confirm or reject a proposition for selling their fleet of 12 vessels for £60,000, which, allowing a deduction on account of certain charges, would leave about £57,000 clear. After some discussion a show of hands was taken, but a ballot was eventually determined upon. It was mentioned that the profits of the past half-year have been about £9,000 or £10,000, but this result is considered exceptionally favourable. There is about £23,000 in hand, subject to be reduced by £8,000, or possibly twice that amount, for a claim decided against the Company in a court of law. The original capital of the concern was £125,000 in £25 shares, of which £45,000, or £9 per share, has been returned to the proprietors, leaving the present capital at £80,000.

RAILWAYS AND ORDINARY ROADS.—The French government being desirous to ascertain what effect the establishment of railways in France had produced on the circulation along the ordinary roads, gave directions, some time back, for the necessary returns to be made. From them it appears that the traffic on the common roads has slightly diminished on a few running parallel with railways, but has considerably increased on others, so as to give a general increase of five per cent. on all the high roads taken together.

THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY.—This society have just purchased a fine property of freehold houses at Camberwell. They are nine in number, well-built semi-detached cottages and houses in a terrace in the Denmark-road. This is a novel feature in the operations of a land society, inasmuch as freehold houses completed and in the occupation of respectable tenants will be offered for allotment to the members of the society.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

LETTERS from Holland mention that, in opposition to the bill for the new network of railways, an independent member of the Dutch Chamber has introduced a proposal for increasing the amount of the sinking fund on Dutch Government stock, instead of permitting it to be diverted as a subvention for railway purposes.

The prospectus has been issued of the SAN PAULO (BRAZILIAN) RAILWAY COMPANY, with a capital of £2,000,000, in shares of £20 each. Introduced with a first rate direction, it is proposed to construct and work a railway from Santos to Jundiah, in the province of San Paulo, under several most valuable privileges. Among these are a guaranteed interest of 7 per cent. per annum for ninety years, on a sum not exceeding £2,000,000 for works. Of this guarantee, the Imperial Brazilian Government makes itself liable to 5, and the Provincial Legislature of San Paulo for 2 per cent.

It is said that the Portuguese government has ceded the concession of the SOUTH EASTERN RAILWAY from Vendas Novas to Evora and Reja to an English company, among the members of which are Mr. Charles Edward Mangles, Mr. John Chapman, Mr. R. R. Nottman, and Mr. G. B. Townsend. This line of railway, if fully developed, must soon become of importance, inasmuch as it traverses the great agricultural and mineral province of Portugal.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 20.

BANKRUPTS.

Charles Muston, Red Lion-street, Clerkenwell, watch case maker.

Joseph Benjamin Latchford, late of Regent-street, hosier.

Thomas Buss, Market Harborough, chemist.

Samuel Mason, Basford, Nottinghamshire, lace maker.

John Cartwright, Nottingham, innkeeper.

Eliza Parry, Liverpool, timber dealer.

Friday, December 23.

BANKRUPTS.

Robert Walton Feast and Henry Feast, Victoria-road, Islington, oilmen.

Robert Daplyn, Diss, Norfolk, grocer.

Isaac Thomas Perrins, Dudley, iron merchant.

Richard Castle, Wantage, Berkshire, cattle dealer.

SCOTCH BANKRUPTS.

Patrick Birnie, Edinburgh, livery stable keeper.

Thomas Henderson, Auchencloch, Ayrshire, grocer and spirit dealer.

George Campbell, Dundee, draper and clothier.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"A Visit to the Philippine Islands." By Sir John Bowring, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., &c. Smith, Elder and Co.

"Expository Lectures on St. Paul's Epistle to the Corinthians." By the late Revd. F. W. Robertson, M.A. Smith, Elder and Co.

"On the Strength of Nations." By Andrew Bissett. Smith, Elder and Co.

"Quakerism Past and Present." By J. S. Rowntree. Smith, Elder and Co.

"The Peculium." By Thos. Hancock. Smith, Elder and Co.

"Poems." By the Author of John Halifax, Gentleman. Hurst and Blackett.

"The Princess, a Medley." By Alfred Tennyson, D.C.L. E. Moxon and Co.

"The History of the Old Covenant." From the German of J. H. Kurtz, D.D. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clarke.

"Clarke's Foreign Theological Library." 3rd. Series, Vol. 4. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clarke.

"A Critical Examination of the Text of Shakespeare." By W. S. Walker. 3 Vols. J. R. Smith.

"Shakespeare's Household Words." Illuminated by Samuel Hanesley. Griffiths and Farrer.

"Seven Tales by Seven Authors." A. Hall, Virtue and Co.

"The Cathedrals of the United Kingdom." By Mackenzie Walcot, M.A. G. Stanford.

"The Minsters and Abbey Ruins of the United Kingdom." By Mackenzie Walcot, M.A. G. Stanford.

"The Christmas Tree for all Young People." James Blackwood.

"Travellers' Tales." Retold by Theta. Thompson and Co.

SERIALS.

"Routledge's Shakespeare." Part 40. Routledge, Warne and Co.

"Routledge's Illustrated Natural History." Routledge, Warne and Co.

"Cassell's Family Paper;" "Cassell's Popular Natural History;" "Cassell's Family Bible." Cassell, Petter and Galpin.

"The Ladies' Treasury." No. 34. Vol. 3. Ward and Lock.

"The British Workman." Part 5. Partridge and Co.

"History of the Protestant Reformation in England and Ireland." By William Cobbett. Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Catholic Publishing Co.

RUPTURES.

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