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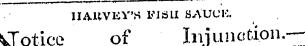
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A SURVEY OF THE SESSION.

FEW things are more stupid than what is called a QUEEN's Speech, and that which closed it Speech, and that which closed the session of 1860 being rather more stupid than usual, her MAJESTY wisely left it to be read by the LORD CHANCELLOR. The QUEEN is made to thank the Parliament for the "zeal and assiduity" with which its members applied themselves to their "important duties,"-a compliment singularly undeserved, for we have never had a House of Commons more obstinately and incurably bent upon wasting its time, and expending months about business which might have been transacted in as many weeks. Her MAJESTY "trusts there is no danger of any interruption of the general peace of Europe," and believes if the Italians are left to themselves "the tranquillity of other states will remain undisturbed." It is something to get the doctrine of non-intervention thus proclaimed from the throne; but Italy deserves more than this sort of negative recognition, and the happiness of twenty-six millions of people ought to be considered upon broader and higher principles than those which have only regard to the "tranquillity of other states." In further allusion to foreign affairs Her MAJESTY hopes the neutrality and independence of Switzerland will be preserved in the final settlement of the Savoy question: she deplores the Syrian massacres, and regrets the necessity for the Chinese The House of Commons is specially thanked for the war. "liberal supplies" and provision for defences, although it certainly ought to have been blamed for reckless prodigality and profuse waste of public funds. The last series of paragraphs, addressed to "My Lords and Gentlemen," show how little the Cabinet could venture to take credit for. Her MAJESTY compliments the Volunteer movement, which would have been far more efficient if the Government had not restricted it to a wealthy class; and she states that she has given her "cordial assent" to that very mischievous measure for amalgamating her local European forces in India with her forces engaged for the general service. The QUEEN further hopes that "the additional freedom given to commerce will lead to full development of productive industry," and refers with satisfaction to the Irish Landlord and Tenant Bill, the Endowed Charities Bill, and the Naval Administration Bill. The speech winds up with deep satisfaction at the prevalent spirit of order and loyalty.

Looking at the speech as a summary of what the Government and the Legislature have done in a long and weary session, it is singularly unsatisfactory. Omitting minor matters, we find that with the exception of advancing Free Trade, the session has been mischievously employed. Its assent to the Indian army job will hereafter be seen in its true colours, and it will be felt that the House of Commons, partly in ignorance and partly from political corruption, gave its sanction to a measure which destroys one of the best parts of the Company's system, for the evil purpose of increasing that patronage of the Horse Guards, which is so scandalously abused. The cumbrous machinery of a Parliament was not necessary for this work, which could have been easily accomplished by the ordinary instruments of official corruption. The true function of a Parliament in such a case was not so much as attempted to be performed. A few speakers did their best to show the important principles that were at stake, but they could get no one to listen to them, and the majority dishonestly voted for a bill that was alarming in its appearance, and quite unsusceptible of defence.

careful consideration; and we take Mr. GLADSTONE'S measures first. No one, whose opinions would be worth canvassing, now doubts the correctness of the Free Trade principle; but two objections had been made to the proceedings of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER. First, it is said that the regulation of duties upon Free Trade principles ought not to form the subject of treaty. Constantly as this objection has been made, the ground for it is far from apparent. As a rule no treaty or engagement with another Power should be made, if the required action can be obtained without it and if the French Government had been willing to change its commercial policy without any formal undertaking on our part, the treaty which has been effected would deserve censure on the ground of inutility. This, however, was not the case. Protection had a firmer hold in France than in England; and there can be no doubt that our willingness to execute a treaty facilitated the proceedings of the Imperial Cabinet. We have stipulated to do that which, notwithstanding the falsehoods of the Times, the majority of the people believe to be our interest; and the French have been thereby incited to make a healthful plunge into the Free-trade bath, by which process we are gainers. There is no doubt that in our mode of procedure we have made a small concession to France, but, in fact, the chief concession is on the other side, and the French have paid us the compliment of following a policy which we were the first to avow. On both sides the Channel there have been a minority of grumblers. The British growlers have accused the Government of sacrificing our dignity to our ally, and the French growlers have been equally positive that the ÉMPEROR has surrendered French interests to the exigencies of an alliance with "perfidious Albion." Happily both countries can afford to listen to a little cackling and braying, and the future will amply justify the wisdom of the course they have pursued.

There can be no question that the intellect of the session has been furnished by Mr. GLADSTONE ; and if he had not had the misfortune of serving under a most tricky and unscrupulous PREMIER, his financial genius would have borne more abundant fruit. He may deserve some blame for the purely casual treatment that he determined to apply to the Chinese war; but his principle of selecting a time of revenue deficit for the abolition of the paper duties marks him out as a statesman of wise and large views. Some men, who are usually able to think soundly, have objected to this course. They contend that a reduction of taxation, as they choose to term it, should only take place when there is a surplus; but this mode of argument is exceedingly shallow and fallacious. If industry be severely hampered, it may be advisable to reduce taxation, even when expenditure has to be provided for by a loan; but in the case of the Paper Duties a substitute was provided, and the practical question was, whether a particular mode of shifting the public burdens would be productive of good. Thus looked at, Mr. GLADSTONE must have the best of the argument, as the promotion of national intelligence by the emancipation of Knowledge is a good immeasurably greater than the evil of a slight additional pressure upon property or of an infinitesimal addition The House of Lords has partially interto our debt. cepted the boon of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER; but if we were going to war to-morrow, and a large addition to our expenditure was necessary, a rational and honest Government would get rid of the remaining tax upon knowledge, in the full certainty that by extending the beneficial powers of the press it would indirectly save much more han the value of the impost which was given up. We have said that the foreign policy of Lord JOHN RUSSELL has constituted a redeeming feature of the Session, and we praise it for two characteristics,---first of all, it has been more open and intelligible than that of any other Minister of recent times. In no former Session have the debates in Parliament upon foreign questions been so In the Upper House, Lord NORMANBY has miserable. exhibited the antics of a diplomatic buffoon; and in the Lower House, Sir Robert PEEL and Mr. KINGLAKE have made the silly endeavour to subordinate all great questions of human interest to a monomaniae opposition to Imperial France. Thus, Lord JOHN RUSSELL has never been compelled to explain or justify his conduct, and if he had been, like the PREMIER, a reactionary charlatan, he might have passed through the session without contributing afsingle ray of popular illumination. Far from this, he has kept the public unusually well-informed, and has raised the beneficial influence of England to a higher point than it has occupied for many years. But his LORDSHIP is rather a waiter upon Providence than a ruler of events. He tolerates change

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In the same spirit of unintelligent partiality for corruption and unwillingness to be guided by principle, the House of Commons assented—rather like a mob than a legislature—to the fortification projects which the PREMIER thought proper to lay before them. Scarcely any members tried to understand this question, and the debates upon it proved that the Government had not concocted any practicable and complete scheme of national defence, and that the House of Commons would vote any quantity of money rather than apply its intelligence to the consideration of any difficult case. The speeches of Lord PALMERSTON and Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT in support of this scheme, evinced a practical contempt for the body they were addressing. The PREMIER endeavoured to evade inquiry by a wanton and unveracious effort to excite alarm, while the MINISTER of WAR indulged in fallacies and common-places which he would not have ventured to intrude upon a worthier assembly.

There are only two matters pertaining to the Session that can be contemplated with complacency-the progress in Free Trade made by Mr. GLADSTONE, and the foreign policy of Lord Joun Russell. Each of these subjects merits

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in Europe rather than heartily concurs with, and promotes the beneficial movements that are taking place. He has done much to drag England out of a path that was wrong; but has achieved little to impel her in a course which is right. His remonstrances against the annexation of Savoy, and the trickery with which that event was accompanied were wise and just, but he was equally energetic in urging VICTOR EMMANUEL not to attempt the liberation of Italy, in which he was quite wrong, and he has thus done much to place tranquillity above right, and to justify the complaint of foreigners that English foreign policy has no lofty aim. The impulse to better things must come from the people; and we may reasonably expect that his LORDSHIP will continue to give us that best of all aid—timely information of what is going on.

If we turn to the negative accomplishments of the session, we find our House of Commons could not reform its own basis in the state of the franchise and representation. It could not defend its rights against the flagrant usurpation of the press. It could not effect any important change in army or navy administration. It could do nothing in the way of Law Reform. not even get through a Bankruptcy Bill. It could not deal with the great question of Public Accounts, and the provision of any sufficient check against the waste and peculation by which at least ten millions are annually lost. It was incompetent to deal with any great social evil. Crime and Pauperism are to go on as before; some little protection is to be afforded to the poor Bleacher, but Ragged Schools are to be excluded from the educational grants, simply because their poverty does not enable them to come up to the standard of Privy Council respectability. It can pass Bills against Church Rates, but cannot abolish them, because it allows the House of Lords to be its master and submits to any humiliation rather than engage in a conflict on behalf of what is right.

Of the little qualities that disgrace a Legislature it is full. Of the great qualities that give dignity to a Senate it is lamentably deficient. It is a Club of Political idlers, only stimulated to action by selfish considerations. It does not represent the thoughts, the ideas, or the wishes of the nation. It is merely a provisional assembly, which, for the sake of public security, ought to be Reformed, and placed upon the just basis of a s uffrage extended to meet the requirements of our times.

COUNT PERSIGNY'S SPEECH.

THE failure of the harvest in France, and the advantage of taking Europe by surprise, will furnish two obvious reasons why the Imperial speech factory should now be employed in producing peaceful utterances; and accordingly, whether the great man himself, or one of his officials, addresses the world at large, we are assured that the era of war has passed away. Among the most curious of these attempts to comfort the nations, is the opening address delivered by Count PERSIGNY, to the General Council of the Loire. "Without pretending to abolish war," says M. DE PERSIGNY, the EMPEROR has repudiated fighting for the sake of avenging the defeats of the first empire." But there were two questions that required a military solution. One was, that of the East, and the other that of Italy; in both, the new empire boasts of success. It is said that by the destruction of Sebastopol, Russia] was prevented from taking possession of Constantinople, and the affairs of Turkey were handed over to a "united Europe." There is a portion of truth in this assertion. The war did weaken Russia so much, that a period of tranquillity became essential to her, and her alliance, in her reduced state, was worth less to France, than that of England. This was certainly a great gain for Europe, and while we may claim some portion of the credit for ourselves, we do not wish to detract from the merit of NAPOLEON III. "As regards Italy, continues the French Minister, "the Italian States were delivered from Austrian domination, and the principal object of the war was thus obtained." M. DE PERSIGNY must presume very much upon his hearers, if he claims for the Empire this emancipation of Italy from Austrian control. It has, it is true, taken place, or nearly so, as the result of the repudiation by the Italians of the monstrous projects of the Zurich Treaty. By winning the battles of Magenta and Solferino, France rendered an invaluable service to the Italians, which was handsomely paid for by the cession of Savoy, and which would have been rendered worthless, if the stipulations of Villafranca had been carried into effect. With the restoration of the Austrian potentates in Tuscany and the Duchies, and the admission of Austria to such a confederation as Louis NAPOLEON proposed, Italy would have had no independence whatever, and it is untrue to say that the Italians are now "jeopardizing the independence they

acquired by the war." As M. DE PERSIGNY knows, the war gave them nothing of the kind. but lett them in a condition of unstable equilibrium, in which it was impossible they could rest. When he adds that "the principle of non-intervention, now a recognised rule of international policy, exercises a dominating influence over the further development of the question," we fear that his affirmations go beyond the fact, as the German States have by no means agreed to adopt so rational a course, and would interfere to-morrow, at least by indirect measures, if Austria should be engaged in a new struggle with the Italian people.

M. DE PERSIGNY treats the apprehensions that France will attack the Rhine, or invade England, as purely chimerical; but he curiously adds that the Rhine is no longer a strategic position, and that France, being stronger than a disunited Germany, will never support the project of German unity for any prospect of advantage she might obtain. After this he lays down the doctrine that France would have right to the Rhine. for the sake of preserving the balance of Europe, if Germany should become a single State. This is a confirmation of the views which have often been explained in this journal. The negation may go for nothing, and the sentence be taken for a confession, that if any German Power wants Imperial aid, it may be had at the price of ceding the frontier of the Rhine. The Austrian empire is manifestly decomposing; the Prince of PRUSSIA has weakened his position in Germany by his approximation to the House of HAPSBURG, and the smaller potentates are occupied with jealousies and unscrupulous intrigues. Under these circumstances, internal dissensions in Germany are highly probable events, and the several parties in the coming quarrel are dexterously reminded that aid is sold next door.

Count PERSIGNY'S notions of political veracity are illustrated by his comments upon transactions before and after the Italian war. It will be remembered that strong assurances of peace were made shortly before a French army began its march. The Count observes : "If the EMPEROR kept silence before the outbreak of the war in reference to his promises to repulse the attacks of Austria upon Italy, it was with the motive of leaving the Italians in ignorance of his powerful assistance, which had they been aware of would have spread increased excitement amongst them." This is at once a strange excuse and a perversion of fact. Silence was not kept, but positive assurances of pacific intentions given to Europe, while Count CAVOUR was never left in the dark as to the assistance he might expect, and the cession of Savoy as the price of that help was talked of, if not absolutely arranged. long before the war began. M. DE PERSIGNY also tells us that nobody was deceived about the Savoy business-a statement so preposterously untrue, that only the Minister of a despot could venture to make it in a country where the press dare not expose the wickedness of the transaction. The French Empire was perfectly entitled to name a price for its services, and Sardinia did wisely in buying them. The folly has been in the pretences of disinterested magnanimity that were never felt, and in the paltry shuffling with reference to the just claims of the Swiss.

Since 1815, we are told, France "has been forced to follow the rôle imposed upon her by the Treaty of Vienna-now the political system has been overthrown by Europe itself." It is not easy to define what a Frenchman means by the rôle imposed upon his country by the Treaty of Vienna. Doubtless that treaty sought to make Austria a counterpoise to France, but successive French Governments voluntarily associated themselves with European absolutism. It was against the strong protests of England that the elder BOURBONS, after their restoration, interfered in Spain; and the settlement of 1815 did not make the July revolution, and place Louis PHILIPPE on the throne with a Constitution which, however defective, gave public opinion no unimportant sway. Nevertheless France did not develop any liberal policy abroad, and even when the third revolution came, LAMARTINE'S Republic had not a spark of generous sympathy for the cause of the nationalities. With all its faults, the foreign policy of NAPOLEON III. has been an immense improvement upon that of the BOURBONS, old or new, and it has no doubt raised France in the eyes of all the world. Her previous inglorious position under POLIGNAC, MOLE, THIERS, GUIZOT, OF LAMARTINE, was entirely her own fault, and not forced upon her by the Treaty of Vienna, or any other external cause. Now, according to the Count, France hus resumed her true place-" her work is achieved, and the mission of the new empire accomplished." The EMPLEROR, notwithstanding this disclaimer, may still fancy he has a "mission" to fulfil, and if the enlargement of Sardinia to a second-rate Power required the cession of Savoy, the union of

Germany, by which a power four times as big as itself aggrandises Sardinia, will need, as his minister explains, compensation on the Rhine.

While doctrines of this sort are put forth, everybody must distrust the ruler of France, Still it is not our business to protect the German Princes or the German frontier. The German people are quite capable of understanding their position. If they unite themselves, their Rhine will be safe; but if they permit their rulers to wrangle over their affairs, they will be betrayed, and discover at an unpleasant time of day, that some of the potentates have agreed to a modification of territory, as the price of Napoleonic aid,

The success of GARIBALDI, at Naples, will hasten the solution of these questions, and if the Allgemeine Zeitung is to be taken as a representation of German statecraft, a strong party is in favour of a military intervention for the benefit of FRANCIS II., and the POPE. The German journal is frantic in its anger against GARIBALDI, and FRANCIS JOSEPH only coquetted with Constitutionalism, in the hope of gaining power to play the part which it urges upon him. Meanwhile, the Nord affords little consolation by explaining to the House of Hapsburg, that there is no longer any occasion (raison d'etre) for an Austrain Empire to exist, So think the various races long tormented by its misrule. It were to be wished that our Government saw these things more plainly, talked less of 1815, and shewed itself more ready to welcome the Europe that is to be.

SPURGEONISM.

R. SPURGEON has become a great fact. His sayings and doings dispute a place in the records of the time with the manifestoes of potentates, the acts of legislatures, and the progress of revolutions. On a comparatively small stage—the word may not be out of place—he is as prominently before his immediate public as Lord PALMERSTON, LOUIS NAPOLEON, GARIBALDI, or the POPE. He has been photographed as often as any of these notable personages, and his chubby countenance is as well known as Louis NAPOLEON'S spikey moustache, or GARIBALDI's chesnut beard. There he is, in every shop window—occasionally judiciously placed between Cardinal WISEMAN and Dr. CUMMING—photo--graphically and stereoscopically taking tea with Mrs. S—— in an arbour. We have him, too, in his public capacity, raising a warning finger and beating the drum ecclesiastic. Steel and warning hinger and beating the drum ecclesiastic. Steel and copper conspire to turn him out in cross-hatched broad-cloth, as "yours very truly." Madame TUSSAUD presents him in wax; the Royal Academy in marble; and in Exeter Hall every Sunday morning some four thousand people brave broken ribs to see him in the flesh. Who shall say that Mr. SPURGEON is not a great fact? Well, he is a great fact; and, like all great facts, he is making on impression upon his age and time. Men of the same making an impression upon his age and time. Men of the same stamp have made an impression before now; but they had not the means and appliances to make it as deep and as lasting as Mr. SPURGEON'S impression is likely to be. WHITFIELD and ROWLAND HILL were not reported in the papers of the day as Mr. SPURGEON is, and consequently their fame did not reach its full SPURGEON is, and consequently their tame the not reach its full growth until they were dead and their personal influence had passed away. But in this age of cheap and plentiful newspapers, when Mr. Spurgeon preaches, he preaches not to hundreds or thousands, but to millions. His responsibility is all the greater. There is no doubt that Mr. Spurgeon is a man of considerable chility and comparison is a man of considerable

ability and some originality; and possibly even the highest of High Churchmen would not consider his doctrine as positively damnable. In a teacher, however, we expect a man who will not only teach what is true, but one who will teach in a manner and spirit likely to be profitable to the pupil. And as Mr. SPURGEON has become a teacher of the million, it would be well to inquire if he is such an instructor as the ago is likely to profit by, and be the better for. He is about to become the minister of one of the largest places of worship in London-the Metropolitan Tabernacle. Let us see with what views and in what spirit he is about to enter on his ministration. He inaugurated the new building the other day by giving an address, and relating some particulars of his recent visit to the Continent. His address opens with a joke in connection with the highly laughable subject of baptism. He reminded the gentlemen on the platform that if they fell through the boards they would be landed in the baptistry. There was no water there, but if any of them wanted to be im-mersed he would be glad to be their humble servant. (Laughter.) We do not wish to impute anything to Mr. SPURGEON for which he cannot be held responsible; but we may presume that if he contemplated a couple wanting to be married, he would offer to "do the trick for them." The ceremony of baptism, at any rate, is a capital take at the Tabernacle, as the laughter plainly indicates. Mr. SPURGEON now rises out of the underground baptistry, and soars to the subject of towers. He wants no towers to his Tabornacle, unless some of the brothron want to hang him on them. Here we have a joke upon death, and we can only regret that it was not a more brilliant one. However, it produced its effect; for a grain of wit goes a long way in a sea of solemnity. We next learn what would, above all things, cover Mr. SPURCEON with shame, and make him regard himself as "a guilty, sneaking sinner;" and that is, if he were to preach a sormon in the new Tabernaelo until every

farthing of its cost is paid. We do not, of course, blame Mr. SPURGEON for scruples of this kind, particularly as he looks to other people to pay the money. Owe no man anything, if you can get other people to pay your debts, is about as comfortable a doctrine as we can conceive. We now come to Mr. SPURGEON'S impressions of the Continent. He is clannish, and likes his impressions of the continent. He is claimish, and fixes his own country folk; and the captain of his vessel being an Essex man, like himself, is described as the cream of creation. We are somewhat afraid that Mr. SFURGEON's partiality for his countryman induces that creamy mariner to practise upon the Reverend gentleman's credulity. His story about the VIRGIN MARY sitting over the door of a snuff-shop smoking a pipe, is evidently one of those narratives which do very well for the marines, but which won't go down with the sailors at any price. However, Mr. SPURGEON believed it, and was evidently tickled with the notion of a sacred person blowing a cloud. We cannot expect that Mr. SPURGEON would consider the Roman Catholic religion to be conducive to morality, but his reason for so thinking is sufficiently amusing. He observed in a window near the Cathedral in Cologne, articles which were so horribly indecent that he dared not mention them. Mr. SPURGEON never saw anything so horribly indecent in this country. It is evident that he never walked down a certain street near the Strand which has a church at each end. Many things shocked Mr. SPURGEON on the Continent, but nothing seems to have excited his indignation so niuch as the spectacle of women doing all the hard work, while their husbands took their ease and smoked their pipes. That was a sight to disturb alike his equaninity, his christianity, and his respect for the laws. Had he been one of those strapping women, he would have braved any act of Parliament ever enacted, and given those lazy husbands a sound thrashing. He did not like to contemplate what would be the result if such a custom obtained in England; for then he would smoke his pipe while Mrs. S. preached, and he did not think that would be a change for the better. Really, we are not by any means so sure of that. We naturally look for a large amount of charity and christian forbearance in a thorough-going Evangelical; but we are afraid Mr. S. does not possess those qualities in an eminent degree. He has no bowels for the poor deluded Irish Brigade of the POPE. He despises their scanty luggage, ridicules their poor store of cold potatoes, and declares them to be only fit to cut up for mops. Of his secular reading Mr. SPURGEON gives us an example, in ascribing to the late Mr. ALBERT SMITH the remark that Cologne (or Boulogne-which?) possesses 83 different stinks. Of the elasticity of his conscience we have an illustration in the naive confession that he preached in full canonicals at Geneva, against his principles, to please his friends. We must not, however, forget to mention that before commencing this entertainment the reverend gentleman intimated to his audience, in most unmistakeable terms, that he was not going to begin until a certain sum of money was forthcoming. The amount was fixed at the modest figure of £1,000, and not until nine hundred and ninety odd pounds of that sum were dropped into the hat, could he be induced to begin the performance. When the twopence more was thrown into the ring, the donkey went up the ladder. Now we are willing to admit that this sort of thing in church is very amusing. Very little makes us laugh when we feel we ought to be serious. But then we don't go to church to laugh. And the question is, whether it is better to go to church to laugh. And the question is, whether it is better to go to church to yawn and go to sleep over a dull serious sermon, or to be kept awake by jokes and funny stories ? We have had more than enough of the dull, serious business. We have dislocated our jaws yawning over prosy, unimpassioned discourses, and we have telt the want of the age to be a few eloquent preachers, who can rouse us up and fix our attention. But is there no medium to be struck in these things? Can't we be rescued from the arms of SUMNUS without being pitched into the boson of Momus P Is there no halfway-house of refreshment between the Lugubrious Counte-nance and the Broad Grin P It is high time to ask this question, for Mr. SPURGEON while he attracts thousands of all classes, from ministers of state down to mudlarks, is exercising the influence of a propagandist among the rising generation of preachers. Go into the parks any Sunday morning or alternoon, and you will find his dis-ciples holding forth from every bench and tree-stump. That they are his disciples, is evident. They have studied his style and manner, and, like all copyists, they imitate his worst points. Their familiarity with sacred names and subjects, is the chief characteristic of their style. Even boys of ten or a dozen years have turned preachers, and out of the mouths of those babes and sucklings proceeds SPURand out of the mouths of these bases and the problem g_{EON} . Like their distinguished master, they are all on hob-and-nobterms with MosEs and the prophets. To hear them talk, one would imagine that they had gone to school with the patriarchs, and played at marbles with the apostles. In fact, popular preaching is beginning to partake of the nature of the burlesques which are now in so much favour at the theatres. Its great purpose is to make puns and points, and bring the house down every now and then with a comic dance of words. Only one practice is wanting to make the parallel complete,—the practice of *encores*. That will, no doubt, come in time, if the taste and good sense of the public do not lead them at once to discountenance and set their faces against a style of preaching which chiefly depends for its success upon the practice of turning sacrod things into a joke.

FAST HATS.

T is true that *l'habit ne fait pas le moine*, but great is that man who is thoroughly superior to his clothing.—we mean to its influence; in whom, for instance, seediness of costume produces no moral humiliation, and consequently, through a lowered morale, no

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depression of the intellectual functions,-for old BEN JONSON'S adage suits most of us, "Out of clothes out of countenance, out of countenance out of wit." It has often been made to appear that the studied garb of great men is by no means without significance. We have little doubt that it operates as well as indicates—that it is often not merely a sign, but a cause. But of clothes, the moral is far greater than the intellectual expression; forcing upon a man, as it were, ab extra. and that very intensively, the qualities, and penetrating him with the character of those whose costume he is wearing for the time, whether that costume be purely professional or not. A whole genus seems to press upon a man, with all its traits, with the combined weight of all its individuals, to stamp and assimilate him-to force him, as the term is, to be " worthy of the cloth " which he has adopted. Who will deny that some of our very best soldiers have owed the first budding of their bravery very considerably to their uniform-that the actor acts with more spirit when he is dressed for his part, than at a miserable repetition without costume? Take an individual, conscientious in his dealings, and sober in his fashions': invest that individual with a green cut-away coat rather the worse for wear, insist upon his adopting an indifferently shabby white hat, planted rather jauntily askew; this is enough; we leave the lower part of the integument to the fancy and the mercy of the reader; does the latter imagine for one moment that the moral qualities of the individual in question would not undergo a gradual deterioration? On the other hand, the scamp, or the swell, to whom the green cut-away originally belonged, but who has exchanged it for our sober friend's suit of black, with the short pantaloons, the shoes, the grey worsted stockings, and hat, the hinder rim of which gently reposes on the coat collar, this transnuted scamp, we say, after a month's uncomfortable experience of the new costume, feels himself gradually oppressed by a compulsory gravity, feels less and less enjoyment in his penny cigar, begins to think slang at first questionable, then decidedly out of character, and, if still irreclaimable to the paths of virtue, at any rate lays down the blackguard and bully, and does homage by taking up the hypocrite. Our clothes, indeed, seem to bind us, in honour, to certain conformity of action; a man does not like to be *infidelis erga* restem suam; perhaps he feels some delicacy about disappointing the expectations of his fellow creatures, formed upon the promise of his outer man. We could imagine few people both more inconsistent and more unhappy, more shaken and wavering in their *morale*, than a being compelled every week to draw blindly a fresh suit from a secondhand clothes² warchouse. His case would be different from that of the public portement when desired that of the public performer, who derives momentary aid indeed from the dress which he adopts, but does not retain it long enough at a time to admit of its deeply influencing his character.

Let us draw these general rays of luminous remark to a focus, and bring it briefly to bear upon the subject of hats. No part of the Englishman's costume has been so much denounced by the Englishman himself, none pronounced to be so ugly, irrational, and in all respects inconvenient, as the ordinary average English hat. Yet must there exist in this hat some secret propriety, some special fitness. for, in spite of obloquy, no portion of the Englishman's costume has undergone so few metamorphoses; we except indi-vidual extravagances in this article, the infallible evidence of conceit, and infallibly aggravating it: an abnormal hat. made to order, is the corollary of Vanity's "consummate flower," and the seeds lie at its base. to this rule we never knew an exception.

There has been, it must be admitted, a great innovation in the case of the wide-awake, in all its ugly varieties; but never have Englishmen, except when sporting, travelling, or gardening, and many scarcely even then, taken to it kindly. It is secretly felt not to be a gentleman's costume ; the most aristocratic general bearing, the most cold-drawn expression of face, the most point do vice punctiliousness in the rest of the attire, will not, at any rate in the streets of a town, suffice to support the wide-awake's inherent blackguardism and make it tolerable; further, it may be asserted, that the wide-awake, when persisted in, together with all those loose, arbitrary, *neglige* habiliments which so often accompany it, indicate, both as precedent and consequent, an irregular impulsive will, and a slackened self-discipline. The only person that can be excepted from these remarks is the reader.

If she looks impudent, nonchalante, and devil-me-care, the inference is evident : observe, the walk is greatly influenced by the style of hat; to avoid this, however, there is often the same self-confidence and independence, tempered, not with levity, but with a haughty repulsiveness, which is still more disagreeable, though, perhaps, more reputable. A great deal is said now-a-days about the fastness of our young females ;—a hat of the above description is the fastness of all kinds of fastnesses and self-wills. It is our opinion that the female fastness and independence of which our writers and parents complain so much came in with these hats, partly causing the hats, and partly caused by them. Let them be abolished. A regular broad-brim shelters the cheeks, and softens, with a nice arrangement of the hair, the corner of the eye. The depressed brims, again, are far better than the upraised ones; they have, it is true, a somewhat dowdy and melancholic air, but a graceful figure and a lady-like, lively, and natural bearing overcomes those disadvantages, and such hats are a real, not an affected, shelter from the sun, or from too ardent masculine glances : the true English maiden's cheeks will not bear bareness.

ARMY MISRULE.*

COMMON Soldier, several of whose poems have appeared in Once a Week, has indited a letter to Lord Palmerston, somewhat disfigured by misprisions of wit, which contains some home-truths in regard to the government and discipline of the army, that merit public attention. He tells us that he has served as a private in the 1st corps in the profession, and is sufficiently familiar with its general management. He knows more about it than blue-books can teach, and asserts that the wonder is, not that the British soldier is what he is, but rather that he stops short of being what the vital exigencies of Red Tape would drive him to become." On leaving, he bade farewell to a non-commissioned officer, who urged him, in heaven's name, to write if he had the power, and let his country know how degraded the members of the service had become. and how much is wasted in preventing them from being better. "I have sat here," said the old subaltern, " hour after hour, wondering how the best part of a man can be so gradually undermined, and vet the carcass still remain what it is, presenting a total apparently so stable and so sound." Such is, indeed, the general disaffection in the barracks, that the writer thinks the matter is becoming serious. At any rate, as we have said, his statement deserves consideration. It shall have it.

"There is no use," he continues, " in hoodwinking the fact. . . The conversation of the barrack-rooms, without an exception, is neither complimentary to Government in the concrete, nor suggestive of a continuity of forbearance; but is revolutionary in the extreme." If steps be not taken in time, he argues that "the soldier will undertake for himself the reorganization of the infamous and degrading system by which he is ruled. A sense of power, and a tendency to try the efficacy of exerting it, prevails largely in the ranks." This is a fearful warning. Let us take heed, and not neglect it. The soldier, we are told, fosters a sense of wrong. which must ultimately grow to formidable proportions, as the truth begins to teach him that the recruiting-sergeant is, after all, but part of a system having its root in another quarter, and fostered by an oligarchy whom ignorance believes it has a prescriptive right to *hate*, and certainly has the strength to *overthrow* at the expense of a nation's welfare. Not only is the expediency of the lash questioned, but that of punishment in the abstract.

The evil of desertion needs cure. What is the only available remedy? Our letter-writer thus answers. "Expend the sums of money now lost to the country (as bribes for the capture of deserters), in rendering the home of the soldier more like that which he has left to become (as he thinks) your voluntary guardian, but whose state the condemned convict would scarcely accept in exchange for his own."

He tells a sad story of a soldier who had deserted, was captured, punished (not with the lash), and released from prison. In a few

days, he deliberately shot himself. Our Common Soldier is no advocate for the abolition of promotion This is no remedy for the specific evils complained urchase. The men would rather be commanded by gentlemen ;-but of. they would have those gentlemen show a kindliness and sympathy of demeanour. For want of this, there is many a man whose only wish is to be placed in such a position that he may safely shoot his officer. "The officer, upon whose success, in a certain cause, whole centuries of civilization depend, for ought we know, may be one marked out for death by the hand of the soldier at his side. The state of the case appears, from the evidence given, not to have been exaggerated. The writer speaks of one who cherished such an insane desire, as bearing a stainless character on the books of the corps; and asks, emphatically, " Do you suppose, my Lord, that, in time of war, no officers, or but few, fall by the hands of subordinates ? I should be *glad* to believe so too, but the premises from which we have started lead to a far different conclusion." Such a statement is well calculated " to startle and way-lay" the most inapprehensive of the public. The writer proposes that the present system of *salutation* off duty should be superseded. If the men were not *compelled* to salute, the discovery would soon be made of the " officer who possesses the knack of changing a loyal soldier into a malcontent, by the atterance of a single sectors?" Here is a simple means of by the utterance of a single sontence." Here is a simple means of letting in the light of truth. Are the army authorities afraid of the test P If not, let them try it.

Let us contract our focus still more to a point, and throw it, at once illuminating and destroying, on the ordinary female hat of the day, our final and real object. We have seen the wide Leghorn hat, its front flapping upwards in the breeze, and discovering the sun-burnt face of the Florentine Contadina, and we have seen the graver broad-brims of some of the Swiss Cantons, and have thought them highly graceful. Under some varieties of the hat the English female face, too, looks charming; but the ordinary type, the hat rather small, turned up somewhat sharply at the sides, so as to form a bed for a portion of the feather generally worn with it, is intolerable, and most thoroughly unbecoming to the girls of England ; indeed, it changes their whole aspect and expression. The Frenchwoman has sense and taste; her whole air is coquettish; as a general rule she knows that her countenance would not bear the hat, and she consequently avoids it. The natural English girl's face is sweet and modest; with this she is not satisfied—she aims at French coquettishness, and, instead of looking coquettish, she looks brazen : we are certain that the expression is not merely in part produced by the hat, but designedly accommodated to it. The girls of England are no longer the same in our country towns; we speak, perhaps, rather of the middle than of the aristocratic classes. We have a tolerably practised eye, and we declare that when these hats are worn it is next to impossible, in the large second and third rate towns of England, to decide, especially in the evening, in very many cases, whether a young woman is, or is not, precisely what she ought to be.

Army Misrule with Barrack Thoughts, and other Poems. By a Common Soldier. Saunders, Otloy, and Co.

Instances of misconduct on the part of officers are abundantly given, misconduct of the most tyrannic and capricious sort. We need not go into them. The reader will find them in the book for himself. The details are, some of them, too disgusting, and would pollute our columns. Many of the evils might be remedied by better sanitary arrangements, and the application of some common conveniences in favour of common decency and comfort. That what is called Routine should stand in the way of indispensable reforms is simply abominable.

The state of things described in this book is "so horrible and inconceivable," that the author's veracity has been disputed. But it appears that the editor of the *Constitutional Press Magazine* is in possession of the proofs, in the author's discharge, which bears also testimony to his good conduct. The latter sees, in the Volunteer movement, an antidote to the system of which he

We now turn to the poems, which conclude the volume. These are, indeed, of a rare excellence; and we cannot but feel a deep compassion for the writer, that such a man should have been subjected to the indignities that he relates. We cannot but feel, while reading these pages (adopting his own language to express the sentiment):

> "Great deeds are done by men in every clime, With names unutter'd by the tongue of Time, Who die unchronicled, yet die possessed Of kingly attributes; who sink to rest Without reward or trophy—nothing save Unsullied honour, mourning by the grave."

This is vigorous writing; but there is some in the volume that is also musical and picturesque. We can easily conceive that a mind so capable of composing exquisite phantasies, susceptible, ambitious, and full of a proper self-reverence, must have suffered peculiar torture in the barracks. But this ought not to lessen the effect of his statements, which are true to the letter.

CAPTAIN BRAND.*

THERE are two classes of works, the contemplative and the active, or the classical and melodramatic. The former deals in the more minute analysis of human feeling, dives into the root and core of good and evil passions, traces their progress through each successive stage, and speculates upon the various causes which lead to their full manifestation or ultimate suppression ; in short, seeks rather to give the reader an insight into the subtler metives of the heart and brain, to initiate him into the mysteries of his own thoughts, feelings, and sensations, than to afford him any practical, common-sense view of society in general. The latter class, on the contrary, places before us the great chart of worldly experiences, introduces us face to face with the stern realities of existence, presents before us various specimens of good and evil dispositions, and, without stopping to theorize upon the contradictory impulses of our natures, or attempting to trace our foibles and weaknesses to their original sources, sets forth men's actions as their only interpreters, without any further exposition on the part of the author. The first of these divisions treats of the inner life of man, the second of his outer; and are as distinct one from the other, as the calm, speculative thoughtfulness of the mind is from the noisy ebullition of energetic passion. The public taste is pretty well divided between these two styles of novelwriting, the patrons of each being counted in nearly equal prowriting, the patrons of each being counted in hearly equal pro-portions. The novelist of the contemplative school, however, from the fact of his having to dive so far below the surface, and the large perceptive faculties and extraordinary powers of divination necessary to enable him to penetrate into those hidden sources of individual character and feeling, which are sealed to the understanding of the large majority of his species, has, apparently, the most difficult task to accomplish; on the other hand, the romancist, who sets himself to paint the more real and positive side of the picture, and to depict the great mass of suffering humanity according to the several guises in which they have become familiar to the community at large, requires an intense knowledge of men and manners, and of the actual world around him, only to be obtained by long personal experience in the great which each vector of life. (The latter

hero is accustomed to disport himself when not engaged in the exercise of his illicit calling. Here, in an unconsciously short space of time, and without any needless prefatory dissertation, we lare made acquainted with one of the most perfect specimens we ever remember to have been indulged in by historian or novelist of a consummate gentleman blackguard. If there ever was a cool, determined, bloodthirsty, smiling ruffian, this is one. The author does not attempt to mince matters between himself and his interesting protegee; no sooner does the latter make his appearance on the scene than he proceeds in the most deliberate manner to hold him up, in the broad glare of day, with all his imperfections, to the inspection of the reader, who forthwith conceives for him the most natural and understandable of antipathies and aversions. The Captain of the "Centipede," moreover, has imbibed some very peculiar and disagreeable notions relative to the sacredness of human life in general, considering the same to be held only under the sufferance of his Piratic Majesty, to be summarily extinguished, or otherwise, according to his arbitrary pleasure; accordingly we find him committing murder with the utmost gravity and sangfroid, and afterwards wiping the blood from his hands with an embroidered cambric handkerchief in the most artistic and aristocratic fashion. But, then, Captain Brand has been born of fashionable parents, brought up in fashionable schools, understands the ways of fashionable society, and would not for the world commit his villanies in other than the most fashionable manner. Upon this principle we find him despatching his victims in secret, at dead of night, so as to avoid all noise and hubbub, the same being obnoxious to the highly-refined and cultivated prejudices. And yet Captain Brand makes an enemy, a bitter enemy, and one, moreover, who has formerly escaped a trap devised for him by this ingenious scoundrel; from the hand of this persevering and inveterate foe our hero ultimately receives his quietus, departing this life in the most novel and uncomfortable fashion, leaving behind him no single mourner to weep over his manifold frailties, or pray for the repose of his fallen and perjured spirit.

It is not our intention, however, to go too deeply into the details of this story, feeling that by so doing we should be not only treating the author with injustice, but also depriving the reader of a treat which is decidedly in store for him, should he ever be induced to take up the present volume with a view to wiling away a few otherwise tedious and unoccupied hours.

The author possesses an opulence of language and a brilliancy of imagery which throws an indescribable charm over the whole production, and will, together with the thrilling interest of the story, and the excellent manner in which the whole is arranged and put together, doubtless achieve for it a considerable notoriety.

LONDON BY MOONLIGHT.*

IN EN of One Idea are generally strong men; strong in will and purpose, strong in determination, strong in execution; for their attention is undivided, and they throw the entire strength of their being into their work. Lieut. John Blackmore is evidently one of these mighty single-purposed individuals. He was born in 1815, at Lyme Regis. A providential escape marked him for somebody. In 1824, in the great storm which destroyed the Cob, John was asleep in his bed, from which his father took him just in time; for not two minutes afterwards the tall kitchen chimney fell through the roof on the bed. Subsequently, the house was set on fire by an explosion, but the family escaped. Our hero lost his father when twelve years old; but was under the influence of a pious sister, until the time came when he was to choose a profession, and he yielded to the temptations supposed to appertain to a naval life. The pious sister was shocked; nevertheless, on the 30th June, 1829, he bade farewell to his friends in a line-of-battle ship, and was at once launched on the ocean, and on life. Eighteen months afterwards he was appointed to a frigate going abroad; on that occasion he visited his sister for the last time. The poor girl wept, perceiving that her brother " had become very deeply entangled in the snares of Satan."

At sea, John Blackmore had encountered many storms. One, however, at last overtook him of an unforgettable character, while on a voyage to the Cape. Certain accidents, too, happened on board, or in the jolly boat, which induced more serious reflection. After six years of active service, he became a lieutenant. He then married, and has been the parent of nine children, eight now living. One week after his marriage, he was ordered to the Mediterranean, to take part in the bombardment of St. Jean d'Acre. In 1843, a fearful misfortune happened to him and others on board the C------. One of the portable magazines blew up, and left scarcely a pane of glass in the ports on deck. The lieutenant was dangerously wounded, a large splinter having fixed itself under his jaw-bone, and fifty smaller ones in various parts of his body. The chaplain, several seamen, some of the passengers, and others, were also severely hurt. The lieutenant lingered a long time in Melville Hospital, so disfigured that his wife failed to recognise him, and underwent the necessary operations. Here he was visited by a religious lady, who preached to him of the barren fig-tree. An old man, too, who had been an actor; but was then a preacher, spake cheerfully to him, and forefold that he was spared for some special work. After a confinement of eight months, he was discharged as convalescent. An indelible mark remained on his right check. The survivor of such a frightful accident was just the man for a missionary. The task he set himself was the deliverance of the

experience in the great whirl and vortex of life. The latter, moreover, for the effective rendering of his story, depends greatly upon stirring incidents and startling events, which must not, of course, too far overstep the probabilities of nature, or his end will be defeated; thus the difficulties which beset these two opposite schools of fiction may be considered as pretty equally balanced.

The novel at present under consideration, and which has called forth these few preliminary remarks, belongs to the less ideal of the two classes above enumerated, being a racy, melodramatic tale of the high seas, and is written with a zest and spirit which renders it peculiarly interesting, and entitles it to receive at our hands the highest and most unqualified praise. The author in this volume entertains us with an account of the loves, adventures, and singular death of Captain Brand, a notorious pirate of the West Indies, whose numerous lawless expeditions had rendered his name a matter of wonder and terror to the inhabitants of the four quarters of the globe. We are first introduced to this eccentric individual in one of his secure and secret haunts, situated somewhere near the south side of Cuba, in which place our amiable

*Captain Brand, of the Contipude; a Pirate of ominence in the West Indiess; his Life and Exploits, together with some account of the singular manner by which he departed this life, By Lieut. H. A. Wise, U.S.A. (Harry Gringo), author of "Los ngos," and "Tules for the Murines."-London: Trubner & Co.

* The London by Mondight Mission, heing an Account of Midnight Crutics on the Streets of London, during the last thirteen years. By Liout, John Blackmore, R.N., with a brief Memoir of the Author. Robson and Avery.

poor unfortunate girls "who are found thronging the streets of London by night; and also in distributing suitable tracts to the male sex, their copartners in sin." He seems to have commenced this errand of mercy in a spirit of perfect simplicity. After a time he founded "The London Female Dormitory and Industrial Institution," 9, Abbey-road, St. John's-wood and "the Female Temporary Home," 218, Marylebone-road. The temporary home is not exclusively for fallen females, but affords shelter and support to young women who may be for a short time without employment. Many of the young women met with by Lieutenant Blackmore on his midnight cruises are assisted in various ways, without being admitted into either of the homes. At length, in 1859, his exertions obtained an especial notice in the *Times*, and "the Moonlight Mission" has since become an institution.

The book before us details the earliest steps taken by the lieutenant. His first connexion was with the Ragged Schools: when he was led to consider whether, so much having been done for the ragged boys of the metropolis, something might not be done for the lost young women. At first he worked with a committee of gentlemen, but these, with other occupations on their hands, could not keep pace with the Man of One Idea. He, therefore, requested to be intrusted with the entire responsibility of the work, and the Committee " resigned to Lieutenant Blackmore the future direction of the Institution, together with all property and effects belonging thereto." He took this step with the conviction that " it is not bands of men, nor confederate nations, nor proud alliances, that have done great things for the world; it is solitary individuals, wielding simply but in earnest the force of their own individual minds, bringing to bear-upon every one around them the power of that special gift with which God has endowed them."

Doubtless the Lieutenant has received his one gift with his one idea. He compares himself with Luther, Calvin, Knox. Like them, certainly, he goes direct to his purpose. He does not meddle with statistical data; he does not inquire whether, as fast as he reduces the competition in the market of vice, the ranks are not immediately filled up with new recruits, but proceeds to rescue the sheep that have already wandered. The diligent and industrious may complain that the recovered dormitorians are placed in situations which they have not earned, and which they who have earned them aspire after in vain; he loses all such considerations in the joy he feels over the repentant sister. That "the Social Evil" can be conquered by such means is, indeed, a vain supposition; but many individuals may indubitably be benefited. The root of the evil must be attacked at the deepest earthings-in the artificial state of the marriage law, and of social manners. So long as young men of £300 a-year prefer club-life, and think that on such resources they are not entitled to, and cannot, honourably, take a wife, there must always be a surplus female population without honest means of subsistence. So long as such young men, of respectable family, gay, well-dressed, and seeking pleasure exclusively, set the fatal example, the aspiring artisan or shopman will likewise adopt the same Malthusian principle, and seek his own good at the expense of poor womankind. The responsibilities of sexual union will be evaded by the more reflective on principle, as well as disregarded without any by the thoughtless and merely sensual. The motives for sin increase in number and complexity, and gain even respectability from association with certain other questions of public importance, and on which political economists have written learned and ponderous treatises. We must go to the source of the evils complained of, and find the remedy endeavoured after in improved institutions and a better and more practical code of morals, as well as better examples set by those who lead in the structure of social manners.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTES. OLAPHAM LECTURES.*

THE subject of Mechanics' Institutes has not yet lost its interest. They have not, it is granted, yielded all the results that were expected; but their principle is still as sound as ever. They have, at any rate, survived the prejudices that opposed them at the outset, and made considerable progress. They would have made more, had not some prejudice and more ignorance yet existed, which time has yet to conquer or remove. Reactions have been attempted, in several places have partially succeeded. Mr. H. Whitehead, in his admirable Lectures, tells us as much. He montions a gentleman who assured him that he was formerly a great supporter of education, and that he had seen reason to change his mind, boing convinced that we have now too much of it. A friend answered the objector, reminding him that his servants came from such schools as he had just maligned. "It is there," said the monitor, " that they are taught to read and write." "Servants, sir!" replied the other with masterly presence of mind, "my experience of servants is that the most ignorant are the best." Out on such half-faced fellowship! But, doubtless, there are many who would place limits on popular education for obvious reasons. But those reasons we know to be bad, and such limitations to be injurious to the causo, and perhaps dangerous to the class that would impose them. All, however, have not taken up with such narrow notions. There are still numbers who "assent to the maxim of King Alfred, that every Briton ought to know how to read and write." Mr. Whitehead 'offers many excellent suggestions for the promotion of progress in educational institutes. One is the establishment of Lending Libraries. An Act of Parliament, indeed, has

been passed in their favour, enabling rate-payers in any parish to levy a yearly rate of not more than a penny in the pound, for the establishment and carrying on of a Free Library and Reading Room, provided the consent of two-thirds of the rate-payers present at the meeting can be obtained. Mr. Whitehead thinks it strange that in many of the large London parishes—in the city of London, in Islington, in St. George's, Hanover-square, in Marylebone, in St. Pancras, in Paddington, in Clerkenwell, and more recently in Camberwell, public meetings for this purpose have proved complete failures. St. Margaret's and St. John's, Westminster, are favourable exceptions to this rule. They have founded a small library, which has met with gratifying success. "Westminster," as our lecturer wittily remarks, " is, in this respect, to the other London parishes, what Piedmont is to the despotisms of Europe."

what Piedmont is to the despotisms of Europe." One necessary principle in the conduct of lending libraries is, that the readers should be supplied with the books that they would like to read—(works of fiction, for instance), and not with books that refuse to circulate. The readers, themselves, will come at last to more serious books:—fictitious works induce the habit. Mr. Whitehead found this the way in Clapham. "We are not as yet," says he, "strong in science. The time is at hand, however, when we shall be. We have abstained from professing to teach, and in our selection of books for the library have been content experimentally to feel our way. Already our readers are beginning to educate us to the appreciation of science."

This experimental way of conducting Mechanics' Institutes is much to be commended;—the arbitrary one has failed entirely. The working-man is best aware of his own wants. He has first to live, then to legislate;—food first for his support, and next for the gratification of a more refined taste. This is natural progress, and none other can be availably substituted for it.

The Rev. Mr. H. Whitehead has a keen perception of the spirit of the times, and its influence on the operative mind. The active are readily spured on by the thinking, and soon outrun them, rushing into action before the process of thinking is complete. Mr. Driver, too, complains of this tendency, in the matter of "Strikes" and "Documents," where both masters and men act without suffcient reflection, and counter to the laws which are purposed for their welfare. Mr. Driver considers that a good deal yet remains to be done before the Working Classes can fully realize the rights and responsibilities of their proper position. They are, he adds, by no means satisfied, either with themselves or with their relative position to other classes. One cannot help seeing, he remarks, that, from one end of the country to another, there is a sort of upheaving, a reaching out after something, which these who are most deeply the subjects of it are perhaps the least competent to understand and interpret. The working classes has advanced to a more elevated position. But so, likewise, has every other, though perhaps in a different way. "The upper classes of the present time, compared with what they were fifty years ago, have progressed as much intellectually and morally as the working classes have within the same time physically and socially. One has been cultivating and improving its position; the other has been occupied in striving for a position which it has at length won."

The abuses of system are well exposed by the Rev. T. C. Whitehead. The world keeps travelling on, and institutions, to be safe, must travel with it. What has done once will not always do again. "At some time or other you have had a delightful meeting with some friends. By universal consent it was a day of great enjoyment. In an evil hour you and your friends have agreed to repeat the day and its pleasures. You assembled the same friends. You provided the same means of entertainment. You went to the same spot. You intended to have the same delight. But the mocking spirit of enjoyment had fled, determined to convince you that he was not bound by your arrangements, and that Spirit is not the slave of Form." The systematic character of the education of modern times is unfavourable to the production of great original thinkers. The evils of mere Routine are patent, but are here traced to their source with a master's skill.

In the little book before us (for it is a small one), there is a greater number of excellent remarks than we find in many a large and elaborate treatise. Lecture-writing, like essay-writing, is a great blessing. The writer, in either case, writes little or much, according to his knowledge : and where he has not full information, contents himself with a guess or a suggestion. And these recur at no long intervals, but evermore turn up, two or three in a short paragraph. In this way, a multitude of things are said, which, if they had had to be formally discussed, might have perished in silence. There is in Mr. H. Whitehead's lectures much that stands out distinguishable from the rest, and marks him as a man of subtle and philosophical mind. He takes his ground always on principle, and works such principle through, whether it is for or against the workman or his employer, for or against the Literary Institute or obsolete prejudices, or for or against the immediate argument which he would himself support. He would have the truth, and only that, prevail. Such a teacher, speaking with authority, must be of great advantage to the struggling institutes in his parish, whose cause he would promote, and must also conduce greatly to the elevation of all classes within the circle of his influence.

* Lectures, chiefly on Subjects relating to Literary and Scientific and Mechanics' Institutes. By H. Whitehead, M.A., Curate of Clapham; T. C. Whitehead, M.A., Incumbent of Gawcott, Bucks; and W. Driver. Bosworth and Barrison.

FRENCH HISTORICAL WORKS.

A T first sight it would certainly seem that nothing can be more interesting than the *Momoires de Louis XIV*.* If we delight in the gossip of Saint Simon, if we find so much pleasure in the

* Mémoires de Louis XIV., pour l'instruction du Dauphin; première edition complète, d'après les textes originaux, avec une Etade sur leur composition, des notes et des colaireissements, par Charles Droyss. 2 vols., 8vo. Paris, Didjer.

SEPT. 1, 1860.]

picturesque narrative of Cardinal de Retz. or the amusing, although not generally edifying critcism of "Tallemand des Reaux," what a treat it must be to see le grand monarque himself letting us into his secrets, detailing to us his political and administrative plans; in a word, justifying before posterity the system of government which he deemed the safest and the wisest to follow ! We would caution, however, our readers against expecting too much from the work we are now alluding to; nay, we will even go so far as to say that never was there a more thoroughly disappointing book; and although the Memoires de Louis XIV. must ever retain an important position as documents towards a complete understanding of the seventcenth century in France, yet examined from a literary point of view they will scarcely repay a perusal. When we take up a book bearing the seductive title Memoires, we anticipate something quite different from the stately dignified garb of history; we want to be introduced behind the scenes, and we believe we shall see the hero coming up to us en deshabille, divested of his wig, his badges, his lace, and his embroidered coat. With Louis XIV. it is not so. Louis XIV. could never prevail upon himself to stoop down from his pedestal; he could never condescend to do the most common-place things, like the vulgar herd of mortals, and we know that even the putting on and taking off of his nightshirt was a mystery regulated by the strictest laws of etiquette. This circumstance will at once explain what style of writing we must look for when we open the Memoires now under consideration. Then, even if we were reading, at all events, the *bona fide* work of Louis XIV.; if these nine hundred and odd closely printed pages had originally been the result of royal penmanship, and could bear the inscription Ludovicus magnus fecit, but no; we have scraps of notes by one collaborateur, fair copies by another; a few hieroglyphics written by the master himself are expanded first into a journal, and then into a set of memoires (avec variantes), until, what with M. de Persigny, what with M. Pellisson Fontanus, l'un des quarante de l'Academie Francaise, we hardly know on what shoulders to lay the responsibility of the above Memoires. Truly, the art of collaborating, so extensively practised at the present day, had already reached so inconsiderable a state of perfection when the eldest son of the Church was busily employed in prosecuting his Huguenot subjects, and in laying waste the

Palatinate. This is not the first time the Memoires de Louis XIV. have been published. About fifty years ago Grouvelle, who had at his disposal the papers of General Gronoard, printed, in six octavo volumes, a work to which he gave the pompous title of *Œuvres de* Louis XIV., and which included, of course, the Memoires. But fifty years ago editors understood their task far differently from what they do Anno Domini 1860; they neither took the trouble of giving a correct text, nor scrupled at altering or suppressing the passages they could not fully understand.

Hence Grouvelle's work was crowded with mistakes of every description, and utterly valueless. Indeed, the recent researches of M. Cousin about Pascal, and of M. Pailland respecting Borsard, prove in the most conclusive manner that all the French classics of the seventeenth century should be re-edited; and Louis XIV. formed, a few months ago, no exception to the rest. M. Dreyss, who has undertaken the task, deserves the greatest credit for the manner in which it is performed; and the very valuable introduction (extending over 251 pages) which comprises more than half of the first volume, is, we think, a marked piece of critical ingenuity. The essential thing was to find out the amanueusis of Louis XIV. to discover the personage whose business it was to collect the king's rough notes, to put them into shape, and so prepare them for more critical eyes; and now an additional difficulty presented itself, for the journal, which at first is strictly simple and plain, without any artifices of language or seeking after effect, becomes afterwards of a totally opposite character. Towards the end it is florid, pompous, academical, and betrays on the part of the author an undue care for the niceties of mere verbal effect. The hand of Pellisson was perhaps easily distinguishable in this latter part; and besides, we know that the vainglorious academician used to boast of the position he occupied as secretary to the king; but as to who was the earliest amanuensis no positive conclusion could be attained, and the names of Dangeau, Baluze, Charles Terrault, the abbe Fleury, Conrard, and a few others are adduced with equal plausibility. The *pattina alme* of a Benedictine could solve this knotty problem, and M. Druyss used to study the handwriting of about ten or twelve persons before he was able to identify the veritable Simon Pure in a certain M. de Terigny, president aux inquetes, lecteur du roi, and even tutor to the Dauphin previous to the appointment of Bossuet. So much for the authorship of the Memoires; if we now examine the spirit in which they are written, we shall find everywhere the mania for self-glorification, that great, that all-provailing characteristic of Louis XIV., taking the plan of the enlightened tonderness which we so delight to see making the intercourse between a father and his son. Intensely solfish as the monarch undoubtedly was, still we are bound to take for granted that he had some natural affection for the prince who was destined to succeed him. But read the Memoires, and decide whether the impression you receive from them is not that Inoduced by acquaintance with a man who is always studying attitude, and dreading lest he should be thought to compromise his own dignity. One of the fragments which seem to us the most interesting is the one in the second volume, beginning page 310, and extending to page 320; it contains some advice on the caution with which a prince should conduct his love affairs; and it is ourious to see Louis XIV., at the very time when he was hesi-tating between Madame de la Pallien and Madame de Montespan,

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writing the following sentence :—" Et dans ce dernier moment ou nous arriverons peut etre plutot que nous ne pensons, Dieu ne nous demandera pas si nous avons vecu en honnete homme, mais si nous avons garde ses commandements." Here and there, too, we meet with a few acrid remarks which prove that Louis XIV. was not on the best of terms with his brother, the Duke d'Orleans, but the pretensions of Monsieur assume sometimes a grotesque form, and are answered in a manner more grotesque still. Only imagine the infatuation of the Duke asking " que sa femme eut chez la Reine une chaise a dos !" Could anything be more preposterous, more extraordinary, more symptomatic of those moral convulsions which are so noted in the latter days? Pancrace's fit of despair about *la form* and *la figure* of a set is nothing to it. However, his Majesty, ever cautious when his dignity is at stake, very properly replies, " ce que je pus fut de lui faire entendre que pour tout ce qui servirait a l'elever au-dessus de mes autres sujets, je le ferais toujours avec joie; mais que je ne crois pas pouvoir lui accorder ce qui semblerait l'approcher de moi, lui faisant voir par raison l'egard que je devais avoir a mon rang, la nouveaute de sa pretention, et combien il lui serait inutile d'y persister." And thus it was that on one occasion, at least, the dignity of the monarch suffered no detriment.

Men were wits in those days, Guy Tatin, for instance, Madame Corneil, and Bussy Babutin. How they must have laughed in their sleeves at such scenes! How Madame de Caylus must have enjoyed the fun, she, whose caustic spirit Louis XIV. particularly dreaded, and of whom Saint Simon says in his memoirs, "However amusing she was, the king never felt comfortable in her company." And since we have been led to speak of Madame de Caylus, let us devote a paragraph or two to the Souvenirs * of that lady, a new edition of which has recently been brought out with all the care, all the elegance which characterize M. Techener's publications. Here we have no longer to discuss texts, to examine varia lectiones, to institute a controversy about the wording or the punctuation of a paragraph. Madame de Caylus's Souvenirs have been so often reproduced, they have become so thoroughly a classical work that there is not the smallest hesitation possible with respect either to the authenticity of the book or to the way in which it was composed. The work is a very small one compared to the voluminous memoirs of Saint Simon and of Dangeau, but it has its importance, and it is quoted by all the writers who have anything to do with the reign of Louis XIV. Why is that? M. Charles Asselineau has very completely described in his interesting preface the merits which have secured immortality to the *Souvenirs* we are now examining. Madame de Caylus, above all things, is true; you can see that she does not look through magnifying glasses at the persons or circumstances which she narrates, but she gives her impressions naturally, faithfully, and simply. Another merit, and a very important one, in works of that description, is the quiet wit running on from page to page, wholly different from the sharp, generous, pungent satire of Saint Simon, and yet so keen that it tells with unerring effect. A French critic, quoted by M. Asselineau, has made the following remark:—" The anecdotes which Madame de Caylus relates have circulated so much that every one knows them by heart. Now it is very difficult, through the medium of a translation, to give any idea of observations or reflections the whole point of which often consists in a peculiarly untranslatable idiomatic expression; therefore, we shall not attempt to present our readers with any specimens from the *Souvenirs*. The book requires to be read as it has been composed, unfettered by any disquisitions, illustrations, or comments; it must be enjoyed as you would a picture of Rubens's or a sonata of Mozart's. "The Book," have we said? The appellation is almost a misnomer; the idea conveyed by this The appellation is almost a misnomer; the field conveyed by this word is one of toil, of study, of effort, which is as far remote as possible from the delightful production of Madame de Caylus. The *Soucenirs* are neither a novel nor a history; the title, "Memoir," is even incorrect when applied to them; "Le title de Memoires," she says, "quoi que de toutes les fagons d'ecrire la plus simple et la plus vivre, m'a copendant paru encore trop serieux pour ce que j'ai a dire, et pour la maniere dont je le dis." A singular feature in the Souvenir's is that they are not finished ; they end abruptly, like a conversation which is interrupted, and the reader finds himself in the most tantalising position, nay, obliged to take leave of the fair authoress at the very moment when she was becoming particularly entertaining. This is ex-tremely unfortunate, and we are much afraid that amidst all the MSS.-hunting, which is carried on with so much spirit at the present day, no one will be lucky enough to alight upon a second part of Madame de Caylus's Souvenirs-written by Madame de Caylus. Out of the numerous anecdotes related here, one of the drollest and most characteristic is the one referring to the conversion (or perversion, if our readers prefer it) of the lady herself, for she was originally a Protostant. The King, at the suggestion of Louvois, had already begun that course of persecution which, without destroying what was called heresy, ruined the prosperity of the country. Madame de Maintenon, carried away by her zeal, took foreible possession of Mademoiselle de Museay (such zeni, took forefole possession of Mademoiselle de Musgay (such was the maiden name of our heroine), and brought her to St. Germains, where the court resided. "I cried very much at first," remarks. Madame de Caylus, "but the next day I found the celebration of mass before the King so pretty that I consented to become a Roman Catholic, provided I might hear mass every, morning, and never get any flogging." This little detail gives a very just idea of the real value of the conversions which were

* Souvenirs de Madame de Caylus. Nouvelle edition, avec une introduction et des notes. Par M. Charles Asselineau. 12mo., Paris, Techener.

going on wholesale throughout France, and which interested courtiers had the impudence to represent as genuine and sincere. We might, if time allowed, make a few more remarks naturally. suggested by a perusal of this elegant little volume, but we forbear. We shall only add that M. Techener has very properly subjoined, besides a variety of note and *eclaireissements*, the preface written by Voltaire for the first edition, published in 1770, portrait of Madame de Caylus; and the four steel engravings will also, no doubt, be admired as appropriate ornaments in a book of this kind.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SPECIAL.

HANOVER, August 28, 1860.

ARVEST and political prospects combined, give rise to the most gloomy anticipations for the coming year. The reports from all quarters of the country respecting the state of the crops are very unfavourable. In many parts the wheat is so spoilt as to be hardly worth housing. The potatoes, too, are rotting, and, not to lose all, the farmers have begun digging. For some time not a day has passed without rain, and often without intermission for days together. The hay harvest was in general remarkably good, and al kinds of fodder stand well, so that no fears are entertained of a want of winter supply for the cattle; but, unfortunately, a disease has broken out among the cows, owing, probably, to their having been left night and day in the cold wet fields by their lazy and niggardly owners. Provisions are constantly rising in price, and labour scarce. Emigrants to America are streaming from the interior; no less than 2,400 embarked in one day at the port of Bremen.

The negotiations carried on by the middle states, at Wurzburg, and in different capital towns, upon the military and political reform of the Federal Constitution, have been without any result, notwithstanding the hopeful anticipations vented from time to time by the journals of the respective Governments. Nobody doubts the sincerity of the petty states to effect a reform of the laws of the Confederation, but they wish the reform to be of such a nature as will tend to strengthen and confirm their authority and prerogatives-just the exact reverse of that which their people so ardently desire. The Princes hope to induce this or that petty Sovereign to make a sacrifice by which the national clamour for union may be silenced for a while; but all in vain, the discontent will continue to smoulder till a change in the Government of France, or an attack upon Venetia will blow it into a flame. An Emperor of all Germany, or a Republic, can alone rid the nation of its grievances, and enable every German to settle freely in any part of the country. As long as this rivalry exists among the different states no one can hope to see the river dues, transit dues, and passport system abolished. It is rumoured that the National Association. whose programme is completely disturbed by the good understanding between Prussia and Austria, has resolved to form a new Association under the title, "Bund der Vaterlandischen Treue." The members of this league are to bind themselves by oath never, even if commanded by their Sovereign, to march as the ally of France or Russia against a German Federal Power. An exception to the above pledge will probably be made for the event of a war against the Kings of HOLLAND and DENMARK, who are likewise members of the Germanic Confederation. It is also proposed to establish Rifle Corps (*Wehr-vereine*), and to petition the Duke of SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA to take the supreme command under the title of "General Wehr-Meister" of Ger-many. Several rifle corps have already been formed, but their number is not sufficiently formidable yet to excite the jealousy of the authorities.

The journals are still filled with assertions and contradictions respecting the results of the Conference at Teplitz. The inquisitive interest evinced by the public, and the daring guesses of the journals must soon force the Governments of Prussia and Austria to give an official statement of some kind—of course not to inform the public, but simply to quell curiosity. The mysterious point which the people are most desirous of having cleared up is the question whether Prussia has agreed to conclude a treaty—it has been denied that any treaty exists—upon the basis of the preliminary Conferences. It is reported and believed that Prussia has declared that she considers the retention of Venetia as a question of life and death for Austria, or, as some journals will have it, for all Germany ; this is justified by the semi-official statements of the Prussian official journals deny that Prussia has entered into any obligations with reference to Austria's Italian possessions ; but they add, that, considering the present state of Europe, Prussia could not remain neutral in the event of a French attack upon Venetia. Judging by the threatening attitude of Prussia after the battle of Solferino, and the positive assurances given to Prince WINDISCHGRATZ, there can be little doubt that it is the firm determination of Prussia to fight on the side of Austria in case of an attack upon Venetia. The question is now whether Prussia will go so far as to conclude an offensive and defensive treaty, with reactionary; or at least upprogressive Austria. By so doing she will surrender the position she has occupied in Gormany since the establishment of the Regency. The assurance given by the New Prussian Gazette, that the Prunce Regency has in no way bound himself to stand by Austria in case of war, is not satisfactory to the Liberal party ; the Prussian Cabinet, though not yet bound by treaty, may have—

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and according to all appearances had-the intention to bind itself to a certain line of policy and course of action, in conjunction with Austria. Such a treaty would turn the hearts of all Liberals away from Prussia, except perhaps the Catholic Liberals and the adherents of M. VON GAGERN. The people of Prussia have no sympathy with Austria, and even but little enthusiasm at the prospect of sacrificing their sons, and risking their constitutional liberty, to preserve Venetia to Austria---the less, as they well know that the hatred displayed towards Germany by Italians and Hungarians is entirely attributable to the tyranny exercised by Austria in those countries from which the rest of Germany, or rather Germany Proper, derives no benefit whatever. A considerable change has come over the spirit of the Liberal press since the Italian war; then all were anxious for Prussia to declare war against France, hoping that would be the signal of the union of all the States, under the leadership of the PRINCE REGENT, who would finish by proclaiming himself Emperor of Germany, and calling a German Parliament. The faith, however, in his liberal views and constitutional loyalty, is now not quite so strong; and people begin to fear that the good understanding between the two great German Powers, and consequently between all the petty States, will tend to restore confidence in their own provess, and lend the Princes boldness to destroy, or at least put a sharp check upon the pro-gressive liberty of the country. The warlike spirit of Austria has considerably developed itself since the meeting at Teplitz, and reports have been rife as to a threatening note having been despatched by the Cabinet of Vienna to Sardinia. Though this report will probably prove to be a telegraphic fib, as well as the numerous rumours respecting the decision of the Austrian Cabinet in the event of GARIBALDI'S landing in Calabria, yet the official tone is much bolder than it has been for some months past. In Vienna itself, all appears doubt and confusion. The Imperial Council is not so manageable as the Government could wish, and had expected. The newspapers are prohibited from publishing any reports of the proceedings, but enough oozes out through private correspondence, to show the world how matters stand. It is related that at one of the last sittings of the Committee upon the Budget, the Minister of the Interior, Count GOLUCHOWSKI, on being called upon to give an explanation with reference to certain items, and his reply not being found satisfac-tory, said: "Do not imagine, gentlemen, that I shall permit myself to be drawn into a discussion with the same good nature that Count NADASDY allowed himself to be last June, when he was taken to task respecting certain measures he had adopted in his capacity as Minister of Justice. I am not here to be called to account by you. I am the Minister of his Apostolical Majesty, and as such I stand above Imperial council, and am not bound to give an account of my acts here. Any gentleman desiring an explana-tion from me upon any subject, or who has any complaint to make, may apply to me in writing. Here, as I have already said, I am not bound to give explanations to members of the Council." To this Count CLAM MARTINIZ replied : "Your Excellency may not have to give an account of any acts here, but only to confer with the Council upon a common subject. At the same time, as regards our relative positions, allow me to observe that your Ex-cellency is indeed Minister of the Crown, but also, it must not be forgotten, paid servant of the State; whereas the Imperial Coun-cillors are the unpaid confidential advisers of the Crown." As an example of the increasing boldness of the Austrian Government, and the inexplicable nature of its policy at this moment, it will suffice to mention that the authorities have lately ordered the separation of the military cemeterics into Catholic and Protestant; and also prohibited the Protestant burial service. This singular order has been issued at a time when Austria was fulfilling the promises she had given of granting full toleration to all the different Christian sects of the Emperor, and when it was generally sup-posed she was particularly anxious to gain the suffrages of the Protestants of Prussia and Hungary. At first, it was thought that the measure was the work of some fanatical official; but three weeks having now elapsed, and the order not yet withdrawn, it must be regarded as the act of the Government. A strict censorship is exercised over the Press, and reliable information as to the state of Hungary and other parts of the Empire, can only be ob-

tained by private correspondence, and even in this great caution is observed.

STATE DOCUMENTS.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

HER MAJESTY'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to convey to you her Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your important duties during the long and laborious session of Parliament now about to close.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that her relations with Foreign Powers are friendly and satisfactory; and her Majesty trusts that there is no danger of any interruption of the general peace of Europe. Events of considerable importance are, indeed, taking place in Italy; but if no Foreign Powers interfere therein, and if the Italians are left to settle their own affhirs, the tranquillity of other States will remain undisturbed.

The proposed Conferences on the subject of the cession of Savoy

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and of Nice to France have not yet been held. But her Majesty confidently trusts that, in any negotiations which may take place, full and adequate arrangements will be made for securing, in accordance with the spirit and letter of the Treaty of Vienna of 1815, the neutrality and independence of the Swiss Confederation. That neutrality and independence were an object to which all the Powers who were parties to the Treaties of Vienna attached great importance, and they are no less important now, than then, for the general interests of Europe.

Her Majesty commands us to assure you that the atrocities which have been committed upon the Christian population in Syria have inspired her Majesty with the deepest grief and indignation. Her Majesty has cheerfully concurred with the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the Prince Regent of Prussia, and the Emperor of Russia, in entering into an engagement with the Sultan, by which temporary military assistance has been afforded to the Sultan, for the purpose of re-establishing order in that part of his dominions.

We are commanded by her Majesty to inform you that her Majesty greatly regrets that the pacific overtures which, by her Majesty's directions, her Envoy in China made to the Imperial Government at Pekin did not lead to any satisfactory result; and it has, therefore, been necessary that the combined naval and military forces which her Majesty and her Ally the Emperor of the French had sent to the China Seas should advance towards the Northern Provinces of China, for the purpose of supporting the just demands of the Allied Powers.

Her Majesty, desirous of giving all possible weight to her diplomatic action in this matter, has sent to China, as Special Ambassador for this service, the Earl of Elgin, who negotiated the Treaty of Tien-sing, the full and faithful execution of which is demanded from the Emperor of China.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her warm acknowledgments for the liberal supplies which you have granted for the service of the present year, and for the provision which you have made for those defences which are essential for the security of her dockyards and arsenals.

My LORDS AND GENTLEMEN :

Her Majesty commands us to express to you the gratification and pride with which she has witnessed the rapid progress in military efficiency which her Volunteer Forces have already made, and which is highly honourable to their spirit and patriotism.

Her Majesty has given her cordial assent to the act for amalgamating her local European force in India with her forces engaged for general service.

Her Majesty trusts that the additional freedom which you have given to commerce will lead to fresh development of productive industry.

Her Majesty has given her ready assent to several measures of great public usefulness.

The acts for regulating the Relations between Landlord and Tenant in Ireland will, her Majesty trusts, remove some fertile causes of disagreement.

The act for amending the law which regulates the Discipline of her Majesty's Navy has established salutary rules for the administration of justice by Courts-martial, and for maintaining good order in the Naval Service. The act bearing upon Endowed Charities will give means for a less expensive administration of the property of Charities, and for the speedy and economical settlement of disputes affecting such property; while, by another act, relief has been afforded to her Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects with regard to their charitable endowments.

Several other acts have been passed for legal reform, which must lead to the more satisfactory administration of justice.

Her Majesty has observed with deep satisfaction, the spirit of loyalty, of order, and of obedience to the law which prevails among her subjects, both in the United Kingdom and in her dominions beyond sea; and her Majesty has witnessed with heartfelt pleasure the warm and affectionate reception given to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales by her North Amorican subjects.

You will, on returning to your several counties, have duties to perform searcely less important than those which have occupied you during the session of Parliament, and her Majesty fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty (lod may attend your efforts, and guide them to the attainment of the objects of her constant solicitude—the welfare and the happiness of her people. "The destruction of Sebastopol prevented Russia from taking possession of Constantinople, and the Eastern question was confided to the charge of united Europe.

"As regards the war in Italy, the Italian States were delivered from Austrian domination, and the principal object of the war was thus obtained. Although the Italians now jeopardise the independence which they acquired in consequence of the war, the principle of nonintervention, now a recognised rule of international policy, exercises a dominating influence over the further development of the question.

"These are the only questions which occupy the attention of Europe at the present moment.

"The apprehensions entertained in Germany respecting the Rhine frontiers, and the fears of an invasion current in England, do not merit serious discussion.

"The Rhine is no longer a strategic frontier. France, being much stronger when Germany is divided, will never support the project of German unity for any compensation she might obtain.

"Concerning the relations between England and France, neither of these two Powers desires to enter upon such a terrible struggle as a war between them would be. The English nation is peaceful. Their virtuous Queen, and the eminent men in power, desire to maintain a good understanding between the two nations.

"In view of so many great results obtained by France, and the lustre which they throw around the French nation, it is natural that uneasiness and distrust should have arisen in Europe. France, however, did not create the complications in Italy, neither did she counsel Austria to follow the fatal policy which led to the rising of the Italians, nor is she responsible for the treaties which Austria concluded with the Italian princes. France used every possible effort to prevent the conflict. If the Emperor kept silence before the outbreak of the war in reference to his promises to repulse the attacks of Austria upon Italy, it was with the motive of leaving the Italians in ignorance of his powerful assistance, which, had they been aware of, would have spread increased excitement amongst them.

"Thus the silence with which the Emperor has been reproached was disadvantageous to himself alone.

"The same can be said in reference to the cession of Savoy and Nice to France.

"The Italians, after the conclusion of the peace of Villafranca, having acted in violation of that treaty on the other side of the Alps, France could not renounce her Alpine frontiers, seeing that a great Italian kingdom had been constituted. France has never concealed her intentions either from Sardinia or from England. She has deceived nobody.

"The Emperor has certainly replaced France in her legitimate position without shaking the confidence of Europe. Taken as a whole, his policy was pure and honest. If he has made war in Italy, it was only because the other Powers were not willing to engage their own responsibility. As soon as it was possible to arrive at a definite result, he concluded the peace desired by the world.

"Since 1815 France has been forced to follow the *role* imposed upon her by the treaties of Vienna. Another spirit now reigns, and the political system of 1815 has been subverted by Europe herself. This system was the result of a violent transition which, by two great convulsions, entirely disturbed the European equilibrium. Since then, it has been the great interest of Europe that a general reconciliation should be effected between the different Powers, and that France should, by common consent, reassume the position which belonged to her in the councils of the Powers. She no longer threatens, nor is threatened. Her work is achieved, and the mission of the new empire is accomplished.

"The military role of France in Europe is at an end. It affords me great happiness to be conscientiously able to say that an era of peace and prosperity is now opening for Europe."

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS,

Speech of the Honourable Edward Eccrett on American Institutions, delivered 4th July. London : Smith, Elder, and Co.

This eloquent oration will be read with lively interest by all who have at heart the progress of popular institutions, and the prosperity of that vast republican empire of the West, which, as many high authorities believe, is destined in the future to be the main stay of freedom throughout the world. "When I reflect," says Mr. Everett, "that the day we celebrate found us a feeble strip of thirteen colonies along the coast, averaging at most a little more than one hundred and fifty thousand inhabitants each, and that this, its eighty fourth return, sees us grown to thirty-three States, scattered through the interior and pushed to the Pacific, averaging nearly a million of inhabitants, each a well-compacted, representative republic, securing to its citizens a larger amount of the substantial blessings of life than are enjoyed by equal numbers of people in the oldest and most prosperous States of Europe, I am lost in wonder; and, as a sufficient answer to the charge of de-generacy, I am tempted to say, 'Look around you.'" The population of the United States, doubling itself as it does in less than a quarter of a contury, will within the present generation be more than a match, in numbers alone, for the most populous European Empire ; while, in everything that constitutes the greatness of a people, all comparison is out of the question. Mr. Everett continues: "But merely to fill up the wilderness with a population provided with the ordinary institutions, and carrying on the customary pursuits of civilized life though surely no mean achievement-was by no means the whole of the work allotted to the United States, and thus far performed with signal activity, intelligence, and success. The founders of America and their descendants have accomplished more and better things. On the basis of a rapid geographical extension, and with the force of teeming numbers, they have, in the very halfiney of their political existence, successfully aimed at higher progress in general civilization. The mechanical arts have been oultivated with unusual aptitude. Agriculture, manu-factures, commerce, navigation, whether by sails or steam, and the art of printing in all its forms, have been pursued with surprising skill. Great improvements have been made in all these branches of industry, and in the machinery pertaining to them, which have been eagerly

COUNT DE PERSIGNY'S SPEECH.

PARIS, August 28.

The Count de Persigny, in his quality of president, opened to-day the sittings of the General Council of the Department of the Loire, with a speech, of which the following is a summary :---

The Count commenced by observing that he was about to examine the existing probabilities of peace being maintained in Europe, and said :---

"The Emperor's programme of Bordeaux has not been changed. Without pretending to abolish war, the Emperor has, however, repudiated the inheritance of mere fighting for the sake of vengeance for the defeats of the first empire. Before the inauguration of the present empire two extraordinary questions were pending, viz., the question of the least, and that of Italy, neither of which could be resolved by memis of diplomacy.

"Although the wars resulting from those questions could not be avoided, they were carried out with promptitude, and the Emperor succeeded in realising the object for which they were undertaken. The Saturday Analyst and Leader.

adopted in Europe. A more adequate provision has been made for popular education than in almost any other country. I believe that in the cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, more money in proportion to the population, is raised by taxation for the support of common schools, than in any other cities in the world. There are more seminaries in the United States where a respectable academical education can be obtained-more, I still mean, in proportion to the population-than in any other country except Germany. The fine arts have reached a high degree of excellence. The taste for music is rapidly spreading in town and country; and every year witnesses productions from the pencil and the chisel of American sculptors and painters, which would adorn any gallery in the world. Our astronomers, mathematicians, naturalists, chemists, engineers, jurists, publicists, historians, poets, novelists, and lexicographers, have placed themselves on a level with those of the older world. The best dictionaries of the English language since Johnson are those published in America. Our constitutions, whether of the United States, or of the separate States, exclude all public provision for the maintenance of religion; but in no part of Christendom is it more generously supported. Sacred science is pursued as diligently, and the pulpit commands as high a degree of respect in the United States, as in those countries where the Church is publicly endowed; while the American missionary operations have won the admiration of the civilized world. Nowhere, I am persuaded, are there more liberal contributions to public-spirited and charitable objects. In a word, there is no branch of the mechanical or fine arts, no department of science, exact or applied—no form of polite litera-ture—no description of social improvement—in which, due allowance being made for the means and resources at command, the progress of the United States has not been satisfactory, and in some respects astonishing. At this moment the rivers and seas of the globe are navigated with that marvellous application of steam as a propelling power which was first effected by Fulton; the monster steamship which has just reached our shores rides at anchor in the waters in which the first successful experiment in steam navigation was made. The harvests of the civilized world are gathered by American reapers ; the newspapers which lead the journalism of Europe are printed on American presses; there are railroads in Europe constructed by American engineers, and travelled by American locomotives; troops armed with American weapons, and ships of war built in American dockyards. In the factories of Europe there is machinery of American invention or improvement; in their observatories, telescopes of American construction, and apparatus of American invention for recording the celestial phenomena. America contests with Europe the introduction into actual use of the electric telegraph; another mode of operating it is adopted throughout the French Empire. American authors, in almost every department, are found on the shelves of European Libraries." Alluding to Washington, Mr. Everett says the American people "may proudly boast of one example of life and character, one career of disinterested service, one model of public virtue, one type of human excellence, of which all the countries and all the ages may be searched in vain for the parallel. I need noton this day I need not-speak the peerless name. It is stamped on your hearts, it glistens in your eyes, it is written on every page of your history, on the battle-fields of the Revolution, on the monuments of your fathers, on the portals of your capitols. It is heard in every breeze that whispers over the field of independent America. And he was all our own. He grew up on the soil of America ; he was nurtured at her bosom. She loved and trusted him in his youth ; she honoured and revered him in his age; and though she did not wait for death to canonize his name, his precious memory, with each succeeding year, has sunk more deeply into the hearts of his countrymen." The orator, whose speech was prompted by the "discussion in the British House of Lords," subsequently turns his attention to the theory and working of the English constitution, which he criticises at some length and with great logical acumen.

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Our Age. 1860. A Satire. By Jumes Howell. Brighton: Treacher & Co.; London: Hamilton & Co. 1860.

This author "goes in" right and left at an infinite variety of things which enjoy a considerable amount of public favour. "Pegtops," (not the toy, but the trousers); "Orinoline;" "Tomfoolery and Tom Taylory;" "the noble science of Fisticuffs;" "Sorib, the King of Rhymesters" (whoever that may be); "Prosy rhyming Scribblers" (who are plentiful enough); "Many-visaged Quackery;" "Religious Quacks;" "Miracle-working Quacks;" "Class-distinction : its Cerberus, Watchdog Fashion;" "the Age of Mock-Piety," &c. &c. &c. "come in for discussion," as the phrase goes. The following lines are worth quoting :--- position ever written. "The Hemlock Tree," (words by Longfellow), and "The Evening Star," for example, as specimens of exquisite melodic invention, are unique. The other pieces mentioned above also deserve commendation.

SERIALS.

The National Quarterly Review. Edited by Edward J. Sears, A.B. No. I.: June: New York.—Pudney and Russell.—This is a new American Quarterly. Its "platform" it sets forth as follows: "to be the organ of no clique or party; it will know no such distinctions as North and South; it will be American in the broadest and most legitimate sense; it will give occasional articles on permanent political questions of the day; it will turn its attention to European as well as native literature." The table of contents is attractive, and includes papers on "Buckle and Guizot;" "Dante;" "The Modern French Drama;" "The Works of Charles Dickens;" "Godwin's History of France;" "The 19th Century;" "A Glance at the Fine Arts:"

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine. No. 539. September. London and Edinburgh: Blackwood and Sons.—The present number is a very good one. It opens with an interesting contribution to current history in the shape of a graphic "Sketch of the Life and Character of Sir Robert Peel." "King Arthur and his round Table" occupies a conspicuous place in its contents. "Great Wits Mad Wits?" is a very suggestive paper; "The Struggle at Melazza" possesses a high degree of local and contemporary interest; and "The Romance of Agostini," "The Tower of London," and "Norman Sinclair on Autobiography" are all good in their respective lines.

Fraser's Magazine. No. 369. September. London: J.W. Parker and Son.—This magazine, in all the branches of the higher practical philosophy embracing moral and social questions, stands at the head of our periodical literature. With such names as those of Buckle and Mill in its list of occasional contributors, this might be taken for granted upon the credit of the writers whose papers fill its columns, without looking beyond the table of contents. The two authors we have mentioned, for example, are precisely the two authorities who, so far as can be inferred from published works, know more of social science properly so called, in all its vast depth and comprehensiveness, than any English writer whose productions on an extensive scale have been placed before the public. Indeed, the "History of Civilization in England" is one of those monuments not incredy of erudition, of profound and universal research, but of scientific grandeur of conception and originality of thought in the elaboration of those great principles which are destined, like the works of Bacon and Newton, to be immortal, and to be better appreciated and admired the more they are studied and understood. The present number contains an interesting paper on psychical science, entitled "The Propensities according to Phrenology, examined; by Alex. Bain." "The Chronicle of current History" keeps us well "posted up" on passing events ; "Gryll Grange" progresses with spirit through chapters 22 to 26 ; " France and Paris, forty, thirty, and twenty years ago," is an attractive paper. And there are several other excellent contributions.

Macmillan's Mayazine, No. 11. Sept. Cambridge: Macmillan & Ce. The present Number opens with a paper on "The Future of Europe Foretold in History," which is satisfactory as showing that the science of "Sociology" is beginning to be explored, even in the mere light and ephemeral publications of the day; but unsatisfactory as showing that this science, of more transcendant importance as regards direct influence on human well-being than all other sciences put together, is only at present in the most rudimentary state. "The Life and Poetry of Shelley," by the Editor, deserves to be read with interest. Among the more important and instructive articles of the present Number before us, are "The Two Budgets of 1860," and "The Eclipse Expedition to Spain." The "time-killing" portion of the contents consist of chapters 26 and 27 of "Tom Brown at Oxford," " Kyloe Jock and the Weird of Wanton Walls," " Hints on Proposals, by an Experienced Chaperone," and several other diverting and racy articles. Of course no periodical is complete, just now, without a dash of military matters, and, accordingly, we have a paper on " Volunteering, Past and Present." Altogether the number is a good one.

The Cornhill Magazine. No. 9. September. - London: Smith, Elder and Co. - This number opens with "The Four Georges," paper 3, on George the Third. The "Hogarth Papers" get on well. "The Druses and the Maronites" will be read with interest and attention at this juncture. The "Roundabout Papers' sustain their chatty, discursive character. "Framley Parsonage" is "advanced a stage," as the Parliamentary reports say-namely through chapters 25, 26, and 27. "Physiological Riddles" form the material of a very interesting and instructive, as well as amusing paper. And the number in its ensemble sustains the reputation of this periodical. The Eelectic, for September. London: Judd and Glass. A paper on "Hugh Miller," "The Amenities of Social Life," "A Classical and Philosophical Novel," "A Run through Killarney," "The Political Network," are the temporal and secular articles which, with various theological and biblical disquisitions, make up the contents of the present number Dublin University Magazine, No. 333. September. Dublin: W. Robertson .-- The dozen articles that make up the table of contents of the present number present a very good mental bill of fare. "The Italian Regeneration" possesses special interest at the present time. There are some good articles on local topics; a paper on Sir Charles and Lady Morgan, and various contributions above the average of magazine writing. The Art Journal. No. 69. September. London and New York: Virtue and Co.—This excellent serial comes out with a very good num-ber for September. The engravings are Copley's picture of "The Royal Princesses, children of George III.;" "Turner's Peace," "Burial of Wilkie," from the picture in the National Gallery; and "Preparing for the Bath," by Rolfe, from Gibson's statue in possession of the Earl of Yarborough. The last is a delicious morecan. The wood cuts also, are excellent, and the latterpress equally creditable. are excellent, and the letterpress equally creditable.

"Dense is our population, how it grows! Though to our colonies in streams it flows.

Here, work's ill paid, the worker ground to dust, And food is dear, and work and starve he must ! Old women, children, ghastly girls and wives, Are stitching, sowing, to prolong their lives; Working in factories at the cursed mill, That grinds up flesh and blood-is never still ! Life is a road of flints for such to tread : They're born in sorrow, and in misery bred, That the rich man should gather labour's fruits, To loll at ease, and treat them worse than brutes! The hungry monster, Want, hants many down : Some to the gaol ; and others on the town, To barter virtue for the means to live, And part from all that God and Nature give! Then think, ye pure, ere you condemn thent'all, Your sons may steal, your lovely daughters fall ! "

Meek Twilight, Prize Glee for Four Voices. Composed by G. W. Martin. The Oberon Walts on Airs in Weber's celebrated Opera. By W. Wilson. Don't Come Late ; Ballad. By Alexander Stacey.

These three issues by the "Music-publishing Company, Limited," are before us. Mr. Martin's Prize Glees (as we have had occasion to remark in critiques on the celebrated performances by 1,000 and 2,000 voices at Exeter Hall, &c.,) are among the finest of this class of comThe Englishwoman's Magazine. No. 31. September. Published at the Office, 19, Langham Place. There is an excellent paper in this month's issue, with which the Number opens, on "The Opinions of John Stuart Mill." The writer says, and truly, "there is no name in England which carries with it so much weight, whether it be at Oxford or Cambridge, or in the two Houses of the Legislature, as that of John Stuart Mill, the philosopher, logician, and political economist." The essay then proceeds to adduce the views entertained by this great thinker on some of the most important social questions of the day. There are nine other papers in the Number, the contents of which are varied, and comprise good light reading as well as instructive disquisitions.

Le Follet. No. 168, September. London: Simpkin and Co.— "Petticoats as expansive and rotund as ever" is the first moral lesson we learn on opening this truly feminine and elegant serial. Oh! how we long for space to reveal to our fair readers the behests of that capricious goddess they worship so faithfully touching the mysteries of their attire! But they will find all about it in this, her exponent, and their oracle.

The Welcome Guest. Part 9, September. London: Houlston and Wright.—This weekly periodical is among the best of the cheap light literature scrials of the day, and contains a varied *melange* of tales and novelettes, neatly illustrated with wood-cuts.

RECORD OF THE WEEK. HOME AND COLONIAL.

Last week closed with gloomy agricultural prospects and inclemen^t weather, the funds sinking in consequence to 923 to $\frac{7}{5}$. The bullion in the Bank was £133,091 more than the previous week, being £15,680,840. Sunday, however, was fine from a very early hour, and in the country the grass and trees had all the green freshness, and the air all the coelness of spring; but the sun's rays were powerful, and combined with the brisk breezes that blew, aided considerably in drying up the superabundant moisture, though it came down again in heavy showers late at night.

As the first morning of the new week dawned, London was lit up by a more baleful glare than that of the rising sun; a conflagration which broke out in the large coach manufactory at the corner of Longacre and Endell-street, wrapped that extensive pile of buildings and St. Martin's-hall in one vast sheet of flame, and, in a few hours, nothing but the skeleton walls of both edifices were left standing. Spontaneous combustion of some greased rags in the coach factory is said to have been the cause.

Some excitement was occasioned early in the week by the report that communications which had been made to the police had given rise to investigations that would eventuate in the discovery of the Stepney murderer or murderers. The inquest, on Monday, was adjourned till Friday.

On Saturday two important police cases occurred. A young woman, named Jane Wood, had paid £20 to an emigration agent named Frederick Sheriff Grey, for a berth she had seen and approved of; on going on board she was required to occupy an inferior berth. This she refused to do, and left the ship at Gravesend. Captain McLean, the Government emigration agent, brought the case before the Lord Mayor, and the matter was compromised by the agent paying £25 to the young woman. At the Westminster Police Court, Allen F. Johnstone and Sarah Elliot were re-examined, under charge of stealing a "valuable child," *i. e.*, a child possessing amoney value in respect of its artistic capacity, the present "valuable" infant being a singing one. The female prisoner seems also to have been passing herself off as Lady Fortescue, niece to Lord Palmerston, using as her means of imposition sundry documents, such as alleged forged letters from persons of rank, a will, a policy of assurance, a marriage certificate, &c. The magistrate, in deciding for a remand, suggested that the case should be taken up by a solicitor.

The Great Eastern, having sailed from New York on the 16th inst., arrived at Milford Haven on Sunday, 26th. Her seagoing qualities have now been fully tested and proved to be satisfactory.

have now been fully tested and proved to be satisfactory. At the village of Gasp6, the coloured people resolved to present an address to the Prince of Wales, expressive of their gratitude for the freedom they enjoy under English rule.

Eliza Gloucester, a fine young woman, far advanced in pregnancy, destroyed herself by poison, at 99, Upper Stamford-street, through distress of mind, which the jury have interpreted as "temporary insanity." The week that closed with the deluges of Friday and Saturday, yielded less deaths to record than the previous one, by 92; the numbers being respectively 1,029 and 937, a fact which we suppose the "coldwater-cure people" will "take judicial notice" of. The corrected average deaths for that week during the past decade being 1,175; there was a falling off in the mortality of London, to the extent of 238. A frightful case of child-murder has occurred at Glasgow. John M'Fayden, aged 20, having stripped a little boy named John Shields, of his clothes to steal them, threw him into the Olyde. He is in custody, and the usual plea of "insanity" is urged. The Rev. Mr. Bonwell has had sentence of deprivation passed on him, and has given notice of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

The Great Eastern will make another voyage to America in October. The deputation of the silk trade to Paris have returned, and reported that there is no disposition to retain the duties on English silks, ither for purposes of revenue or that species of exclusion singularly termed "protection."

The Rev. Mr. Martin, Canon of Exeter Cathedral, and chancellor of the diocese, has committed suicide through anxiety and distress of mind arising from having signed as correct, an account in which he afterwards discovered there was an error of 3s. 2¹/₃d. Verdict,—" Temporary Insanity."

FOREIGN.

At the taking of Reggio by Garibaldi, 4,000 Calabrians joined the standard of the liberal chief. Potenza caught the inspiration of freedom, and flew at once to arms, the insurrection being headed by the King's intendant in person. The commanding officers of the National Guard at Naples tendered their resignation, on the ground that the King had broken his promise to disband the foreign regiments. News, dated the 15th, from Naples arrived, as the present week opened, tending to verify our prediction, that Garibaldi would carry all before him, and recording a fresh victory obtained by him over another body of Neapolitan troops. General Cosenz had crossed the Straits at Fiumicino, with a considerable force under his command. Reggio capitulated on the 21st, and the Neapolitan garrison were allowed to retire with their arms and personal baggage. The Villa San Giovanni was, after a short fight, seized and occupied by the Garibaldians. Two Neapolitan brigades, Melandez and Briganti, had surrendered to General Cosenz, giving up arms, artillery, &c., and Fort del Pizzo had been captured.

The French Emperor, in reply to the addresses presented to him at Lyons, delivered the following speech: "I thank you for the manner in which you appreciate my efforts to increase the prosperity of France. Solely occupied with the general interests of the country, I scorn all which may place obstacles in the way of their development. Therefore the unjust distrust excited abroad, as well as the exaggerated alarms and selfish interests in the interior, will not affect me. Nothing will make me deviate from the path of moderation and justice which I have followed, and which maintains France on the height of grandeur and prosperity which she occupies in the world. Therefore, give yourselves up with confidence to works of peace. Our destinies are in our own hands. France gives in Europe the impulse to all great and generous ideas. She only suffers from evil influences when she is degenerating. Believe that, with the assistance of God, she shall not degenerate under my dynasty."

News arrived early in the week, that the Pope was ready to agree to the proposal for an Italian Confederation, as suggested by France at Villafranca, and had informed the Duke de Grammont of his determination.

In Austria, the Council of the Empire seemed to have had a curious change come over the spirit of its dream. The supporters of absolutist institutions "upon principle," such as Count Cluni Martinitz, all went over to the Hungarian view, in giving their adhesion to a federal form of government, and the revival of the Hungarian constitution. On the other hand, those members who had been most favourable to an Austrian alliance with the German liberals, have presented an opposition to the federal form of government, and demanded centralization, though on more progressive and popular principles than those formerly adopted. The reports of these two parties are to be forthcoming, after the expiration of the present month.

Last week, in reference to Italy, we coupled with the statement of our conviction, that with fair play, Garibaldi would carry everything before him, the expression of an earnest hope that in case of certain eventualities, England's policy would resolve itself into insisting upon non-intervention by other states. We find by the Queen's Speech that the British Government is in favour of strict non-intervention in the affairs of Italy on the part of all the European powers.

News, dated from Naples on the 28th, arrived, to the effect that the Neapolitan troops had been attacked and defeated in Calabria and other places, the Garibaldians carrying all before them; and a belief prevailing that the various bands of liberating forces would converge their march upon Naples itself.

The news regarding Hungary is important; General Benedek having signified to the Emperor his disinclination to continue Governor of that country, on the ground that the grievances complained of were substantial ones, was prevailed upon by that potentate to hold office until the close of the debate in the Council of the Empire, the majority of which are in favour of a federal system of Government, in which there would be room for including the constitution of Hungary. Frequent personal interviews are said to have taken place between the Emperor and Hungarian members of the Council. The minority of the Council, that is, the more liberal section of it, contend that the Emperor, of his own authority, should create such institutions as will allow the greatest possible development of the free and full right of representation in all the provinces, and they are for the complete maintenance of the unity of the Empire and the legislative and excentive power of the Government, as well as an effective control to be exercised over the public administration by a proper representation of the people, embracing that of all the interests of the country, in the communes, diets and council of the Empire. There has been one of those widespread rumours circulating which partake as much of the nature of precursors of anticipated events, as of a record of the past, and which, unauthenticated as we write, may be confirmed by the next post, to the effect that the flight of the King of Naples, and the disaffection of his army, were accomplished facts.

Parliament was prorogued on Tuesday, till the 6th November.

The returns of the Board of Trade, just published, present very favourable and satisfactory results. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, there has been a great increase in our exports.

The Prince of Wales has been received with "great demonstrations of joy" at Quebec.

The magistrates of Bridgwater have expressed their resolution to provent any more "stormings of Agapemone."

Mr. F. A. Daviss (late head of the firm, Daviss & Co., of Milk-street), has been charged at the Mansion-house with forging the signature of Messrs. Wreford & Co., to a bill for £479. 6s. The case was remanded. Mr. Percy Wyndham, nephew of the late General Wyndham, has been returned for West Cumberland; his "platform" is non-intervention, reduction of expenditure for large naval and military armaments, and a diluted species of reform of which the ballot does not form a part.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

FLORAL HALL.—The present week is rendered remarkable in musical records, by the excellence and diversity of the performances at Floral Hall. Monday, as announced in these columns last week, was the "Volunteer Night," when the concert was under highly distinguished patronage, and the selection given, had a large infusion of the military

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element. Bishop's glee, "Hail to the Chief" (words by Sir Walter Scott) and "Tramp Chorus," were sung by the chorus. of the Royal Italian Opera. The new song, "Let every man join heart and soul," composed by Mr. Alfred Mellon, "38th Middlesex (Artistes), R. V. C.," was sung by Mr. Wilbye Cooper, also of the "38th Middlesex (Artistes') R. V. C." Jullien's Quadrille, "The Campbells are coming," Rossini's Overture to "The Siege of Corinth," Beethoven's funeral march from the "Eroica," the new polka entitled "The Artistes' Corps" and "The Riffe Galop," were played by the band; and Mr. Harper gave his inimitable trumpet solo, "The Soldier tired." In addition to the above, and several first-class orchestral and instrumental solo pieces, Mdlle. Parepa gave Balfe's "Power of Love," in addition to sustaining the solo part in the "Tramp" chorus. Nor must we forget Mr. Mellon's new Part Song, "Take heed I have a care!" The miscellaneous nights were fixed for Tuesday, Wednesday, and Saturday, the programme being judiciously varied. Thursday was a "Mendelssohn Night," the first part of the programme consisting of pieces by that eminent composer, while the second part opened with an admirable selection from "Don Giovanni." Friday stands conspicuous for the production in its entirety, and with Mozart's accompaniments, of Handel's "Messiah;" the principal parts being sustained by Mdlle. Farepa, Miss Augusta Thompson, Miss Leffler, Madame Laura Baxter, and Messrs. Wilbye Cooper and Lewis Thomas. We shall give a critical estimate of this performance in our next number. Want of space compels us to condense the present notice within the smallest possible compass. We have only room to add that this week Mr. Mellon's concerts have not merely surpassed any others of the kind ever given, but have excelled themselves. Mr. George Perren, who appeared cn the Mendelssohn night, was encored in both his songs, "The Garland" and "Ah, si ben mio." PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—The Shakesperian drama has found ade-

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—The Shakesperian drama has found adequate exposition at this house during the week. On Monday night Mr. James Anderson and Miss Elsworthy sustained with their wellknown justness of conception and fidelity and force of delincation, the chief characters in "Macbeth," and elicited a degree of applause equally enthusiastic and well deserved. Monday night was also marked by the *debut* of Miss Marie Harris, who made her first appearance on any stage in "The First Night;" the English version of the favourite farce, "Le Père d'une Débutante." The "débutante," in a two-fold sense, was a great success. Miss Marie Harris is pretty, has a light and graceful figure, and elegance of carriage and deportment. She manifests considerable intelligence in her reading of the character she had to sustain, and met with the most favourable reception from a discerning and fashionable audience. Mr. A. Harris enacted the part of the *Frenchman*, into which he infused his well-known vivacity and humour.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.-Mr. Montague Williams's new comedietta of "A Fair Exchange," was brought out at this house on Monday. The plot turns upon a confusion of names, and consequent mistaken identity. A gardener (personated by Mr. H. Wigan) rejoicing in the name of *Dubkins* changes it to *Dudley*, for considerations into which ambition and euphony may be presumed to enter largely as ingredients. \mathbf{This} causes him to be taken for a live peer, a certain Earl of Dudley (Mr. W. Gordon), who is himself in jeopardy of being taken by the police for being engaged in a duel, he being also engaged to be married to a certain Lady Vane (Miss Herbert), as the (presently almost "broken-hearted") gardener is to one Mabel Gruy (Miss Louise Keeley). But when the *Earl* changes dresses with the gardener, to escape under cover of the disguise, "there is no mistake at all" about the mistaken identity, which becomes a fait accompli. The gardener proceeding in the Earl's clothes to Mabel's house is arrested and locked up, affording considerable charitable and womanly satisfaction to the Lady Vane and Mabel, who fancy they are both in love with the same person, and who, despite their difference of ranks, give manifest tokens that one touch of nature (albeit not of the best developed and most rationalized sort) makes the whole world of womanhood kin. As the reader, of course, foresees, that peculiar form of mania, incident to a low but unfortunately almost universal state of intellectual and moral development, known as jealousy, plays a conspicuous part in the matter, as it must do in all correct dramatic representations of "life" as "life" is now, among us, in this very imperfect state of sublunary existence, which the mania in question tends so much to embitter. Subsequently, however, the *Earl* and the gardener (who gots released) appear in their own proper persons (at least dresses—and dress, as we know, constitutes the person), and the ladies being cured of their lunacy, receive them respectively into their good graces. The piece was very well played, and very well received, achieving, indeed, a decided success; the excellent acting of Miss Louise Keeley eliciting the most cordial and well-merited applause. The other pieces played have been "Somebudy Else," and "Shylock," which afford such ample scope for displaying the extraordinary powers of Mr. Robson, who in those original characterizations which he has made his own, is without a rival.

B. Isaacson and Signor Vero. He has taken care to provide that all collateral appliances and means shall be in an equally satisfactory state. The theatre has been re-decorated and fresh painted. of efficiency. It will hold 4000 people. Boxes, orchestra, and balcony stalls, and one of the best-constructed pits for seeing and hearing ever designed, all afford excellent accommodation for the public, and in an acoustical point of view (or rather point of hearing), the building has hardly a superior. Among the artistes engaged are Madame Lancia, Madame Siverne (sopranos), Messrs. A. Braham and W. M. Parkinson, Signori Giuletti and Salvie (tenors), Mr. E. Rosenthal and Signor Rugino (baritones). Mr. O. Summers (who, by the way, discharges the impor-tant duties of stage director), is the "buffo" of the computer. Then we have Miss Annia Long (from Corent-garden). Mr. Service Mr. we have Miss Annie Leng (from Covent-garden), Mr. Seguine, Mr. Lisle, and Mr. Morrow (of the Italian Opera), Madame Seguine and Signor Ruletti (from the San Carlo). The season commenced on Saturday last with "Norma" (in English), with the recitatives as in the original Italian, and was repeated on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, Madame Lancia playing the heroine, and Mr. Braham and Mr. Parkinson alternately sustaining the herome, and her Dellio, and supported by Mr. Rosenthal and Miss Leng as Oroveso and Adalgisa. On Tuesday "Lucia di Lammermoor," in Italian, was produced, to be repeated on Friday, with Madame Lancia (who combines the notes of a nightingale with the working powers of a steam engine), as the principal character; Signor Giuletti appearing, for the first time, as *Edgardo*; Signor Rugino acting and singing *Enrico* with admirable and deservedly applauded spirit; Miss Leng representing Alicia, and the other parts being well filled up. On the English nights the per-formances terminated with the "Waterman," Messrs. Parkinson and Braham sharing Tom Tug between them, Mr. O. Summers playing Robin, and Miss Long appearing as Wilhelmina; all these artistes singing the favourite songs associated with the piece, amidst the warmest applause. On the Italian nights "Love and Wine" was given. On Saturday Wallace's "Maritana," in English, is to be produced. The crowds that visited the theatre on the opening night filled every inch of standing-room in every part of the building, and the audiences have been crowded during the week.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORIAL OF THE FRENCH TREATY.

WE have received a photograph, representing, in a well-arranged group, the distinguished nien who were recently engaged, at Paris, in arranging the terms of the French Treaty. The photograph is one of the largest we have ever seen, being about twelve inches high by sixteen wide. The persons represented are M. Chevalier, Mr. Cobden, M. Baroche, M. Fould, the Count de Persigny, the Count de Kergerlay, M. Dolfus, Lord Cowley, M. Rouher, M. Periere, and M. Dutour. The figures are all full length, some scated and some standing, while M. Michael Chevalier in the centro is represented as addressing his colleagues on some point of the treaty. The size, the correctness of the likenesses, and the highly artistic finish of this picture render it a very remarkable specimen of photographic art. We should mention that it is from a work of Mr. John Eastham, of 122, Regent-street.

PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords on Friday, the LORD CHANCELLOR, on the first reading of a bill repealing cortain statutes, took occasion to lament the fate of his seven bills for consolidating the criminal law, which had been withdrawn. The Savings Banks and Friendly Societies Investment Bill passed through committee. The Roman Catholic Charities Bill was read a second time (no amondmonts to be introduced), and their lordships adjourned at 20 minutes to 9 o'clock.—In the Com-mons (Friday), Lord PALMERSTON stated that the report that Austria would regard the landing of Garibaldi in the Neapolitan dominions as a casus belli, was totally devoid of foundation. Austria had no inten-tion of interfering beyond her own frontier. The Divorce Court Bill and the Trustees Mortgagees, &c., Bill were read a third time and passed. Mr. T. DUNCOMBE's motion for confining discussion on the question of adjournment from Friday to Monday, to the business of the ensuing week was withdrawn. Lord PALMERSTON (in reply to Sir G. BOWXER), with reference to the course of action pursued by Garibaldi, declared that that general had agted entirely in accordance with the aspirations, and as the auxiliary of the people. In answer to Mr. KINNAIRD, his Lordship stated that no period had yet been fixed for the Conference proposed to be held at the instance of the Swiss Confederation, and that the annexation of Savoy and Nice did not at pre-sent form part of the public law of Europe; that cession took place under peculiar circumstances, the province being held subject to conditions from which the Sardinian Monarch or the French Emperor could emancipate himself; on that account the manner in which the cossion was made, and the circumstances attending it, had created a painful impression in the minds of the other European States; he hoped the result would be, that the transaction would close with duo and complete security for the neutrality and independence of Switzer-land. In answer to Mr. KINGLARE, his Lordship stated that with respect to Syria the British Government was acting in conjunction with the other great European Powers, and believed that the Lurkish Government was sincerely desirous to punish the guilty and establish peace between the hostile races. In answer to Mr. II. SEYMOUR, with regard to the reported encroachments of Russia on the Persian shores of the Caspian Sea, and Russian attempts to interfore with Persia in the exercise of her legitimate authority over the Turkoman tribes, his Lordship admitted that Russia was desirous of establishing her in-fluence at the Court of Teheran, but British relations with Persia were on the most satisfactory footing. The House was counted out at a quarter-past six o'clock. In the House of Lords, on Saturday, the Roman Oatholic Ohautics Bill and some others, were read a third time, and passed, and the House adjourned till half-past one on Tuesday .- In the Commons, Lord PALMERSTON (in reply to Mr. GRIFFITH), stated that ABD-RL-KADER had saved a considerable number of Unristians from being murdered in Damasons, and the British consul had been directed to thank him in the name of the Government. On the motion for adjournment till Tuesday, Lord PALMERSTON directed attention to the great and peculiar labours gratuitously performed by the Petitions'

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Mr. Barry Sullivan has been playing Hamlet and Macbeth at this house with unequivocal and well-merited success, to crowded audiences. We understand that Mr. Alfred Wigan, having become the lessee of this theatre, will, about the end of next month, open the campaign in brilliant style.

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SEPT. 1, 1860.]

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Halifax (N.S.)

Committee, that the public might know what a vast mass of business was done by members of that House without appearing in the published parliamentary reports; and Mr. GREGSON, Chairman of the Committee, returned thanks. Lord PALMERSTON (in answer to Mr. COCHRANE), stated that he never said it was not competent for Sardinia to cecle and France to accept Savoy; what he said was that it was not competent for them to effect such transfer freed from the conditions of a treaty to which France was a party, and that the treaty of Turin was not yet acknowledged by this Government, and did not form part of the recognised law of Europe. Sir G. LEWIS (in reply to Mr. CRAUFUED, who asked what course the Government intended to take with regard to the proposed increase of the DEAN of YORK'S salary), stated that the case was a special one; but, owing to circumstances, it had been treated as an ordinary one, and therefore did not receive the consideration it would otherwise have received. Mr. WHITBREAD explained (in answer to Mr. WESTHRAD), the objections to Mr. Rennie's plan for improving the navigation of the Medway, and for the extension of Chatham dockyard. Mr. J. WHITE complained of the losses incurred by papermakers, through having relied upon the abolition of the duty as implied in the votes of the House of Commons, and reimposed by the sole authority of the Lords, and asserted their right to compensation, asking whether it would in future be necessary to obtain the concurrence of the House of Lords to proposals for the remission of taxes made in the Commons. Sir G. LEWIS, in reply, stated that the duties were due in law, and the proposal for compensation could not be entertained; in regard to the last point, he did not think there was any precedent for a change of system. At half-past two the House adjourned till 'Iuesday. In the House of Lords, on Tucsday, the Royal Assent was given to several Bills, by Commission. The second session of the present Parliament was closed by the LORD CHANCELLOR'S reading the QUEEN'S Speech (which will be found at length in another column), and afterwards declaring Parliament prorogued till the 6th November. The House of Commons, soon after it had assembled, having been summoned to the House of Lords, the business of the day and of the session terminated.

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