

# The Leader

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

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## News of the Week.

LAND is the question of the day: much as it is yet ignored by leading politicians, it continues to demand more and more attention every week. Across St. George's Channel the Irish Amelioration Society has been demonstrating the willingness of the peasantry to work under fair encouragement as well as any of our Saxon tillers of the soil; and thereby demolishing the fallacy that ascribes the poverty of the Irishman to his own idleness instead of charging it upon the accursed land monopoly. The Tenant League is also making sturdy progress, and bids fair to force the landlords of Ireland to come forward at no distant period with a liberal compromise. Nearer home the Freehold Land Association goes steadily forward without much enthusiasm as yet; but there will be no lack of that most powerful impulse to the movement, when the working man is enabled to purchase, not merely the *ground rent of a house* as his freehold, but a *farm of two or three acres*, on which he may earn an honest livelihood and lead a healthy and happy life.

The meeting of the Manchester and Liverpool Agricultural Association at Warrington, though connected with the land, suggests no very pleasant or profitable thoughts. A prize to Sir Thomas Joseph Trafford, of Trafford Hall, "for the best short-horned bull," may furnish a very proper theme for an after-dinner speech, but that is not the business which ought to be occupying the land-owners of England at the present moment. Much fitter work would it be for Sir Thomas de Trafford, and much more worthy of a prize, were he to produce at Warrington a dozen or two of healthy Lancashire peasants, whom he had transformed from a state of abject pauperism, into healthy, hard-working, well-paid labourers, by employing them, under proper guidance, in the reclamation of Trafford Moss. Lord Stanley, who was present at the gathering, might also do something in that way. He has much land which wants improving, his income has been greatly increased by that increase of wealth in Lancashire which brings an increase of pauperism. Let him and Sir Thomas de Trafford, then, whose income has also increased with the progress of manufactures, unaided by any effort of his, take an example from the guardians of Sheffield, and establish industrial farms on their estates, for the conversion of paupers into industrious workers, and the permanent improvement of the waste lands. We give an account of this experiment in a subsequent page; it establishes conclusively three facts: that a return may be obtained for pauper labour; that *beneficial* pauper labour is a better moral influence than resultless labour; that union authorities can grasp the broad elements of such questions; and that the neglected subject of indus-

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trial occupation for paupers will not be suffered to lie idle any longer. It is a very remarkable fact, that, although the farm-labour is less odious than workhouse-labour, it operates as a better "test" to repel idlers; it also operates as a training for genuine "independent" occupation. We shall continue to watch this interesting and most intelligently conducted experiment.

Compared with these questions of the land, the elections that have just happened possess small public interest. Poole probably gains by having Mr. Seymour in lieu of Mr. Robinson, as he is a Freetrader and more prepared for movement. The city of London may not possess in Mr. Wortley so matured a lawyer as in Mr. Law, the late Recorder; but it virtually acquires the services of a man far more comprehensive in mind and larger in heart, and at the same time strengthens the hands of that man for useful services to the public. But these are only individual gains.

The politician may take a more stirring interest in the half-covert struggle of the French pretenders. The Count de Chambord, with singular simplicity, is doing all he can to favour Louis Napoleon. A new and more formal declaration has been put forth on the Count's behalf, repudiating the will of the people in his favour. Some of his adherents are necessarily much scandalized and chagrined at this outrage on policy; and it has had the effect of an "excommunication" on M. de Larochejaquelin. The party, therefore, is broken up; and its residue is pledged to an impracticable, anti-national, anti-popular policy,—one which repels the nation, and treats the people with contempt. Possibly, the Count de Chambord may be induced to abandon his absurd obsolete position; but for some time, at least, the mischief has been done, and, if the notion were now abandoned, the motive would be so transparent that the concession could not regain the favour which the manifesto must have lost to the Count. Meanwhile, through a semi-official channel, Louis Napoleon is declaring that he shall seek for an extension of his power; and that, if he finds any violent obstruction on the part of factions, he will appeal to the whole People. The Orleanists scarcely appear in the field, at least not overtly; the Legitimists have been placed hors de combat by their "King"; the other parties opposed to the Prince President seem to be too weak to resist him alone; but, if they should, "an appeal to the People" would be a very cunning device, and one very formidable to his opponents. Unless, indeed, with more perseverance and discretion than they have yet shown, the Democratic party employ the whole interval before them to cultivate a thorough understanding with the People in every part of the country. In that case they may be beforehand with the Prince President.

Hesse-Cassel remains much in the same state that it exhibited last week; but many of the German Governments have placed themselves in combination against it, have issued a declaration

that the stoppage of supplies is illegal, and appear to be preparing for armed intervention.

If the Peoples of Europe had a common intelligence, these busy intervening Governments might have too much at home to permit their indulging in these extraneous vagaries—as in Mecklenburg-Schwerin.

The intelligence from India would seem to speak of troublous times at no distant day. The closing of a frontier pass against the Afreeds looks very like a confession of weakness, and can but postpone some further outrage by that predatory tribe. Meanwhile, the army labours under serious demoralization,—evinced by the indiscipline which Sir Charles Napier so harshly rebuked; by the murderous attack of a detachment on an Indian village; by the duels among quarrelsome officers; and even by the tone of courts-martial coolly resisting a superior officer without explanation, or placed in antagonism to the civil power.

The history of disaster and crime this week is uncommonly fertile and adventurous. There is a perfect covey of Railway accidents, varying in kind, but most of them tending to show vices of inefficiency or bad arrangement in the managing. The robbery of Mr. Cureton, the medallist of the British Museum, by three "gentlemen," who called upon him to inspect medals, and left him all but dying, rivals the exploits of Jack Sheppard. The German youth who assumed insanity to escape capital punishment for murdering a girl, and who baffled the obstinate examinations of medical men for fourteen months, furnishes a curious chapter in medical jurisprudence. But the most interesting tale is that of the Count Forestier de Coubert, who made such an impudent attempt at the abduction of Miss Hamilton, the daughter of an English clergyman residing at Brussels. Ennuyé with the fatigues of tending his dying wife, the Count cast his eyes upon the pretty girl of fourteen, who by no means repelled them. It was an additional temptation for the epicurean, that the young lady's father was a clergyman and an Englishman, "two animals I detest;" and providentially grafted in one, so that he was enabled to kill three birds with one stone—to afflict an English father, mortify a clergyman, and obtain for his hareem a pretty infant. He had actually sent her off to an obliging friend at Paris, but the police found him out. He returned the young lady to her friends, pleaded before a jury the harrowed state of his feelings under the circumstances of his wife's mortal illness, and obtained from them a verdict of "Not Guilty"! As a witness at the preliminary examinations, the young lady told three different versions of the story—an uncertainty of memory which may be considered an "extenuating circumstance" in judging the logic of the jury.

Music occupies a political prominence this week. Not only has the Eisteddfod afforded opportunity for the Welch to display their national airs and

national heat of temper against "the Saxon," but the Western world seems in each account to grow more and more agitated by the presence of "the Swedish Nightingale." More ado is made about her admission to the Union than that of California. She may be considered as one of the United States. Unquestionably, if the Federal Republic could impersonate itself in a representative—which, being a Republic and a bit-by-bit Federation, it cannot do—it would bestow its hand and throne on Miss Lind.

#### SHEFFIELD INDUSTRIAL FARM.

We paid a visit to Sheffield, on Monday last, for the purpose of viewing the Industrial Farm, established by the Poor-law Guardians of Sheffield Union, for the employment of able-bodied labourers. It had been stated to some gentlemen at Sheffield, who took a practical interest in the farm, that two gentlemen from the *Leader* Office were about to seek information on the spot, an invitation which met with a very free response. From the town we were kindly conducted by several friends, and at the farm we met many gentlemen connected with the Poor-law Guardians, or the Town Council, or otherwise interested in the experiment.

The Hollow Meadows Farm lies about six miles from Sheffield, on a road which runs between two ridges of hill. As you advance from the town the country gradually becomes wilder, until at last you are in the midst of the Moorland belonging to the Duke of Norfolk. Just at this point you have on your left, topping the ridge of dark wild land, the Druid Stone. On your right, slanting upwards from the road, the Union Farm—the relic of the ancient and useless—the newest device of useful labour-law applied to the condition of the poor.

On reaching the farmhouse, which is a plain and substantial stone edifice, divided from the road by a small garden and potato plot, and commanding an extensive view of the splendid moorlands by which the estate is surrounded, we were conducted round the building by our courteous *cicerone*, with a view to our inspection of the in-door arrangements. On the ground floor we found a spacious dining-room, where preparations were made for the meal of which we afterwards partook; near to which was a lavatory with pure water constantly laid on, and every convenience for ablutions, and encouragement to their performance among the inmates. Store-room, kitchen, and a comfortable sitting-room for the superintendent completed the accommodations on this story; while on the first floor we found a capacious dormitory containing sixteen beds, the frames of which were of iron, and bed clothes and coverlets, like everything else connected with the establishment, perfectly neat and clean. Near this dormitory were the sleeping apartments of the officials, and, connected with it by a door of communication, those of the superintendent, reached by a separate staircase from below, and yet thus provided with access to the paupers should any occasion for interference arise during the night. The arrangements for ventilation, consisting of an apparatus for the introduction of cold air through the floor, and for its escape by openings in the wall when heated and vitiated by the breathing of the sleepers, cannot be too highly commended, and we should rejoice to see them universally introduced into all public establishments and private residences. On the second floor we found apartments similar to those on the first, the dormitory containing the same number of iron bedsteads, but, from the reduced number of inmates not requiring their occupation, unprovided with bedding. We may mention here that the sum expended on the house and farm buildings was about £800, and that the rent paid for it and the two acres of land attached to it is £4 a-year, on a lease for ninety-nine years, granted to the board of guardians by the Duke of Norfolk. The fifty acres of which the farm consists are held at a rent of 4s. per acre, on a lease of twenty-one years from the same proprietor.

On leaving the farmhouse we passed through the yard where the buildings are situate, and where we observed several pigs, whose sleek and comfortable condition bore testimony to the care and ample food bestowed upon them. There are no cows kept at present on the farm; but they will be introduced when sufficient land is reclaimed to yield roots, green crops, and fodder for their maintenance. From hence we passed through the stackyard, where we found five stacks of wheat and oats, in excellent condition, if we might judge from the colour and brightness of the straw; and, as we learned, of more than average yield. Passing up the face of the hill, where some of the paupers were engaged in digging potatoes, we found the rest of our party assembled round Mr. Watkinson, the clerk to the Board of Guardians, to whose enterprise and philanthropy this experiment is due. This gentleman was pointing out to their notice the condition of some oat stubble, which gave, in truth, evidence of a clean and abundant crop, the result of careful extraction of the stones, thorough digging and subsoiling, and the application of a plentiful supply of manure. Mr. Watkinson then directed our attention to the unreclaimed

land adjacent to this stubble piece; the boggy, undrained and mossy surface of which, interspersed with fragments of stone and patches of heather, formed a sombre and striking contrast to that on which we stood; and which, so recently as last autumn, itself presented as wild and apparently as hopeless an aspect as the neighbouring tract.

From hence we bent our steps to the portion under process of reclaiming, passing, on the way, a spring of crystal water, a glass of which we found especially refreshing; and from which, we may observe, a pipe conducts the supply required at the farm below. Here we found all activity, bustle, and exertion. The tasks assigned to the paupers seemed carefully proportioned to their several ages and abilities. Some were carefully removing the sods from the surface, and placing them, inverted, on the portion of land already dug over and freed from stones, in order to form by their decay the source of future fertility. Others were breaking up with pickaxe and fork the land despoiled of its greensward, and extracting the stones which abound in that description of soil. These were wheeled by others to the deep drains constructed by the more athletic across and down the hill-side. These will afford escape to the water which would otherwise prove destructive to vegetation, and are essential to success in farming a district like the moorland.

The previous occupations of the labourers had been as various as we found their ages and capabilities for toil. But one and all professed themselves thankful for the treatment they received, and avowed their preference of the description of work provided for them on the farm to that which formerly engaged them in the workhouse. Surely, we thought, as we gazed on the active and healthy toilers, even should some pecuniary loss accrue to the ratepayers of Sheffield through this experiment (and that loss is rendered improbable by the calculations of Mr. Watkinson), it is well repaid by the removal of these our fellow-men from the dense atmosphere of the smoky town to the bright and breezy hill-side, where the song of the birds, and the scent of the heather, and the gleam of the sunshine on the everlasting hills, give health at once and exhilaration to their bodies and their minds. The speculation, in a commercial point of view, may or may not be a losing one: we think with Mr. Watkinson that it will not be so; but the money and pains are well laid out that not only support in honourable and productive labour, instead of the degrading and wasteful tasks of corn-grinding, oakum-picking, and stone-breaking, the present 26 inmates and those dependent upon them, but have, since the commencement of the undertaking, found similar provision for upwards of 500 heads of families, 250 of their wives, and about 2000 children.

Rather than that such an undertaking should be abandoned, we longed for the removal into the pure air of the open country of those wives and children, and not only of them but of the aged, infirm, and helpless; we pictured the hillside covered with happy groups, each occupied as befitted his capacity; the aged gazing in calm complacency—as is his right—on the labour of those for whom he worked in his days of vigour; the women busied in offices of love to them and to the children, or in the needful household employments; and the children enjoying all the natural advantages of air, and exercise, and scenery, and being fitted for their future career in the Industrial School.

At this point of our musings we were summoned to dinner in the farmhouse, to which we adjourned with the rest of the assemblage.

At the conclusion of the repast, the CHAIRMAN having given "the Queen,"

Mr. WILLIAM FISHER, jun., proposed "the health of Messrs. Hunt and Larken," the gentlemen on whose account principally they had met together that day. In doing so he wished to explain his reason for being there. It was not that he had heard of any further step in the progress of social reform; neither was he a Socialist nor an Associationist in any way. From his previous knowledge of Mr. Larken he (Mr. Fisher) had a desire to gratify his wishes, and, being indebted to Leigh Hunt for many pleasant hours, he was glad to meet the wishes of his son, and get his (Mr. Fisher's) fellow-townsmen together to hear what he would say.

The Reverend EDMUND R. LARKEN said that, before leaving his friend Mr. Hunt to respond more at length to the toast which had just been drunk, he begged to return his best thanks to them for the kindness and courtesy which had been shown to them that day, and especially on the occasion of drinking their health. If anything were wanting besides the beautiful scenes and recollection of what they had witnessed, it was made up to them by the kind manner in which the toast was responded to. It was, indeed, cheering to see so much care and philanthropy manifested towards the suffering classes. It was to him a happy thing to see them employed as upon that farm, and not compelled to spend their time in a degrading task of unproductive labour. (*Applause.*) To him especially, as a minister of religion, was this a gratifying sight, recollecting

that the charitable feelings which that religion begets had often been at the root of similar undertakings. To the monastic orders we were indebted for much of that industrial enterprise by which barren wastes had been reclaimed, and to the Knights of Malta we owed the conversion of that once sterile rock to its present fertile state. (*Hear, hear.*) Even in these latter days a large number of Christians had gone as pioneers to the shores of Australia. All this was encouraging, but still more the evidence of care for the suffering poor. He trusted that the ratepayers would receive their reward. If the scheme was ultimately successful, it would be important as a proof of the truth of the great principle which it embodied. (*Hear, hear.*) Many discouragements would, doubtless, arise; but if all acted in concert with those gentlemen to whom the scheme owed its origin, he trusted that they would find their reward in its success, and the gratitude of the poor in removing them from the irksome scenes of unproductive labour to a scene where the work of their hands was so bounteously multiplied. (*Loud applause.*)

MR. THORNTON HUNT assured them that, although he had been brought so prominently before the assembly, he had not the slightest idea of appearing before them as a lecturer. He did not expect to teach them so much as he expected to learn from them. His object in this visit was entirely a practical one. For many years he had been watching the operation of the poor-laws; but he had seen no enquiries respecting such a scheme as this, nor any results arrived at by the commissioners. He, however, did not mean to blame them. It would be remembered that, under the administration of the old poor-law, the great abuses were the corrupted administration of the funds, and the very wasteful administration of others, and the kind of premium which was given to the less well-conducted of the working classes to encase their families at the expence of the public. The commission of enquiry of 1833 was directed towards the investigation of these abuses, and, although we found many instances of beneficial employment of pauper labour, both morally and pecuniarily, this fact did not seem to have struck the minds of the commissioners with sufficient force. In the returns, which were filed now and then, came out some new evidence; but still it received no attention: consequently, the reform which was made in the new poor-law was made without this consideration. It was a modification of the old process. This scheme was a supplementary enquiry to that of 1833, which they were justified in making. Besides observing the operation of the poor-law, he had also seen some instances of co-operation. He remembered visiting Glasgow prison, and there he saw a remarkable sight—what might be called a community picked from the worst characters of society. They were admitted to that prison by a qualification of crime. After entering prison, they invariably improved in health and demeanour, and there was also a more healthy moral feeling among them. They were employed at various trades, and the effect was, that, including the prison-debt, the cost of each prisoner was only £2 per annum. In 1842, owing to the bad state of trade, they were obliged to give over employing the prisoners, because they were competing with the ratepayers; but, if their labour was profitable, there could be no reason why the ratepayers of Sheffield could not profitably employ a class of persons higher in the scale than the prisoners. Therefore, these things should induce them to carry on that scheme for a considerable time, in spite of the doubts which he saw arising amongst them—doubts which he was glad to see existed only amongst the minority. He would advise them to take care that they had the whole scheme entirely before them. (*Hear, hear.*) Have every item of cost fully shown—(*hear, hear.*); but they should also consider every advantage gained by the scheme, and these advantages would not be merely pecuniary. From what had been told to him by Mr. Watkinson, the clerk to the board of guardians in Sheffield, to whom he owes many thanks, it appeared probable that the present loss would soon be regained. (*Hear, hear.*) Of the moral effect of the scheme he had heard sufficient that day to convince him that of these they were perfectly sensible. Then there was the value of the land after it had been reclaimed, and the value of the experiment. If it succeeded there was no doubt that it would be an example to other unions. All this must be taken into account as well as the mere pounds, shillings, and pence. Referring to the pressure on the poor-law in 1833, he remarked that it was singular that about the same time the public mind began to show itself in favour of free trade. Well, free trade was carried, and the poor-law was modified. But the number of those who were not satisfied with free trade was increasing; and at present there was a new kind of opinion of a loose, doubtful, and scattered order gaining ground. We have now systematic Socialists, Christian Socialists, freehold building associations, and societies whose principle is that no institution can be safe which is not based upon the land. There was also the Land Redemption Society at Leeds. This sort of opinions was spread-



ing very much in society. Its extent must be known when we found Sir R. Peel, only a short time before his death, declaring that he was ready to discuss the question. We saw the *Times*, which professed to be the reflex of opinion, publishing the result of our competitive system. He did not wish them to pledge themselves by their silence to those opinions. A communist was easily distinguished; but when opinions of this class were gaining ground, if beneath the surface only, it indicated some new subject in which we have to deal. (*Hear, hear.*) The great requisite of the poor-law, to which a signal expression had been given here, was that the poor should find a subsistence out of the land. This, however, slipped the notice of the commissioners in 1833. It pointed out the necessity for a further development of the poor-law, and also the direction of the opinion to which he had already alluded. If he were to endeavour to define those different sorts of opinion he should say that they consisted in an idea that man by nature had a right to obtain subsistence out of the land on which he was born, and that industry which was carried on in unison was likely to be more successful than when the interest conflicted. (*Hear, hear.*) In carrying out the present scheme—in reforming the poor-law—it could only be done concordant with the state of the poor-law, and it was a disadvantage which should be borne in mind. There could be no doubt that when Mr. Charles Buller was on the poor-law commission, he intended to make a considerable improvement in the classification of paupers. Without being acquainted with the plan, he believed the direction was to make some more effective separation between what may be called the honest poor and the deliberate vagrant. At present there was a great difficulty of this kind. When they were dealing with the vagrant by *malice prepense*, they felt they could not deal sufficiently stringent with him. In times of distress they were obliged to relieve the unfortunate honest man, through a penal law. If this difficulty could be surmounted, a great object would be achieved. In expressing this conviction on his part, he did not ask for their concurrence. We now heard a great deal of the organization of labour, and men talked of industrial armies. His opinion, however, was, such changes in society were not taken by jumps. The change must be effected, not by planning systems, but by endeavouring to find out the actual laws of industry. If Adam Smith had been yet alive, he would have given us a fine chapter to add to our political economy. In any case of this kind the poor-law itself afforded us a practical opportunity of trying what was to be done by uniting industry in its most simple form. The poor-law enabled them to carry on this experiment; and, if successful, the Industrial Farm would be an example to all similar institutions. In conclusion, he expressed his regret that he felt so indisposed to address them that day. If, like him, any of them held a ball of fire in each hand, a cloud of mist enveloping the head, he would then feel the difficulty under which he at the present time was labouring. (*Cheers.*)

Mr. ISAAC IRONSIDE said it was well known that he (Mr. Ironside) was a Socialist. To him social reform was of infinitely more importance than political reform. They had gentlemen from the east and from the west who had come to ascertain for themselves the progress of this noble experiment. The scheme was not all that he could wish, but he was willing to act with the majority. The most foolish idea that he had heard expressed was to expect that we could be perfect in the experiment. (*Hear, hear.*) It was a perfectly new and untrodden path, and to suppose that we could be perfect in the first step was physically impossible. (*Cheers.*) They must act with the ratepayers, who had sufficient sense to appreciate the scheme, and to carry it out in the best manner they could. (*Hear, hear.*) He should have liked the land to be a freehold plot. The monetary view of the question he did not like at all: the moral effects were to him of the greatest importance. He knew of some circumstances which had occurred on that farm—poor fellows who had constantly migrated from the workhouse to the house of correction, and from the house of correction to the workhouse. But here was something humanizing and elevating—wholesome food, good air, good lodging, occupation, and regularity, and it had been the making of them. He was glad to see Mr. Hunt and Mr. Larken present. We were told not to be afraid of entertaining strangers, for men had entertained angels unawares. Well, Mr. Larken was an honour to his profession, for having undertaken that bold step of appearing among them that day. But there was another gentleman present, representing the poor-law reform association of Leeds. The great struggle between the Protectionist and Free-trader was at an end; but, after all, the country was beginning to find out that free-trade merely was not enough. (*Hear, hear.*) Something more than that was required. Well, to the honour of Manchester, there the new idea had been born. He did not think it possible that Manchester could have produced such a circular as had been issued by the poor-law reform association. Mr. Ironside read extracts from the circular, and remarked that in connection with this

association some of the best men in the country had given in their adhesion to it. (*Hear, hear.*) All were agreed as to the object, but there might be different modes of carrying it out. They agreed that it was best to create a productive labour test. In conclusion, he proposed the health of Mr. James Hole and the poor-law reform association.

Mr. HOLE responded. He said that at Leeds they lately had an enquiry to ascertain what was the cause of their excessive poor-rates. A committee was formed, of which he was a member, and a deputation visited the Sheffield farm. They reported so favourably of the scheme that the committee unanimously recommended its consideration to the guardians. The great objection seemed to be that it would involve too much trouble, especially to the officials. Consequently the scheme would not be set on foot at Leeds till there was a greater pressure from without. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Hole spoke at some length in favour of the scheme, concurring with the views expressed by Mr. Hunt. Leeds was looking up to Sheffield for the result of this experiment, and he wished they had a clerk as active and enterprising as Mr. Watkinson. He should have great pleasure in proposing his health before he sat down.

Mr. WATKINSON (union clerk) gave an interesting explanation of what had been done on the farm. The object for which it had been established was to furnish employment at productive labour for persons unable to find work in their own trades. Through the failure of trade, many were under the necessity of becoming applicants for relief, but no man should be reduced below the level of his own estimation. Upwards of 500 heads of families had been employed at the parish farm, of whom twenty-six still remain. Besides the 500 heads of families, there had been supported 250 of their wives, and about 2000 children. The first calculation was that the applicants for relief must have the means of existence, whether they work or remain idle in the workhouse. The breaking of stones and oakum picking however, had interfered with legitimate labour, and entailed a loss to the public beyond the amount given for subsistence. Added to this was the degradation most men undergo by being reduced to such employment. The object was first to render the labour of able-bodied men profitable; and though the farm in the first instance entailed a loss of £43 4s. 4d., there was a certainty of the second year showing a balance in favour of the farm more than sufficient to cover the loss of the first year. There was every reason to hope that the profits of the third year's production would nearly cover the whole expense connected with the farm-labour test; and the fourth year, in all probability, would not only cover the whole farm expenditure, but show a small surplus return of the money expended in the relief to labourers who have worked on the farm. At that period the land will be sub-let in three-acre lots, and every succeeding year would enable the guardians to sub-let in proportion to the number of acres brought under cultivation. A revenue would be thus afforded on an increasing principle upon every twenty-one years' lease of fifty acres. The lease of the house and two acres of land was for ninety-nine years, and, presuming that in the locality not more than nineteen years will afford waste lands for cultivation, there would remain seventy acres in such a state as to produce a return of £24 per annum to the funds of the union, or £1840—a sum more than the whole cost of the building and fixtures of that house of shelter. Now it must not be generally understood that if the experiment succeeded that it was to end in the fifty-acre allotment at present under lease. According to the present state of the law, the guardians could not hold more than fifty acres at one time, but he believed there was an understanding with the Duke of Norfolk that, as soon as a portion of the farm was sub-let, he would let them have more waste land. Though we might not enjoy all the benefit of this undertaking, the reward would be reaped by our children. (*Loud cheers.*) The poor labourers were grateful for the change. They were glad to get upon the farm, for to be shut up in the workhouse all their days was a terrible punishment. Many of them had said that they would rather end their days at the farm than return to the workhouse. (*Hear, hear.*)

The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed the health of the Sheffield Board of Guardians. The toast was acknowledged by Mr. CHARLES PEACE, chairman of the board, who said he approved of the principle involved in the experiment, as it gave good employment to the poor, and furnished the best labour test that he knew of, for it would return to some extent the relief which was administered to the labourers. (*Hear, hear.*) He did not approve of the farming principle, however, and he could make statements, and prove by figures, that it was a very costly experiment. He believed that the present board of guardians would, as far as they saw prudent, carry out this effort, and he trusted that it would be to the advantage of the ratepayers of Sheffield and to the improvement of the poor and unfortunate.

#### THE FREEHOLD LAND MOVEMENT.

A public meeting was held last Tuesday at the Angel, Islington, for the purpose of explaining the

principles of the Finsbury Freehold Land Society. Mr. D. Harris, the chairman, after stating that the object of this combination was to secure votes by the laying aside of 1s. weekly, proceeded to urge the importance of the franchise to working men. The principal rules of the society were read by the secretary, Mr. Scott, who stated that, in case of failure by the bankers, an act of Parliament secured 20s. in the pound to each member, before any of the other creditors could obtain a dividend. Mr. Beale observed that as a moral and political engine the society was now fairly started, and, besides its important object of extending the franchise, offered a most profitable field for investment of capital; the advantages being far superior to those presented by savings' banks. The moral elevation, too, arising from the possession of a freehold, acquired by a practice of self-denial, was no despicable consideration. The man who had so achieved his independence would not be likely to accept a bribe. In conclusion, he proposed a resolution declaratory of confidence in the society. Mr. Kinsilla next addressed the meeting, and said that political abuses were generally attributable to the non-possession of power by the people. The House of Commons was for the most part made up of peers' relations, naval and military officers, patrons of livings, and such persons who could not have much sympathy with the community at large. The practical remedy for this state of things was to join that society, which sought first to bring power down to its members, and then to distribute the same power to the masses who were unjustly deprived of it. He concluded by seconding the resolution, which was carried unanimously; and a vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman, the meeting separated.

#### IRISH TENANT LEAGUE.

The principles and rules of the Irish Tenant League are now made public, together with the opinions of counsel on their safety and legality. Mr. Fitzgibbon, Q.C., Mr. T. O'Hagan, Q.C., and Sir Colman O'Loughlin were the gentlemen consulted. Mr. Fitzgibbon was of opinion that the society, acting on the statement of principles it had laid before him, would be pursuing a perfectly legal course, and might safely proceed with the plan described. Mr. O'Hagan stated that, having already expressed his opinion on documents substantially the same as the rules then submitted to him on behalf of the Irish Tenant League, he would only repeat that those rules appeared to him unobjectionable in point of law, and that the members might pursue the object stated legally and safely; bearing in mind, however, the risk incident to extensive political associations from the principle of the law of conspiracy, affecting one man, under certain circumstances, with responsibility for the acts of another, if done in furtherance of a design to which both are parties. No change in the rules of the society would avoid the peril, which is incident to all extensive associations of the kind, although legal in their origin and object. In these opinions Sir C. O'Loughlin concurred, adding that in his judgment there was nothing objectionable in point of law in the rules, as they then stood, which had been passed for district tenant societies.

The purported object of the Tenant League is to obtain from Legislature an improvement in the laws which affect the relation of landlord and tenant. The rules of the League are of a merely formal character, relating chiefly to the holding of periodical meetings, the payment of a subscription by the members, the subjects to be discussed, and other forms of their proceedings. One of the resolutions which it is intended to propose is, that Irish Members of Parliament shall be applied to and requested to give their countenance and support to, and cooperation with the Tenant League; and that, in case of their refusal, they be requested, with all possible respect, to resign their seats, in order that the electors may have an opportunity of declaring their sentiments on this important subject before the coming session.

#### THE IRISH AMELIORATION SOCIETY.

A model station for carrying into effect the benevolent objects of the Irish Amelioration Society, has been opened at Derrymullen, in the county of Kildare. The spot selected affords excellent facility for the manufacture of peat fuel and charcoal, being a portion of the bog of Allen, and situated moreover on the banks of the Grand Canal, within twenty-five miles of Dublin. The raw material is abundant, while the means of exportation are easily accessible. The station consists of three wooden houses, no weightier structures on so loose a soil being considered practicable. One house is fitted up with furnaces for making the charcoal, and a machine for grinding it; the other buildings are not yet completed. The operation of cutting peat is carried on at the rear of the station by a large number of men, women, and boys, and is performed with great exactness. The material is made into small square blocks, which are removed, when sufficiently dry, by tramway to the mouth of a triangular retort. This retort is about twenty-eight feet in length; but others much smaller, and of pyramidal shape, are



used. The peat is allowed to burn in the retort until the hydrogen has escaped, when a quantity of water is let in at the bottom of the retort, which flows about the charred peat, excluding the air, and preventing the carbon from evaporating. The peat, having taken two hours to burn, is about as long in cooling; the water is then withdrawn, and the residuum of charcoal is removed to a grinding machine, where it is reduced to powder, and ultimately placed in bags for exportation. The coarsest kind is used for firing; the next for deodorizing and sanitary purposes; the third description for surgical operations; and the fourth for metal castings.

At the opening of the station, on September 19, a great number of visitors were present, and some speeches made. The chief points elicited were, that there are three millions of acres of hitherto useless bog in Ireland, every portion of which may be converted into charcoal of a far more generally available kind than that made from wood, and at a much less cost; that the willingness of the Irish peasantry to work under fair encouragement is proved by the beneficial change in their condition in the course of this experiment; and that the demand for peat-charcoal is already very great, and must increase—an order from the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers for the supply of an immense quantity having been made, and an intimation given that two millions of tons yearly will be required for London alone.

#### COMPETITION AND COMBINATION.

Another case of attempted reduction of wages, through the introduction of foreign artisans, has led to some illegal interference on the part of English workmen. A case arising out of the quarrel was decided at Marlborough-street Police-office on Tuesday. James Carnegie and George Piggott were charged with having assaulted William Aller, a German, and fellow-workmen, in the employment of Messrs. Erard and Co., pianoforte and harp makers, whose principal manufactory is in Paris, but who have also one in London. It appears that an association was lately formed among the workmen, both British and foreign, to prevent a reduction of wages, and that, in spite of this association, an attempt has been recently made to reduce wages, by employing foreign artisans. This naturally caused a great deal of ill-feeling, and had led to the assault of which the two men were charged. It did not appear to have been of a very serious nature, and the manager of the manufactory, after alluding to the combination amongst the men, said they had no wish to press the charge. All they wanted was to convince the men of the folly and illegality of their conduct. Carnegie stated that Aller had joined the society, but that he afterwards, in an underhand way, introduced two of his countrymen to work at lower wages.

“Mr. Hardwick said combinations of workmen against employers were not to be tolerated. The men had a right to seek to maintain a high rate of wages, but the masters had an equal right to get men to work at lower wages.”

The defendants were then ordered to find sureties for three months, and thus the affair terminated. The men are told that they may do their best to maintain high wages, provided they do not break the law, while the masters are at equal liberty, in his estimation, to try every means in their power to reduce wages. Such is *Laissez-faire* in our industrial system.

#### THE TEACHINGS OF CHOLERA.

The Commissioners constituting the Board of Health have presented their concluding report on the epidemic cholera of 1848 and 1849, a document full of interesting information, and well worth the serious attention of all Sanitary Reformers. One of the most striking facts in it is the statement that the Metropolitan Sanitary Commissioners, from a consideration of the increased crowding of the metropolis, its filthy state and low sanitary condition, two years ago, predicted that the impending epidemic would be more severe than that of 1832, and the event justified their prediction. With reference to the epidemic of 1832-3, the report says:—

“We must take the statement as we find it made to the Privy Council, from which it appears that, in London, the attacks were 14,144, and the deaths 6729; the population of London then being 1,681,641. From data given in the appendix, it is estimated that, in 1848-9, the attacks were about 30,000, and the deaths 14,601; the population at that time being 2,206,076, so that in the last, as compared with the former epidemic, the deaths were more numerous than the attacks, while the attacks were more than double; or, to state the result more precisely, in the epidemic of 1832-3 one person died in every 250 of the inhabitants, or .4 per cent.; whereas in 1848 and 1849 one person died in every 151 of the inhabitants, or .66 per cent.; the mortality, therefore, in 1832-3 was about 2.5ths less than in 1849; which is the same as to say that, in proportion to the population, about 5800 more persons perished of this epidemic in London, in 1849, than in 1832.

“In England and Wales in 1832-3 the attacks are stated to have been 71,606, and the deaths 16,437.

“From the Registrar-General's return, it appears that

the total number of deaths in England and Wales in the year 1849 was, from—

Cholera.....	53,293
Diarrhoea.....	18,887
Total.....	72,180

“From the total absence of any registration whatever in Scotland, it is, of course, impossible to obtain similarly accurate data for estimating the extent of the epidemic seizure in that part of Great Britain. Wherever he felt it important to obtain approximate estimates of the amount of mortality, we were obliged to direct Dr. Sutherland to make a personal examination of the rude entries in the burial registers of the various places of interment likely to have received the dead of those affected districts whose condition we were desirous of ascertaining. The result of this kind of enquiry as to Glasgow was, that about 3800 persons had died of cholera, and from a consideration of the returns obtained, it appears probable that between 7000 and 8000 persons were cut off in Scotland during the course of the epidemic. It may not be far short of the truth to estimate the mortality from cholera, exclusive of that from diarrhoea, in the whole of Great Britain, at upwards of 60,000.”

One very instructive fact connected with the late epidemic was its having visited so many localities where it had proved fatal sixteen years before. The first case that occurred in the town of Leith, in 1848, took place in the same house and within a few feet of the very spot from which the epidemic of 1832 began its course. On its reappearance in the town of Pollockshaws its snatched its first victim from the same room and the very bed in which it broke out in 1832. In Bermondsey also the same foul ditch which had given birth to the first cases of cholera in 1832 remained with all its reeking impurities to inflict upon the neighbouring inhabitants, in 1848, that inevitable punishment which follows every neglect of the laws of health.

“In numerous instances, medical officers, who have attended to the conditions which influence its localization, have pointed out, before its return, the particular courts and houses which it would attack. ‘Before cholera appeared in the district,’ says the medical officer of the Whitechapel Union, speaking of a small court in the hamlet, ‘I predicted that this would be one of its strongholds.’ Eighteen cases occurred in it. Before cholera appeared in the district the medical officer of Uxbridge stated that, if it should visit that town, it would be certain to break out in a particular house, to the dangerous condition of which he called the attention of the local authorities. The first cases that occurred broke out in that identical house. In a place called Swain's-lane, in the healthy village of Highgate, near London, there is a spot where the medical officer felt so confident that the disease would make its appearance that he repeatedly represented to the authorities the danger of allowing the place to remain in its existing condition, but in vain. In two houses on this spot six attacks and four deaths took place; yet there was no other appearance of the disease during the whole epidemic in any other part of the village, containing 3000 inhabitants.

“In a place called the ‘Potteries’ at Kensington, where the causes of disease are so concentrated and intense that, during the three years ending December 31, 1848, there occurred 78 deaths out of a population of 1000, the average age of all who died being under 12 years, and where, in the last year, the medical officer attended 32 cases of fever, 21 persons perished of cholera. These deaths took place in the same streets, houses, and rooms which had been again and again visited by fever; and the medical officer pointed out rooms where some of these poor people had recovered from fever in the spring to fall victims to cholera in the summer.”

With regard to the danger to be apprehended from open sewers and other sources of pollution, which might be abated by rigorous sanitary regulations, the commissioners say:—

“One of the most severe outbreaks of cholera that occurred in the metropolis was at Albion-terrace, Wandsworth-road, a place consisting of seventeen houses, having the appearance of commodious, comfortable dwellings. About 200 yards in the rear of the terrace is an open black ditch, which receives the drainage from Clapham, Streatham, and Brixton-hill. The inhabitants of the houses complained of offensive effluvia in their gardens behind, whenever the wind blew in a particular direction; the servants complained of a stench in different parts of the kitchen floor, more especially over the sink in the back kitchen. In the house in which the first case of cholera occurred, there was an enormous accumulation of most offensive rubbish, amounting to seven or eight cartloads. There is also reason to believe that the water supplied to some of the houses accidentally became contaminated with the contents of a sewer or cesspool. Within the space of a fortnight, out of an estimated population of 120 persons residing in this terrace, 42 persons were seized with cholera, of whom 30 died, or 71 per cent. of the whole number attacked.

“In the ‘Potteries,’ at Kensington, a place already noticed, there were kept 3000 pigs; the process of fat-boiling was carried on so extensively as to taint the atmosphere for half-a-mile round; the dwellings, or rather hovels, in which the inhabitants lived, are stated to be unsurpassed, as to filth and misery, by anything known in Ireland; the streets, courts, alleys, and yards are without a drop of clear water, all being charged with organic matter, and on the margin of a large stagnant piece of water, called the ‘Ocean,’ which is covered with a filthy slime, and bubbling with a poisonous gas, caused by the drainage of pigsties and privies that flow into it,

is placed St. James's National School, with about 130 children. It has already been stated that, in this place, out of a population of 1000 persons, there occurred, within the first ten months of 1849, fifty deaths; that is at the rate of six per cent. per annum; and that of these 29 were from fever and other causes, and 21 from cholera and diarrhoea.”

The monstrous neglect of the ordinary laws of health exhibited in placing a school on the very brink of a pestilence-nursery is almost incredible, and yet it is quite of a piece with the conduct of the people of London in almost all questions relating to the public health. What with their insane idolatry of *property*, as if it were, under all possible circumstances, the most valuable product of society, what with their incessant cry of *Laissez faire*, as if that should override every consideration of health and humanity, they seem at times to be totally devoid of common sense.

As a proof of what might be done to lessen the mortality from such epidemics the Commissioners dwell at some length upon the importance of improving the dwellings of the working classes. In proof of this they call attention to the very remarkable immunity from cholera enjoyed by the inmates of those buildings which have lately been erected by the society for improving the houses of the poor. Nor is it merely as regards exemption from the attacks of cholera that the health of the inmates of those places has improved. Compared with the inhabitants of the old, wretched, ill-ventilated, ill-drained houses in the same neighbourhood, it appears that the mortality of the inmates of the improved dwellings has, for the last eighteen months, diminished two-thirds; while its infant mortality, the most delicate test of sanitary condition, has not been more than one-fifth of that of the worst parts of the metropolis.

In the conclusion of their report the Commissioners, after expressing their expectation that a material improvement in the physical, moral, and social condition of the people will ultimately flow from the operation of the Public Health Act, strongly urge how essential it is to the protection of the public health

“That adequate legislative powers should be given for dealing effectually with those extraordinary and formidable states of disease, the occasional occurrence of which must be expected, until these sanitary works have been completed and have been introduced into all the towns of the kingdom.”

#### THE LAST SHOW IN FRANCE.

No sooner has Louis Napoleon ceased to furnish gossip for the Parisians, by his sayings and doings in the provinces, than the Nepaulese Ambassador makes his appearance on the stage, and instantly becomes quite as much the favourite as the President was. It is hardly possible to take up a French paper without finding some story in it regarding the great Oriental lion. Galignani gives an amusing account of Jung Bahadoor's visit to the Opera:—

“The Ambassador having expressed a wish to go ‘behind the scenes,’ the director, M. Roqueplan, intimated that he should be most happy to receive him, and Saturday was the day fixed for the visit. At about eleven o'clock the Prince and his suite arrived in several carriages, their splendid jewels glittering in the sunshine. The distinguished visitors were first taken to the great dancing-room, in which the members of the *corps de ballet* were taking a lesson. A gilded arm-chair was prepared for the Prince, and he watched the lesson with the greatest interest. After sitting nearly an hour, he was asked if he did not feel some ennui, but he replied that he could remain till nightfall with pleasure. The director, however, in order not to weary him, conducted him with great ceremony to the stage, and he was there placed under the canopy which serves for the Emperor in the third act of *La Juive*. Mademoiselle Fanny Cerito stood by his side, and the *corps de ballet* danced the *divertissemens* of the *Enfants Trouvés*, the new opera of M. Auber, which is about to be brought out. The Prince was delighted, and requested that all the persons of the ballet should be presented to him. The presentation took place in the great *foyer*, and, when it was concluded, the ambassador delivered a little speech, which was translated into English by his interpreter, and then from English into French. The speech was to the effect that never any women appeared to him so enchanting as those of the Opera, and that he would never forget what he had seen, however distant he might be, and however long Heaven might allow him to live. The director having sent out for the finest fruits that could be procured, invited the prince to partake of them. The prince replied that, if a refusal would offend the director, he would partake of them, notwithstanding the ordinances of his religion would be violated by his eating in the presence of strangers; but that he would greatly prefer that the young beauties who surrounded him should be invited to take the fruits. To this the director acceded, and the young ladies emptied the baskets, and devoured the fruit with an alacrity which appeared greatly to amuse the prince. Before leaving the Ambassador expressed his thanks to M. Roqueplan, and shook him warmly by the hand. As he did so, he left in M. Roqueplan's hand a costly pocket handkerchief containing £100 in English sovereigns. The money was immediately divided, and each member of the *corps de ballet* received 60f.—each scene-shifter and pupil 30f.”

At the grand review at Versailles, on Monday, the Nepaulese Prince was much more the object of regard



than the nephew of the Emperor. The President is merely described as having made his appearance on the ground with that "numerous and brilliant staff" which always accompanies him, whereas the Ambassador of Nepal, we are told,

"Glittering in gold and diamonds, his tawny complexion contrasting strongly with his snow white plume and the pearls that hung profusely about his neck, rode at Napoleon's right hand, mounted on a superb charger, supplied for the occasion from the stables of the Elysée. Amongst the officers of the staff that followed hard behind were the three companions, or aides-de-camp, of the Ambassador, dressed in uniform—a green tunic, the upper part of which was covered with gold embroidery, while massive gold epaulettes hung from the shoulder; a low cap, fitting close to the head, with rather a broad brim, formed their head-dress. Their scimitars were suspended by gold cords, attached to a belt of the same material, which clasped their waists."

The review, which was pretty much the same as all shows of that kind, was over about four o'clock. The President and his "brilliant staff" then proceeded to a house in Versailles, where a collation had been provided for them. The Indian Princes remained outside on the balcony, conversing with an English officer, and gazing on the crowd below, while the others were taking refreshments.

#### THE PREMIER IN THE HIGHLANDS.

The Inverness papers contain an account of a visit lately paid by Lord John Russell to the Dowager Duchess of Bedford, at her Highland residence, the Doune of Rothiemurchus. As his arrival had been announced, the people of the district made a great demonstration on the occasion. At an early hour in the day every man and horse in the neighbourhood were engaged in collecting materials for a bonfire on the summit of the Ord Bain, one of those high mountains which overlook that rich expanse of wild and cultivated scenery—birch forests, deer corries, pastoral glades, corn fields, and pellucid waters—which distinguish the district of Strathspey. By six o'clock a pile was erected about forty feet high, a tar barrel being placed in the centre. At the same time the domestics at the Doune erected a triumphal arch at that part of the banks of the Spey where his lordship had to cross the river. A body of Highlanders, marshalled by Mr. Mackintosh, the factor on the estate, waited the arrival of the Premier on the northern bank of the Spey, while on the opposite side were the duchess, with the different members of the family at present at the Doune, and the whole household establishment. At half-past six o'clock his lordship's carriage came in sight, when the people raised a loud cheer, and the piper struck up a pibroch. His lordship, on alighting, bowed repeatedly to the people, and seemed much gratified by this unexpected demonstration. He was accompanied by Lady John Russell and two of their children.

On landing from the boat, the duchess affectionately embraced his lordship and Lady John Russell, and the party walked towards the mansion house amidst the cheers of the people. The Highlanders immediately crossed the river, and marched two abreast to the Doune, when they again drew up in a line, and quaffed a bumper to the health of Lord John—"Ard chomhairlich na Banrigh," the Queen's Prime Minister—with three times three and one cheer more. This was followed by a hearty dance on the green—a genuine Highland reel—in which the men exhibited an energy that any Prime Minister might have envied. The party then gave a round of cheers for the duchess and her family, after which they proceeded to climb the Ord Bain and set the bonfire in a blaze. On the top of the hill toasts were again proposed and drunk with enthusiasm—every member of the Bedford family being duly pledged—and the proprietor and factor of Rothiemurchus also remembered. Gaelic songs were sung and old tales told, and it was two o'clock in the morning ere the festive party descended the hill.

On the 18th instant, Lord John arrived at Balmoral on a visit to the Queen. A Privy Council was held there on Tuesday, after which he took his departure on a visit to his father-in-law.

#### ANOTHER GERMAN REVOLUTION.

On the 14th instant the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin abolished the constitution voted by the National Assembly on the 10th of October, 1849, as well as dissolved the National Representation, which was elected in virtue of the said constitution, instead of which the old one was restored. The question is, what will be the result of the 24th instant, on which day the dissolved Chamber will, according to the constitution, be reinstated in its rights, especially as the Crown has received from all its members the oath that they will truly and inviolably maintain the constitution?

It would appear that here, as in Hesse-Cassel, the system of passive resistance will prevail, and measures are being adopted in the rural districts and towns to get up protests against the expungement of the constitution.

#### GERMANY.—HESSE-CASSEL.

The bills proclaiming the state of siege at Hanau,

which were placarded during the night of the 14th instant, by the gendarmes and soldiers, were torn off by order of the mayor.

The seat of the runaway Government has been removed to Wilhelmsbad, where the Elector has taken up his headquarters. His three ministers and advisers are protected by a permanent guard of 100 soldiers. The tranquillity of the town of Cassel, as well as that of the whole country, has not been interrupted for a single moment, and will continue quiet if the Elector renounce his hostile intentions against the people, which is not probable, for, in consequence of an interview he had on the 19th instant with Count Thun, the Austrian plenipotentiary, he set off to pay a visit to his three nearest agnates in the Castle of Kumpelheim, where he had the satisfaction of hearing his relations express their unqualified approval of the policy which he had thought proper to adopt. On his return to Wilhelmsbad, the Elector asked the officer on duty, "How he liked the state of war?" and on the reply of the officer that, "all was tranquil and nothing had happened," the Elector seemed greatly excited, and replied in a passion, "Very well, then we'll put another screw on!"

Such are the intentions of the ruler, and the following fact shows, on the other hand, how the Hessian people are disposed towards him.

On the 20th instant, when Lord Cowley, the British Plenipotentiary, was entering Frankfurt, on his return from Wilhelmsbad, it so happened that he was accompanied by a Hessian officer on horseback, who rode at the side of his lordship's carriage. This circumstance caused him to be mistaken for the Elector, and a crowd of people, surrounding his carriage, addressed his lordship with the most insulting and abusive epithets, shouting, "Take the dog out! Kick him down! Knock him on the head!" But no act of violence of the kind was committed, and, the identity of the British Ambassador being established, Lord Cowley was allowed to depart amidst the violent cheers of the crowd.

The committee of the Chamber, and all the public authorities, continue, and will continue, with undeviating tenacity, their system of passive resistance.

It would appear that the Austrian Convention, sitting at Frankfurt, meet with obstacles in the way of granting the Elector any material support. Meanwhile the Elector is withdrawing his troops from Cassel, and concentrates them in the vicinity of Hanau and Wilhelmsbad.

#### ELECTION OF THE RECORDER.

A Court of Aldermen was held last Tuesday for the election of a Recorder, in the room of the late Mr. Law. The candidates were known to be—Mr. Sergeant Merewether, Mr. Russell Gurney, Q.C., Mr. Common Sergeant Bullock, and Mr. J. A. S. Wortley, brother of Lord Wharncliffe. An extraordinary degree of excitement prevailed during the long private discussions among the members, all except two, even of the highest officers of the corporation, being excluded. A discussion ensued on the motion of Sir P. Laurie that the court should be cleared of strangers. Aldermen Humphrey and Copeland hoped that the public would not be excluded. Alderman Farebrother had no objection to strangers remaining. At the same time it was the right of any member to exclude them without appealing to the court for consent. Sir Peter Laurie meant to persist in his motion. The appointment of a judge was a business with which the public had nothing to do, and could not, without impropriety, meddle. Alderman Sidney was surprised to hear such a doctrine. He considered that all who paid the Recorder ought to understand the nature of the proceedings distinguishing his election. Alderman Wilson hoped the doors would not be closed. Sir P. Laurie insisted on clearing the court, and strangers were accordingly directed to withdraw. It was understood that when the doors were closed a long discussion took place on a motion that strangers be again admitted, which was negatived by a majority of three; and a proposition to adjourn the election for fourteen days was also lost by a majority of six. The election was then formally proceeded with, and was gained by Mr. J. A. S. Wortley. General expectations as to the result were completely contradicted, and it was thought that some Aldermanic promises had been broken.

#### LORD BROUGHAM'S POACHING QUARREL.

Lord Brougham's dispute with the Eamont Angling Association came before the magistrates at Penrith, on Tuesday, in the shape of a long list of illegal netting cases, and a still longer list of assault charges on the other side. The chief witness was Mr. William Brougham, brother of the eccentric nobleman, who stated that he and a party had gone to the river Eamont on the 16th instant, with the express intention of trying the construction heretofore put on the act entitled the Solway Act:—

"Their object was to go down and draw the river with a net of a peculiar description, of a smaller mesh than usual, called a 'double-armoured net,' to try whether

the act of dragging the river with such a net was illegal or not. The river was drawn three days previously to that time for the same purpose, and nobody had come to inform against them, and they were determined to continue doing so until they were informed against, or they had ascertained the proper construction of the act."

In carrying out their project they were obliged to trespass on Sir George Musgrave's property, he being a member of the Angling Association, but they had done so on previous occasions without hindrance. The trespassers, consisting of Lord Brougham and his friends, were of opinion that the Solway Act applied only to the taking and killing of salmon. The bench decided that the charge against John Robson, Lord Brougham's gardener, for illegal fishing, was fully made out. They therefore adjudged that he should pay the penalty of £5, including costs. As for the assault cases, on both sides, they were withdrawn by mutual consent.

#### A WILD IRISH GIRL.

A remarkable trial, which has excited much interest among English residents at Tours, took place in the Court of Assizes of that department last week. The case is well told in the French papers:—

"The Count Forestier de Coubert was brought before the court on the charge of enticing from her home a young girl named Isabella Hamilton, daughter of an English clergyman resident at Tours. Some months ago M. de Forestier went to live in that city, for the benefit of his wife's health, and in his walks he fell in with Miss Hamilton, who, with her *bonne*, accompanied her young sisters and brothers in their promenades. He commenced an acquaintance by giving the children cakes, and afterwards made a point of being every day on the promenade when Miss Isabella arrived. After a while, he began making love to the young lady, and she received his advances with a good grace. She used also to indicate to him, by placing a flower-pot in a particular position in her window, in what promenade he might meet her. He at last persuaded her to leave her father's roof, and, in company with her *bonne*, a girl named Adèle Gendron, aged seventeen, go to Paris, where he said he would secure her an apartment, and would provide for both. Isabella, it seemed, was very glad to get away from home, as her parents were about to send her to school in England—a measure to which she had the strongest possible repugnance; she even, it appeared, had gone the length of telling Forestier that she would sooner commit suicide by poison than be sent away. Forestier, it was alleged, arranged with Isabella that she and her servant Adèle should leave the house of the Reverend Mr. Hamilton in the evening of the 22nd of May last, and that they should go to Paris. He had previously written a letter to a friend of his, the Baron Eugene de Vivier, telling him to meet the girls and provide lodgings for them. This letter he began by saying:—

"I send to you, my dear friend, a young English girl, aged fifteen, with a pretty little face, light hair, clear blue eyes, delicate nose, sensual mouth, and a slightly prominent chin. She is the daughter of an Irish minister, who has a host of children. She will be accompanied by a little *bonne* of seventeen, with auburn hair, &c., named Adèle." He then went on to say that at a future time he would tell the friend all the history of the affair, but that he might then mention that the young lady had threatened suicide. "Don't make me any objection," he added; "I have only acted after long deliberations. I beg of you to meet them at the railway station on their arrival. Isabella (that is the name of my charming pretty miss) will have on a plaid gown, a straw bonnet, and a black woollen cloak; the servant, an old black bonnet of her mistress. They have been told you will be there, and will expect to meet you. That they may recognize you, have a white flower at your button-hole, or rather keep a pocket handkerchief constantly to your mouth. I laugh at the thought of your meeting these poor creatures! Take an apartment for them—let it be simple, but becoming."

"He next recommends the friend to be cautious, and then says:—'The father will no doubt take some measures which it is important to render vain. I shall, therefore, continue to show myself in the public promenades, that I may not be suspected; and then I will relieve you in your guard. My wife is better. Bretonneau is tending her as if she were his own child. She is surrounded by devoted attendants, has a good house, and her physician in ordinary is one of the princes of the science. What can I do more? I may venture to give myself this little gratification. Don't scold me. I tell you that the father is an Englishman and a clergyman—two animals I detest, and who are, as it were, grafted one on the other expressly to take from me all sort of remorse.'

"The Baron Eugene de Vivier replied in the same strain, saying, among other amiable things, 'I had some thoughts of moralizing with you, but what's the use! The wine is drawn, and you must drink it!' On the 22nd May, as arranged, the two young girls met the Count de Forestier at the appointed rendezvous. He accompanied them to the railway, and paid their fare to Paris. At Paris they were received by the Baron de Vivier, and he took them to a lodging-house in the Rue de l'Université. There the young lady refused to give her name, and directed that no one should be admitted to her except her uncle (Vivier) and her husband, whom, she said, she expected. Vivier visited her several times during the day. Meanwhile Forestier remained quietly at Tours, in order that he might not be suspected of having been concerned in the flight. But it so happened that the family at once suspected him, and the Reverend Mr. Hamilton immediately laid a complaint against him before the Procureur de la République. Forestier declined to say anything, and thereupon the Procureur de la République resolved to have him arrested. On this Forestier wrote off to Paris to Vivier, to send back the girls immediately, and he constituted himself a prisoner. The next day Miss Isabella and her attendant arrived in Tours, and the former was restored to her parents. The public prosecutor, however, deemed it his duty to prosecute Forestier. The Reverend Mr. Hamilton, on the con-



trary, was anxious that the matter should be dropped. But the procureur represented that the law must take its course. In the preliminary examination the Reverend Mr. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, and Miss Isabella were called on to give evidence. Isabella varied in her statements. In her first examination, she declared that she had resolved on the flight herself, and that Forestier had scolded her on her folly, and had dissuaded her from it; he only, she said, consented to aid her, when he saw that she was quite determined to go. She was not aware, she declared, that she was to meet him at Paris, and she had resolved, she said, to change her name. She solemnly took God to witness to the truth of all this. But when Forestier's letters were read to her she expressed great indignation, but did not retract her statement. In her second examination, on the contrary, she declared that it was Forestier who had first proposed to her to fly and that he had offered to abandon his wife, notwithstanding her illness, to go with her. She had at first, she said, considered this was a joke, and had laughed at it, but he had pressed her and had got the servant Adèle to do so likewise. It was only by their entreaties that she had gone. On arriving at Paris, Vivier told her that Forestier was in love with her, and would die if obliged to live without her. When told of the way in which he had spoken of her in his letter, she burst into tears, and said, 'Ah, it is painful to see his contempt for me! I opened my heart to him, and he learned that I loved him. Yes, I knew he was married. Alas! I know not how I could have acted so!' Isabella was then confronted with Forestier, and she persisted in declaring that it was he who had enticed her to go. Forestier said that the contrary was the fact, and he complained to her that she was not telling the truth. 'You cannot wish to ruin me, mademoiselle,' said he, 'by stating what is untrue!' and he pressed and supplicated her to retract. But she refused; and he said at last, 'Well, having in vain made an appeal to the honest sentiments of mademoiselle, I must resign myself to my fate!' In the third examination Isabella again varied her story. She said she had laid too much to the count's charge; that in consequence of dissensions with her sister, she had resolved on leaving her parents; that she had declared to Forestier that if he would not take her away, she would poison herself; and so on. She added that she had spoken against him on the last occasion, because she had been told that he had declared that he would sooner go to the galleys for life than marry her. In her last examination she again formally and positively declared that it was she alone who had resolved on leaving home, that Forestier had never persuaded her to go, never promised to leave his wife for her—and never, she added, attempted to introduce himself into her apartment. At the trial (which took place before a court crowded to excess), Isabella, her father, mother, and elder sister did not appear to give evidence, though all had been summoned. The principal evidence for the prosecution consisted in the reading of the indictment, and in the testimony of Mr. Halley, Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, and a younger brother and sister of Isabella, as to the precise age of that young lady. They all stated that she was about fourteen. This point was important, as, by the French law, the crime of what is called *détournement d'une jeune fille mineure* can only be committed when the girl is under sixteen; after that age she is considered a free agent, and is accountable for her own actions. It was stated that since this unfortunate affair Forestier's wife had died, and that he, anxious to make all the reparation in his power for the injury he had done her, had offered to marry her, but that her father had positively refused. Forestier caused evidence to be given by several persons to prove that he had every reason to believe, from Isabella's personal appearance and other circumstances, that she was more than sixteen years of age, and he laboured, both in his interrogatory and throughout the trial, to show that he had not persuaded her to leave her home. After the pleadings were over, Forestier, in a voice of much emotion, read a paper to the jury, drawn up as follows:—

"I have to make, before my fellow-citizens, the avowal of a fault which the law does not punish; and you will accept this avowal as a further expiation to be added to my long sufferings. During two years I struggled to save from death the life of an angel to whom I had associated my destiny, when a fatal and unforeseen meeting surprised me in one of those moments of moral discouragement, in which a man has not sufficient strength to maintain himself in the line of duty. You will not brand my life, gentlemen, for a moment's self-forgetfulness; you will not confound a fault with a crime; you will not forget that the honour of Miss Hamilton is intact; and that I have offered her all the reparation in my power."

The President then summed up, and the jury, after an hour's deliberation, returned a verdict of "Not Guilty." The servant-girl, Adèle Gendron, was included in the indictment for having assisted in the flight of Isabella, but the public prosecutor abandoned the case against her. The verdict was received with some applause, which was immediately repressed by the President. Count de Forestier remained in gaol till the evening, but when he went away a numerous crowd was waiting at the door to see him.

#### AN HUMBLE PRIMA DONNA.

In the winter of 1846 a young girl, poorly clad, attracted some attention by her singing at the edge of the pavement before the Western Club House at Glasgow. A shawl enveloped her head and concealed her face. She asked no alms, but sang on, accepting with grateful thanks the small gifts of the street passengers. One night her voice sounded so sweetly in the ears of two German gentlemen, that they gave her some small coin and hurried on. The rain was falling in torrents. The heart-touching tones of the poor girl's voice touched them deeply. Suddenly

one of them stopped and said, "Do you hear that voice? What beauty and power! Does no one try to save the possessor of such a voice from destruction? Shall a girl with such a gift from Heaven die from hunger, or worse?" "Let us see what we can do," answered the other.

They returned and enquired of the watchman respecting the mysterious songstress. He knew nothing of her. She did no harm nor evil that he ever saw. He would enquire. She gave him a false address, for she wished to conceal her name. After about a month's diplomatic negotiations, by means of the watchman, the girl agreed at last to visit a benevolent German lady. Arrived there, and putting the jealous shawl aside, a pale, interesting face was discovered. The girl gave satisfactory references as to her former life. It appeared that she was a native of Edinburgh; that, having become destitute from the death of her father, the illness of other members of her family, and other circumstances, and not being able to get work sufficient to provide for her family, and being possessed of a good voice—her only family inheritance—she resolved to try to make a precarious living by singing in the streets during the twilight and evening.

When she sang to her new friends her voice seemed to have lost its fine qualities. Doubts were expressed as to her identity—she proved it by detailing the negotiations with the watchman. But she seemed to have two voices, and the Germans could not understand it. By-and-bye, the lady and Mr. Seligmann, a musical professor, called upon the sick mother, and then it was discovered that the girl had a sister, who was then with a distant relation in Paisley, and who, when she happened to be in Glasgow, sometimes relieved her from the task of singing in the streets. This sister was the elder, and on being sent for, her voice soon proved her identity. She sang so well, and her character was found to be so good that the professor and the German lady determined to educate her musical faculties. She progressed so well that they extended the range of her studies, and, after two years' instruction in Glasgow, they sent her to Germany to be initiated into the higher branches of music. Great, we are told, has been her progress, not only in music, but general accomplishments. So great that the *Glasgow Herald* avers that no traces of the street-singer can now be found in the handsome, accomplished, and elegant young lady whose name is Christina Dawson. It is a pleasure to add that her friendly patrons have taken care of her destitute family, and that the heroine is shortly expected home to sing at concerts in her native land.

#### RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Since the sad catastrophe on the Eastern Counties Railway, of which we gave an account in our last paper, several alarming railway accidents have taken place on other lines. The most serious of these was one which befell a cheap excursion train, near Wootton-Bassett, on the Great Western, on Friday. It appears that an excursion train was announced to leave Bristol on Friday morning for Paddington and back. It was completely thronged with parties from the West of England anxious to avail themselves of such a favourable opportunity of visiting the metropolis at a cheap rate. So great was the throng, indeed, that for the convenience of despatch the excursion party was divided into two separate trains, one leaving the Bath and the other the Bristol station. Similar arrangements were intended by the officers of the company to have been made for the return journey in the evening; but the passengers, anxious to see as much as they possibly could of the lions of the metropolis, delayed their arrival again at the Paddington station till almost the very minute allowed them, so that when the time approached for leaving, such was the rapidity and the promiscuous nature of the arrivals of the passengers that it was found absolutely impossible to separate the Bristol from the Bath excursion train, and it was accordingly resolved to send off two mingled trains. The first of these return trains accomplished its passage with great punctuality, arriving at the Bristol station shortly before twelve o'clock on Friday night. It was stated by the passengers that when they left Swindon the other excursion train was just signalled as being in sight, and it seems it also arrived as far as Swindon in safety. It left Swindon at a quarter past eleven o'clock, and just after passing the Wootton-Bassett station, at the junction of the siding with the down-line, the passengers felt a tremendous concussion, and immediately there was an awful crash; the train had come into collision with a horse-box, which somehow or other, in the short space of a quarter of an hour or twenty minutes which had elapsed since the passage of the first excursion train, had been placed on the line. The engine and the first four carriages were precipitated down the embankment into a field of mangold-wurtzel. The first carriage was turned on its side, so that there were no means of escape, but, although the top of it had to be removed by forcibly breaking it in with a sledgehammer before the inmates could be rescued from their perilous position, none of them sustained any

injuries that were of a serious or dangerous character. The engineer and stoker were flung violently to the ground, but apparently without much injury, as they shortly afterwards busied themselves in endeavouring to assist the passengers.

The scene for some minutes was one of great consternation and confusion. The screams of the women were most heart-rending. On looking after the wounded it was found that two persons had their collar-bones dislocated, the heads and faces of several others were hurt and bruised, and some had their arms and legs injured. A lady named Lewis, wife of the high-bailiff of Bath, was said to be most seriously and dangerously injured, she having suffered from concussion. Dr. W. Bird Herapath, of Bristol, also received injuries about the head and face. Mr. Richard Smith, also of Bristol, had his knee split open, and there were many minor injuries inflicted.

The cause of this accident has not yet been ascertained, but enough is known to excite very strong suspicion. The belief at Wootton-Bassett is that the horse-box was placed on the line intentionally, as no reason can be discovered for its being placed there, unless for the diabolical purpose of throwing the train off the line.

On the Great Northern line an accident of a very serious nature occurred on Saturday night, by which several persons were severely injured. At the very moment when a down-train was due at the Hitchin station, a heavy cattle train, the first that the Great Northern authorities have run upon the line, on arriving at the station, had to be taken across upon the down line to make room for two up trains which were then due. Various precautions were adopted for the purpose of preventing the occurrence of an accident; but, nevertheless, the down train ran with very great violence into the two engines that were attached to the cattle train, all three engines being materially damaged. The driver of the down train was thrown off the engine and has sustained severe internal injuries. The fireman had his leg broken, and a lady who was a passenger by the train had several of her ribs broken; many others were injured.

An old man, upwards of eighty, who walked on crutches and was deaf, was walking on the South Wales railway, near Skewen, on Friday, when a train came upon him suddenly, and threw him down. The shock was so great that he died on the following Wednesday. He had been frequently warned against wandering on the line.

As the mail train to Hereford was passing near Admaston, on Tuesday, it ran over and killed two cows, which had strayed on the line, which threw the last carriage off the line, causing a delay in the train of an hour and a half, but without any other casualty.

One of the guards of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway was killed on Friday, by falling from the half-past ten express train near Linlithgow. It is supposed that he was in the act of moving from one place to another, in order to apply the break on approaching the Linlithgow station, when he suddenly lost his balance, and met with instantaneous death.

The investigation into the late fatal accident on the Eastern Counties Railway was brought to a close on Monday, when the jury, after an interval of an hour and a half, returned the following verdict:—

"We find that the death of the nine men was occasioned by misadventure, but at the same time express our regret that more caution had not been exercised for the protection of the men on the line."

#### ROBBERY AND ATTEMPT TO MURDER.

One of the most daring robberies we have heard of for a long time was perpetrated in the City on Friday week. The case was one of a very aggravated nature as the robbers made an attempt upon the life of the gentleman whom they robbed. The circumstances of the robbery are briefly these. Mr. Cureton, a gentleman who holds an official situation in the British Museum, resides in the second floor of a house in Aldersgate-street, occupied by a person named Wilson. As Mr. Cureton has to purchase most of the coins, medals, and other antiquities for the British Museum, he invariably kept an immense deal of property in his house. This seems to have been known by some of the swell-mobsmen, for on Friday afternoon, three men, dressed in the first style of fashion, applied at the house to see Mr. Cureton. Mr. Wilson, who was in his shop, answered the men, and told them that they would find him on the second floor. The three fellows immediately repaired up stairs, and nothing was afterwards seen or heard of them by any party in the house, except Mr. Cureton, until they took their departure, some fifteen or twenty minutes afterwards. A female then saw them walking coolly down stairs, and not exhibiting the least signs of fright or being in a hurry. Some few minutes after that period, Mrs. Wilson, the landlady, went up stairs with Mr. Cureton's milk for his tea, when to her no small astonishment she saw the unfortunate gentleman quite black in the face, perfectly speechless, and a considerable pool of blood at his feet. Blood was also running down his face, from a wound in the forehead. At first she imagined that Mr. Cureton had been seized with an apoplectic fit, and she immediately



sent information to that effect to Mr. Brand, surgeon, Aldersgate-street. That gentleman promptly attended, when he found Mr. Cureton perfectly insensible, and rapidly sinking. He forthwith applied the usual remedies, but it was upwards of seven hours before the unfortunate gentleman could be restored to consciousness.

From his statement it appeared that the three supposed gentlemen who had called upon him enquired whether he had by him a crown piece of William and Mary, and that having answered in the affirmative, he asked them to take a seat, and whilst in the act of handing a chair to one of the men the other two went behind him and placed a portable instrument round his neck, which pressed as tightly as a vice. They then gave him a violent blow over the right eye, and from that time he had no recollection of what happened. The fellows finding that Mr. Cureton was insensible, no doubt imagined that they had deprived him of life. They then removed the instrument from his neck, and, after stripping the place of coins, medals, &c., of the value of £300, they decamped. Mr. Cureton perfectly recollects seeing the instrument as the men were passing it towards his back; and, seizing a small box, he made an attempt to throw it through the window, hoping in that way to raise an alarm, but before he could do so he was deprived of all power. Mr. Brand is of opinion that had not Mrs. Wilson gone up to his room at the moment she did he would have died, as reaction had just commenced. The police, during the day, were apprized of the affair, but as yet no tidings have been obtained of the villains. Mr. Cureton is somewhat better, and there is some ground for believing that he will recover, unless he has a relapse.

#### ASSUMED INSANITY.

The Court of Assizes of Augsburg (Bavaria) has just been engaged in trying a case the circumstances of which are curious. A young man of eighteen, named Specht, was charged with having, on the 23rd of July, 1849, murdered a girl of seven years of age residing in the village of Hegelenstein, in the circle of the Upper Danube, accompanied by aggravated circumstances. Specht, who was almost immediately arrested, at once avowed the double crime, but declared that he had been prompted to it by the devil: he had, he said, been only a sort of half-passive agent in the case. The day after, when brought before the examining magistrate to be interrogated, his faculties, mental and physical, seemed all at once to have become singularly weakened; he not only could not to all appearance express his ideas coherently, but he seemed even incapable of supporting the weight of his body. After having been several times brought from prison for examination, it was at last decided that medical men should be appointed to decide whether his mental alienation was real or feigned. Two very eminent men, long accustomed to the treatment of mental maladies, Drs. Windler and Zink, were directed to send in a report on the state of his mind. After very minute and patient observation, both these gentlemen declared that they had no doubt whatever that the moral and physical weakness of Specht was artfully simulated, there being no example, they said, of any one of such robust health of body and mind, as had been that of the prisoner, becoming suddenly utterly stupid and imbecile; that, in fact, imbecility in persons born with the use of their faculties, though often all of a sudden very marked, becomes complete only slowly and gradually. As the state of the prisoner underwent no apparent alteration, it was determined to test his malady by sudden and violent emotions. Accordingly fire-arms were discharged just outside the partition close to which his bed was placed. Specht uttered some strange incoherent cries, but never stirred in his bed. Powerful shower-baths were given him from holes made in the ceiling of his cell, but nothing overcame his impassibility. These medical men still, however, persisted in their first opinion. When the day of his appearing before the court arrived, he appeared so completely prostrated in mind and body, that it was found necessary to carry him into the court. He seemed in a state of entire imbecility, and the jury, after patiently hearing the pleadings, brought in a verdict of "guilty," but with very strong extenuating circumstances. The court, in consequence, condemned Specht to only three years' confinement. The prisoner was carried back to his cell in the same condition as he had appeared in during the trial, but no sooner did he arrive there than he began to jump about, and to express the greatest joy at having escaped the capital punishment. He then declared that he had never for a moment ceased to be in the enjoyment of all his faculties, physical and intellectual, and that he had played the part of a person affected in mind by the advice of a fellow prisoner, who had spoken to him to that effect the day he was first lodged in prison. Specht thus for the space of fourteen months gave proof of an extraordinary strength of will and perseverance, particularly if his youth be taken into consideration. Had he continued to play his assumed part for some time longer, it is not improbable that he might have succeeded in obtaining a full pardon.

#### TWO SHIPWRECKS.

A shipwreck which had almost proved as fatal as that of the Orion, took place on the coast of France on Monday week. On the morning of that day the Superb steamer was to have started from St. Heliers on an excursion trip to St. Malo, but, in consequence of her machinery requiring some repairs, the La Polka was substituted, and started with between thirty and forty passengers. When about six or seven miles from St. Heliers, it was discovered, to the great horror of all on

board, that she had sprung a leak, and was fast foundering, but that, in consequence of the wind being adverse, it would be useless to turn back, as before she could have performed half the distance she would be at the bottom of the ocean. In this strait there existed but one chance—that of reaching some small rocks called the Minques, on the coast of France, and which were then about six miles ahead. Every precaution was immediately taken to keep her afloat till the rocks were gained. The passengers and luggage were collected on the starboard bow, in order that the larboard side might be kept as much as possible out of the water, that being the *locale* of the leak, the engines were worked as fast as possible, a small sail was set, and the crew, assisted by some of the passengers, betook themselves to the most vigorous exertions in baling with buckets, there being no pumps on board. The consternation was great, there being but very small hopes that the rocks could be gained, and from the heavy swell which prevailed, and the little way she made, it was feared that she would capsize. When she was about two miles from the rocks, an immense cloud of steam and ashes announced the fact that the water had reached the fires; all hope was now abandoned, and planks and other modes of keeping afloat were eagerly sought for, but, to the surprise of all, it was perceived that the paddles still kept slowly revolving. The baling was now continued with renewed exertion till the buckets, three in number, were literally knocked to pieces, and the vessel was ultimately brought up to within about a quarter of a mile of the largest rock. The anchor was immediately dropped, and two small boats which the vessel possessed instantly lowered. To the great credit of all, the utmost order prevailed; the ladies were sent off first, and not a man thought of leaving the vessel till they were all cleared, with the exception of one Frenchman, who endeavoured to get among the first boat-load of women, but was instantly seized by the other passengers, and forced to wait. By reason of the smallness of the boats, only four could be taken off at a time, and, as may be imagined, all eyes were strained eagerly watching their slow going and coming; at last all were saved, the last boat pushing off as the ill-fated vessel went down, the water covering her masthead. After passing a dismal night on the bare rocks, the passengers were picked up by the steamboat South Western, from Weymouth for St. Malo, the captain having luckily perceived through his glass something unusual in the appearance of the rocks, and imagining that it might be a wreck, steered for them, to the great joy of those who were upon them, as it was only by reason of a spring tide that the South Western was enabled to come within sight that day, and if they had not been perceived the chances were that they would have remained for a very considerable period, as, from the very dangerous nature of these rocks, vessels seldom even approach them.

A more melancholy shipwreck, attended with the loss of eleven lives, occurred on the Minques Rocks, between St. Malo and Jersey. The vessel was a steamer called the Superb, which left St. Malo for Jersey, at half-past seven o'clock on Tuesday morning. With a view to shorten the passage, the vessel took an unusual course, and in doing so struck on the sunk rocks, and immediately filled with water. The boats were instantly lowered, and a rush was made towards them. Unfortunately the plugs were missing from one of them, and the consequence was that it was speedily swamped in smooth water, with all on board. Fortunately, the tide was falling fast, which left the ship high and dry on the rocks. Signals of distress were then made, and in about two hours the whole of the remaining passengers and crew, about forty in number, were saved. Eleven persons were drowned.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

The Royal Family appear to be enjoying themselves at Balmoral in a very sensible way, very much, indeed, after the same manner as any other persons do who have similar means of enjoyment. Prince Albert spends a good deal of his time in deer-stalking and other manly sports, while the Queen has been taking as much outdoor exercise as possible among the glorious mountain scenery with which she is surrounded. A Privy Council was held at Balmoral on Tuesday, at which several of the Cabinet Ministers were present. The *Scotsman* states that the Queen may be expected at Edinburgh about the 7th of October. Her stay, it is said, will probably not extend over a couple of nights; and it is extremely doubtful as to whether or not her Majesty will hold either a drawing-room or a levee.

The steam-ship Madrid, which arrived at Southampton on Tuesday morning had on board a very fine lioness, a present to Queen Victoria from the Queen of Portugal.

The Duke of Cambridge is expected to arrive in town on Monday from Dublin. The Duchess and the Hereditary Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg Strelitz, who are still sojourning at the Marquis of Anglesey's romantic seat Plassnewydd, are also expected to return to town next week.

A Court of Directors was held at the East India House, on Wednesday, when General Sir William M. Gomm, K.C.B., was sworn in commander-in-chief of the company's forces, and an extraordinary member of the Council of India.

It is said that Lord Cowley is to be recalled from Frankfurt, probably on account of the adherence of England to the Prussian protocol, declaring the Diet at an end, contrary to the provisions of the treaty of 1815; in consequence of which his lordship has nothing to be accredited to.

Baron Brunow (the Russian Minister) has returned to London from St. Petersburg. His Excellency had only reached the Russian capital a few days before he received the distressing news of the demise of Mademoiselle Olga de Lechner, his stepdaughter.

Lord Ashley, who has since the prorogation of Parlia-

ment resided at Roseneath, the residence of the Duke of Argyll, visited, in the course of last week, along with Lady Ashley, the Ragged Schools of Greenock, with the arrangements of which they were greatly pleased.

The Marquis of Lansdowne paid a visit to Cheltenham last week for the purpose of inspecting its educational establishments. He proceeded, on his arrival, direct to the new Church of England Training Colleges, in the survey of which, and of the system of teaching in operation there, his lordship spent two or three hours; and thence, accompanied by the Reverend F. Close, to the Proprietary College, which he had also an opportunity of inspecting while the several departments were busily engaged with their respective duties.

Sir John Cam Hobhouse visited Cork a few days ago on his return from the lakes of Killarney, and expressed his surprise at the immense improvement in that city since a former visit of his some years ago.

Sir Robert Peel, Baronet, M.P., has just returned from Berne, after winding up his affairs in Switzerland, consequent on resigning his appointment of Principal Secretary of the British Legation to the Swiss Confederation. Lady Peel, accompanied by Captain William Peel, R.N., and Miss Peel, left Jersey a few days ago for a tour in France, but are shortly expected at her ladyship's house in Whitehall Gardens for the autumn. Lady Peel's health has greatly improved.

Lord Cockburn was not able to take his seat at the Dumfries Circuit last week, and his place was supplied by Lord Moncreiff. On Friday his lordship was considerably better.

An event of melancholy interest to the English community of Athens lately occurred in that city. Lord William Clinton, who has been there only a short time, attached to the British mission, having imprudently started on a tour in the interior during the very great heats, returned on the 2nd instant dangerously ill. In forty-eight hours he was a corpse, notwithstanding every attention paid to him; but it was evident from the first that he could not recover, the fever having been raging within him for several days, and without the means of obtaining any medical assistance. He was followed to the grave by the diplomatic body and the English mission and the English residents there. He was the fourth son of the Duke of Newcastle, and was born on the 13th of January, 1815.

Mr. Monahan is appointed Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, Dublin; Mr. Hatchell, Attorney-General. All rumours, therefore, on this subject are now at an end. Concerning the other legal appointments nothing is known. Mr. Baldwin, late law adviser to the Castle, and who was next in succession for the office of Solicitor-General, but who accepted the vacant judgeship in the Insolvent Court, has been endeavouring to resign that office and get appointed to the Solicitor-Generalship; and this, it is said, was the cause of the delay in filling up the vacancies.

The election of a President of Trinity in the room of the late Dr. Ingram took place at Oxford, on Monday, when the Reverend John Wilson, B.D., was chosen, and his name sent to the Bishop of Winchester with that of one of the other fellows, his lordship being enjoined by the statutes to make a selection of one of the two fellows whose names are transmitted to him by the society.

The Rev. C. Wordsworth, warden of Trinity College, Perthshire, has tendered his resignation in consequence of two alumni of the college having been rejected at their examination for holy orders, by the Bishop of Aberdeen, on the score of deficient scholarship.

The *Gazette* of Friday night contained a notice from the Speaker of the House of Commons, that he will, at the end of fourteen days, issue a writ for Herefordshire, to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Joseph Bailey, junior.

The contest at Poole ended in the election of the Free-trader, Mr. Seymour, notwithstanding the extraordinary exertions made by the supporters of his Protectionist opponent, Mr. Savage. At the close of the poll the numbers were—for Seymour, 188; Savage, 167. Majority for free trade, 21.

It is said that Mr. Cowling's committee at Cambridge, finding the tide of public opinion running strongly against them, have withdrawn their candidate. It is, therefore, anticipated that Mr. Wigram will be returned without opposition.

It is understood that Sir Denis Le Marchant will succeed the late Mr. Ley, as clerk of the House of Commons, on a reduced salary of £2000 per annum. Mr. Booth, the Examiner of Recognizances and Counsel to the Speaker, is likely to succeed Sir Denis Le Marchant as legal secretary of the Board of Trade. Mr. Booth's office will be abolished. These changes will cause a considerable saving to the public.

The Reverend John Hooper, of Albury Rectory, in a letter to the *Morning Post*, says, "It is a remarkable circumstance that many clergymen of the Church of England are now becoming convinced of something unjustifiable in the mutual relation of the church and state, and such conviction is an omen of great good, if it be wisely followed out."

The Reverend D. A. Weir has been elected Professor of Oriental Languages in the University of Glasgow, in the place of the late Dr. Gray.

It is reported from Persia that an English traveller, Mr. Morrison, has discovered at Hamaden, the ancient Ecbatana, the tomb of Hephæstion, the celebrated favourite of Alexander the Great, who died in that city 324 years before Christ. An inscription, in excellent preservation, is said to identify this monument, beyond doubt, with Hephæstion, who, however, has always been supposed to have died at Babylon.

Mr. John Morgan, a native of Dundee, who died some time ago, left nearly £100,000. His latest testamentary deed, in the hand-writing of his sister, dated the 6th of September, 1846, contains special provisions for the appointment of a judicial factor by the Court of Session, and the accumulation of the proceeds of his estate "for



ten years, to erect an hospital in Dundee to educate the poor children of the nine trades, the name of Morgan to be preferred, although they do not belong to Dundee."

The last account of poor Mitchel is supplied in an Australian paper, which announces the arrival of the Neptune convict ship at Hobart Town, and states that John Mitchel had received his ticket of leave, and on account of his delicate health will be allowed to reside at Bothwell, where he can enjoy the society of John Martin.

It is said that Queen Isabella of Spain has signed the nomination of Prince Louis Napoleon, as Knight of the Order of the Golden Fleece, and that the insignia of the Order are to be transmitted to him by the Spanish Ambassador at Paris.

A manifesto has been issued, with the signature of M. Barthelemy, announcing that the leaders whom the Count de Chambord entrusts with his interest, are, the Duke de Levis, General de St. Priest, M. Berryer, the Marquess de Pastoret, and the Duke des Cars, and deprecating any appeal to the people, "as implying the negation of the great national principle of hereditary monarchy." The Marquess de la Rochejaquelein, who considers himself as specially attacked in this manifesto, has published a reply, in which he speaks of it as an *acte incensée*.

At a dinner given in honour of M. Leon Faucher on the 15th instant by the Prefect of Limoges, he replied to a toast proposing his own health by an eulogy of the President and his government, which is significant as a conspicuous instance of an Orleanist embracing Bonapartism.

A bronze statue of Marshal Oudinot, designed for Bar-le-Duc, is being exhibited for some days in front of one of the public buildings, the Louvre, at Paris, opposite to the Pont des Arts. The statue represents the hero in the costume of a French marshal, and decorated with the Legion of Honour. The inscription is—"To Marshal Oudinot, Duke of Reggio, born at Bar-le-Duc, 25th of April, 1767, Volunteer in 1792; died Governor of the Hospital of the Invalids, 13th of September, 1847. Erected by national subscription." The sculptor is M. Jean Debay, and the work is much admired.

The *People*, a French journal, published at Dijon, has been summoned to appear before the assizes for having in its number of the 11th instant published an article headed *A Campaign of General Haynau*, on the ground of its having, firstly, commended an act which the laws deem a crime; secondly, offended public and religious morality. To console him for his chastisement in London the Emperor has just sent to Haynau the Grand Cordon of the Order of St. Anne of the first class.

The walls of Rome have lately been covered with an amusing last sally of Pasquino, in manuscript. When read straight through the lines are treasonable; when read down, each division by itself, they are in the spirit of the most exalted papalino loyalty:—

<p>"Death to Mazzini The republic is The most infamous government Down with The dominion of the people."</p>	<p>Pio Nino For ever The mildest government Is that of the priests Priestly power For ever."</p>
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Reading straight down we find "Death to Mazzini," &c., but reading through both divisions we have, "Death to Pio Nino, Mazzini for ever," and so on.

The question relative to the Hungarian refugees, threatens to give rise to new complications. The terms of the convention by which the Porte engaged to keep a strict surveillance over the refugees for one year, expires this month. The Turkish Government has, therefore, manifested the intention of setting at liberty Kossuth, and those of his companions who were imprisoned with him at Kutayah, and measures have already been taken to procure them a passage either to America or to England. It appears that these arrangements have alarmed the Vienna Cabinet, which pretends that the term of one year, stipulated in the convention, commences at the moment of their imprisonment, and has protested against the immediate liberation of the exiles. The Divan rejects this demand as illfounded, and resolves to adhere to its original intention.

All the "leading articles," published in the Paris journals of Monday, had attached to them the names of the writers, pursuant to the new law, which was fixed to come into operation on the 24th instant. The *Journal des Débats*, singularly enough, for the first time during its long existence, was issued without any political remarks, and, consequently, without a signature. The other newspapers, with one or two exceptions only, had the names of the authors appended to their productions.

A box full of incendiary proclamations, addressed to the army and people, has been seized at Angoulême by the police. It is said that the name of a representative of the people, noted for his eccentricities, was mixed up in the affair.

The Prefect of the Haute Garonne has published a proclamation prohibiting all clubs and meetings of every description throughout the department.

The great improvement produced on the Boulevards of Paris by the application of cold bitumen to macadamization attracts much attention, particularly from Englishmen, who feel persuaded that the same system will be very generally adopted on this side of the channel. It is described as forming the *beau idéal* of a road, being free from dust or mud, smooth as a table, and pleasant and elastic to the tread. The horses are said to like it, for although smooth the surface is far from slippery. It is also found to be durable, and in the long run economical. All the shop people are anxious to have it, as the dust raised by simple macadamization spoils their goods.

Some time ago, whilst Madame de Caumont Laforce, a lady of property of Paris, was in the country, one of her domestics, aided by two thieves, caused the whole of the splendid furniture of her hotel, worth nearly 80,000*fr.*, to be taken to the Hotel des Commissaires-priseurs, and sold by auction. The price realized was only 6000*fr.*

With this sum, added to a large sum in gold, a quantity of jewellery, and other valuable objects, the three thieves and a young woman named Françoise Bernard took their departure from Havre, on board the St. Nicholas, for New York. As soon as the robbery was known, warrants were issued for their arrest, but they did not reach Havre until after the departure of the ship. Directions were, however, immediately forwarded to the French consul at New York, to arrest the thieves on their arrival in that city. These instructions reached New York by the English steamer before the St. Nicholas. The French consul immediately hired a steamer to go out to meet the St. Nicholas, and the three thieves were captured, to their profound astonishment, at some distance from land.

In an official report made to the Belgian Government by several agricultural commissions, it is stated that the potato disease has spread so rapidly in that country, that in the lowlands hardly one-fourth of the crop will be saved. In the higher and sandy soils, probably one-third may be saved and fit for consumption; and though a much larger amount of land has been planted this year, yet the average crop through the country will not equal more than one-fourth of last year's production. The ravages of the disease are only surpassed by those of the year 1845.

A letter from Bologna of the 16th announces that, in consequence of an order from Rome, the Lombardo-Venetian journals, and the *Corriere Italiano* of Vienna, are no longer permitted to enter the Papal territory.

Brigandage in the Bolognese provinces continues, notwithstanding the wholesale executions that take place every now and then. Twenty-six offenders were condemned to death lately, but the Austrian general commuted the penalty into the galleys for ten of them, in consideration of their youth and previous good conduct; the remaining sixteen were shot on the 6th in the Prati di Capiara at Bologna. Nine others were condemned to the galleys. At Rome robberies are not quite so frequent, but an audacious *coup-de-main* was made notwithstanding, the other day, in the palace of the government stamp-office, where a Genevese jeweller, M. Simond, had deposited goods to the value of 150,000 francs. The plunderers carried off chains, watches, and trinkets to the amount of 32,000 francs, but some clue is obtained to their retreat by a child having found a gold chain on the staircase of an obscure house, which was taken by its mother to a jeweller for sale.

The Austrian Government has not succeeded in raising a voluntary loan of 100,000,000 of Lire, in the Lombardo-Venetian provinces.

After four years' labour the great tunnel through Mount Carioso, on the Leghorn and Florence Railway, has just been completed.

Signor Diamila, formerly employed in the Vatican library, was condemned, on the 12th instant, to the galleys for twenty years, for having stolen a large quantity of precious medals from the collection under his superintendence. These robberies, perpetrated more than two years ago, were detected by the commission appointed by General Oudinot, immediately on his entrance into Rome, to examine the condition of the public monuments, and ascertain the damages inflicted upon the works of art and antiquities of the capital of the Christian world. Diamila belongs to a highly respectable Roman family.

The Legislative Assembly of Frankfort, on the 20th instant, decided, by forty-four votes to forty-one, that it would not take as the basis of its deliberations the draft of the constitution presented by the Senate, and immediately commenced the discussion of the constitution prepared by the mixed committee. It adopted during the sitting the first sixteen paragraphs. According to one of them, "the free state of Frankfort" becomes "the free city of Frankfort;" the article declaring that "the nobility as a class is abolished" was struck out; and the provisions of the fundamental laws relative to the press have been modified. It has been decided that the journals are to furnish caution-money.

The Government has addressed a circular to the authorities throughout Bavaria, warning them against the religious associations of the German Neo-Catholics, as having a tendency to carry out the projects of the Socialist democrats.

The committee appointed to examine the merits of the various plans for a bridge over the Rhine, between the cities of Cologne and Deutz, have awarded the first prize of 250 frederics d'or to Mr. John W. Schwedler, architect, of Berlin, and the second prize of 125 frederics d'or to Captain W. Moorsom, of London.

The Austrian Ministry appear at their wits' end for means to raise money, and what with this and building up and pulling down constitutions, endeavouring to influence the elections now going on, and so on, they must be tolerably well employed. The duty upon newspapers has occasioned a terrible outcry throughout the empire, as is natural. The law will probably be immediately revoked, for no Ministry can call itself sufficiently powerful to resist the roused thunder of the newspapers, even censor-silenced as they are in Austria. A new law has also appeared relative to the stamp duty on playing cards and almanacs, by which the whole monarchy will be subjected to these taxes which have been hitherto unknown in Hungary and the provinces.

A decree of the military commander at Vienna, of the 18th instant, prohibits the circulation of the *Cologne Gazette* for Vienna, Hungary, and all parts and provinces of the Austrian Empire in which the state of siege has been proclaimed. The military commander of Prague has announced that every person in whose possession a copy of the prohibited newspaper shall be found, shall be tried by court martial, and punished according to the provisions of military law. It is said that the Austrian Government intends to exclude, in like manner, almost all the better class of German newspapers. The *Deutsche Zeitung*, the *Constitutionelle Zeitung*, and the *Weser Zeitung* are marked for immediate prohibition.

In the Bakony forest of Hungary a guerilla band, headed by a certain Rocza Sandor, is carrying on its hostile operations, up to Szegedin, against the Austrian authorities and troops. Considerable detachments of Austrian troops have been sent against it, but as they have proved insufficient, a battalion has recently been despatched to reinforce them.

The *Carlsruhe Gazette* of the 19th publishes a decree prolonging for one month more the state of siege and martial law proclaimed in October last.

The diligence from Catalonia, which ought to have reached Valencia on the 15th instant, was upset on the previous day at the point called De la Torreta, near Oropesa, having been precipitated from a very great height into the barranco (a deep hollow formed by the mountain torrents) which opens into the sea: the fourteen passengers whom it conveyed, together with the mayoral, the postilion, and the mules, were killed. It is conjectured by persons who know the road, which runs along the edge of a precipice in some parts, that the horses may have backed in going up an ascent—the great weight of the diligence and its load often causing this to take place; and there being no means provided to stop the retrogressive course of a diligence under such circumstances, it would be forced at once, with its contents, over the precipice, as a coach with eight passengers was, not long since, into the Guadalquivir, by a similar proceeding.

The shock of an earthquake was felt at Algiers on the night of the 10th instant. It lasted fifteen seconds. This makes the sixth shock which has occurred within sixteen days.

A piece of quartz rock has been found near Lake Superior, containing several dollars' worth of pure gold. The gold shows itself in particles disseminated through the quartz, the largest of which weighs more than a dollar.

To arrest the fearful progress of intemperance in Ceylon, total abstinence societies have been formed at Kandy and Colombo. The success of these associations has hitherto exceeded all expectation.

The most recent advices from Port Natal represent the settlement to be in a prosperous condition. The late dispute with emigrants had been satisfactorily settled, and affairs were progressing most favourably. The older colonists have successfully cultivated the cotton plant, tobacco, indigo, flax and hemp, and Indian corn, all of which products have grown luxuriantly, whilst the later emigrants are disposed to act with equal energy and industry, and are stated to be quite satisfied with the correctness of the description given as to the capabilities of this colony.

A dreadful tragedy was lately enacted at Manilla. Two Spanish young ladies, who had gone to America as companions to the wife of a merchant who had long resided in Manilla, and who lately joined the house of Messrs. Baring, Brothers, and Co., returned from Europe by the steamer of October last, and were put under the charge of a Captain Mercader to be conveyed to Manilla. Having succeeded in gaining the affections of one of the ladies, Captain Mercader induced her to remain with him on board the vessel, instead of returning to her relatives in Manilla. From Manilla the vessel made a passage to Mandanao. Whilst there, Mercader, having been on shore through the day, went off unexpectedly to the vessel at night, and, under the belief that his mistress was unfaithful to him, he entered the cabin where the unhappy and ill-fated woman was lying in bed, and murdered her, stabbing her seventeen times with a dagger. He afterwards attacked the chief officer, inflicting three or four wounds with the same instrument—none of them, however, proved mortal. A passenger, who endeavoured to prevent further bloodshed, was shot at by Captain Mercader. He was eventually overpowered by the officers and crew, who conveyed him to Manilla, where he now awaits his trial.

A deputation from the vestries of St. Margaret and St. John, Westminster, relative to the alteration in progress in St. James's Park, had an interview with Lord Seymour on Wednesday at the office of her Majesty's Commissioners of Woods and Forests in Whitehall-place.

A large number of workmen are now busily engaged in making extensive alterations and improvements in various parts of the Tower of London. The two lofty gun-towers of the eastern and western extremities, facing Trinity-square, are being reconstructed on a new and patented plan, recommended by Government. The high walls near the water-side have been pulled down, and are to be rebuilt on a new principle, with gun loop-holes. The interior of this ancient fortress is also undergoing a regular repair, under the superintendence of a military officer specially appointed for the purpose by the Duke of Wellington.

A numerous meeting of the vestry of St. James's was held at the vestry-house on Thursday, to take into consideration the encroachments by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests on St. James's and the Green Parks. One speaker said "it was most un-English to circle the palace of the Sovereign with an iron railing." The chairman said the Commissioners of Woods and Forests were continually nibbling at the lungs of London (the parks), and if the public did not look sharply after them they would all soon be in a consumption. It was ultimately resolved to call on Parliament to insist on the Commissioners of Woods and Forests giving notices, and putting in their plans of any alterations, in accordance with the standing rules of Parliament.

Her Majesty's Theatre is now undergoing the various changes necessary for the opening of the "National Concerts." The circles of boxes are being arranged as stalls, and the pit and the stage are being formed into one extensive area. Upwards of 150 workmen are busily employed. Felicien David is engaged to write a new dramatic symphony, which he will conduct in person;



and arrangements have been entered into with Herr Marschner and the renowned Spohr for new works.

Since the beginning of last year thirteen new Congregational Chapels in London have been projected or built. Besides these, four others may be expected to be undertaken soon.

A large party of Parisian excursionists, about 400 in number, arrived in London on Sunday afternoon. These excursion trips between our own metropolis and the French capital have become so popular, that it is intended to continue them throughout the present and succeeding month of October. The very moderate cost of 30s. entitles each passenger to the journey to and from Paris, without any extra cost whatever.

A meeting was held on Sunday last in Bonner's-fields, near Victoria-park, for the purpose of sympathizing with the distressed Hungarian refugees; the afternoon being fine, there were about 2000 working men present. The amount collected was £13s. 4½d. Another meeting will be held on Sunday.

Additional baths and washhouses are about to be erected at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, at the expense of the corporation. The existing establishment, so far from being a burden, has paid its expenses, including interest on capital, and left a surplus.

The Health Committee of Liverpool have just increased their sanitary staff by the appointment of an assistant-surveyor at a salary of £300 per annum.

At a meeting of the subscribers to the Peel monument, at Birmingham, on Tuesday, it was resolved that a bronze statue, of the value of two thousand guineas, shall be erected in memory of the late statesman.

The third meeting of the United Agricultural Societies of Manchester and Liverpool took place on Wednesday morning at Warrington. The show took place in a large field convenient to the station of the London and North Western Railway, and successive trains brought up great numbers of people from Lancashire and Cheshire. Among the earliest visitors on the show-ground was the Earl of Derby. Amongst other noblemen and gentlemen present, were Lord Stanley, Honourable E. G. Stanley, Sir Tatton Sykes, Honourable W. Wilson, J. Wilson Patten, Esq., M.P., and other gentlemen of the county. Sir T. J. de Trafford carried off several prizes, among others one for the best short-horned bull.

The Rhuddlan Royal Eisteddfod was held at Rhuddlan Castle this week, on which occasion the lovers of Welsh and literature enjoyed a rich treat. The festival closed on Thursday, and yesterday the degrees were to be conferred on the successful candidates. A sad accident happened on Thursday, the third and last day of the Festival. While a young girl, Miss Lovitt, was performing on the harp, competing for one of the prizes, the centre department of the platform of the great northern gallery, close behind the chair of the President, Lord Mostyn, suddenly gave way, and a large number of ladies and gentlemen were precipitated into the vault beneath. The crowd that filled the body of the hall rushed spontaneously to the platform, and attempted to climb up the barriers, eager to render assistance, and much harm was effected by well-meaning persons, who, stepping on the broken compartment of the platform, caused other beams and fragments of planks, to fall on the unfortunate persons below, who, as the fracture occurred in the middle of the platform, were cooped up together in such a manner that to extricate them was a difficult matter. At length, however, an opening was effected behind the platform, through some canvass that covered one of the larger apertures of the decayed walls of the castle, and in a short time every one was got out. Several ladies were severely injured, but no one dangerously. The cause of the accident is not stated.

Among the passengers by the Indus which left Southampton on Friday with the Indian mail was the young African snake-charmer, whose daring feats with snakes and serpents in the Zoological Gardens have excited so much attention for the last few months, on his way home to Grand Cairo. He stated that he should return to England in a short time with more snakes, scorpions, and other wild animals.

The Archdeacon of Sarum, at his late visitation, suggested to the clergy the necessity of being prepared for that reduction in their incomes, which must inevitably take place if the present prices of grain should continue. Assuming that in the present and six following years the average price of wheat would be 40s., barley 24s., and oats 16s. per quarter, he stated that the sum which the tithe-owners would receive for each £100 of rent-charge in their apportionment would be as follows:—1851, £96 15s. 5½d.; 1852, £93 5s. 3½d.; 1853, £89 14s. 2½d.; 1854, £85 12s. 0½d.; 1855, £77 1s. 11d.; 1856, £74 6s. 4½d.; 1857, £73 4s. 10½d. On the other hand, if California should send us £10,000,000 a year in gold-dust, the price of grain may possibly rise as high as it was under the corn-law.

The value of gutta percha as a conveyer of sound has been realized in the Glenorchy Chapel, Matlock, Bath. An apparatus has been put up for the benefit of some who are troubled with deafness, and had not heard the sermon for several years. They are now enabled to hear quite distinctly by the use of the tube.

At the weekly meeting of the board of guardians of the Swansea union, last week, there was not a single application for relief from one of the seventeen agricultural parishes comprised in this union. The only applications made were by persons residing in the town, and those numbered only two.

According to a trade circular, there is a spurious tea manufactory in Jersey, where the bad and damaged tea from the bond warehouses, the tea leaves purchased at the hotels of the metropolis, and the indigenous leaves of the island are converted into what is sold for tea. It is said that a tree with a green leaf upon it will soon be as rare a sight in Jersey as a May-flower in England at Christmas.

A severe thunder-storm visited Glasgow on Sunday, which lasted for more than an hour. Several accidents

resulted from the lightning, in two of which the escape from instant death was most miraculous. A considerable portion of the slating of Bartholomew's Mills, near Barrowfield Toll, was torn from the roof and thrown to the ground. The chimney was also demolished. In the neighbourhood of Paisley, a cow belonging to Mr. Pillans, the artist, was killed by the lightning.

An extraordinary gale in the Irish Channel, on Saturday, was attended with the loss of life and many river-boats on the Mersey. The storm appears to have been unprecedented in the suddenness with which it burst over the waters. About half-past nine, or thereabouts, the wind had assumed a westerly direction, and was accompanied by drizzling rain. In an hour afterwards a strong gale sprung up from N.N.W., and the change is described to have taken place as unexpectedly as a flash of lightning or a clap of thunder. Such was the strength of the gust, that the small craft were, with the greatest difficulty, preserved from being capsized at the onset, and, a heavy sea setting in, they were tossed about like so many shells upon the waves. It required the greatest skill to keep them from being turned over or filled with water. Two of the gigs, in different parts of the Channel, were completely overpowered, and a boat, called the John, was capsized about a mile and a half outside the north-west light ship, and one man drowned.

An explosion took place in the gun-barrel proof house at Birmingham, on Monday morning, by which two men were seriously injured, one of them, it is feared, fatally.

The establishment of Messrs. Walters and Co., of Globe Works, Sheffield, was thrown into great confusion and alarm on Saturday morning, by the sudden fall of a great part of their grinding-mill while the hands were at work. The building is three stories high, and the part which fell consists of three rooms, measuring about fifty feet by twenty-four. Several of the men in the top room were involved in the ruins. They were quickly extricated, and conveyed to the infirmary. It was found that one of them, had sustained a compound fracture of the left leg; another had received a severe concussion of the brain and nervous system, besides various bruises.

A boy named George Hill, aged twelve years, died at Cheltenham on Saturday from excessive smoking. His symptoms were those of a person suffering from narcotic poison.

A daring robbery and attempt at murder occurred at Beauval Cottage, Jersey, on Thursday week. The cottage is inhabited by a Mrs. Haycock, her three daughters, and a female servant; and it appears that whilst the ladies were at tea on Thursday evening the servant went out to shut the greenhouse. When she entered the house, on her return, a man stood before her with a knife in his hand, with which he struck at her over the heart. The weapon was rendered almost harmless by her stays, and she escaped with a slight incision in the breast, but she fainted with terror. The ladies hearing the noise raised cries of distress, which were heard by a neighbour, who ran to their assistance. The villains thus surprised, had already taken flight, but had carried with them two small caskets which they had stolen from a bedroom on the ground floor, and which contained £25 in money, and plate and jewellery of considerable value.

Sarah Chesham, the alleged poisoner of her husband and two children, after a final examination, has been committed for trial at the next assizes for the murder of her husband, by administering poison to him.

In our last number we gave an account of the suspected murder of a lady and three of her servants by poison, at Laugharne, near Carmarthen. It now turns out the poisoner was a woman named Elizabeth Gibbs. She was cook in the house, and appears to have deliberately planned the murder of the various parties, though with what motive has not yet been ascertained, except in the case of the housemaid, against whom she had a grudge. On taking a person to see the corpse of the latter, the cook said, "This is the devil that would have got me out of my service. I hope she's in heaven, for I'm angry in my heart with her." The woman has been committed to gaol on the charge of murder.

The protest of thirteen of the Irish Roman Catholic bishops, deprecating any condemnation of the Queen's Colleges, will be forthwith despatched to Rome by the hands of one of the subscribing prelates.

"The spirit of opposition to the payment of rents," says the *Boyle Gazette*, "appears to progress through the country. On Monday last Mr. Lawder had forty police at Drumlish, in order to enable him to collect rents under the courts. Mr. Lawder succeeded in making seizures, but the show of opposition was so great (exceeding 300 persons) that the bailiffs refused to remain at night unless the police also stopped to protect them, which could not be done. Mr. Lawder proposed to forego all arrears, some of which were for five years, provided he got a half-year's rent. The proposition was met, and the tenants got a receipt in full."

Negotiations are now on foot with Government for the establishment of a submarine telegraph over the sixty miles of sea from Holyhead to Kingstown, and on to either Cork or Galway, to be thence connected by steam-ship with the nearest telegraph station on the other side of the Atlantic.

Another agrarian murder has taken place in Ireland. The victim was Mr. Roger North, a magistrate and landlord in King's County, who was shot dead, within one mile of his house on Monday afternoon. It is said that he was murdered owing to his having lately used some of his tenants with great severity.

The introduction of the manufacture of lace veils into the western part of the county of Mayo has been attended with the most beneficial results. The young females under instruction have made the most rapid progress, and are already able to earn a considerable amount of weekly wages, and there is still room in the factory for the employment of a number far exceeding what can readily be procured.

## Associative Progress.

### WORKING ASSOCIATIONS OF PARIS.

#### PIANOFORTE MAKERS.

Ascending the Faubourg St. Denis towards the Great Northern Railway, after passing numerous busy workshops, bazaars, coach-offices, dirty alleys, and national schools, resounding with the songs of children, you reach the hospital of St. Lazare. Turning to the left you enter the Rue de Chabrol, one of those new, half-built, desolate-looking streets, so common in the neighbourhood of modern railway stations. No carriages are heard there, no busy foot passengers are seen passing to and fro; only now and then a solitary slipshod woman, or a wretchedly-clad, pale-faced man, may be seen creeping silently along the deserted street. You enter a sort of narrow court, where the sun can scarcely penetrate; you stumble over loose stones, logs of wood, and heaps of dung; pass stable doors wide open, old broken vehicles and barrows, in which men and even women are harnessed like beasts of burden; hens and chicken wander about under your feet, flies congregate on a patch of sunlight that serves but to show the filth and misery of an old boarded shed, the emblem of tottering age and poverty. On one side of this court is perceived a low doorway, leading to a narrow rickety flight of wooden stairs, up which you creep; on arriving at the top you enter a small, inconvenient room, and find yourself surrounded by a number of pianos, which, for richness of ornament and material, for elegance of form and solidity of construction, might grace the noblest drawing-rooms of our cities. Here, in this humble abode, have these honest, industrious, and independent workmen built their fortress against the attacks of poverty from without. Engaged in a manufacture that requires the greatest skill, taste, delicacy of touch, and a considerable knowledge of science, these men have neglected nothing to make their goods the most perfect of their kind; every new invention is introduced, and improvements are added by themselves, so that they might compete with the most celebrated in the trade had they the means to hire a warehouse in some fashionable street where they could expose their goods to the best advantage. As it is they hold a second rank, and, besides their Paris customers, have a considerable export trade. We were shown pianos, worth £40 or £50, of the richest tone, for we had an opportunity of judging when one of the members entered, and at the request of the *gérant* sat down and played with great taste and considerable execution. By the report which I have before me, it appears that in December, 1849, they possessed a capital of more than 16,000*fr.* (£640), of which about 6000*fr.* form a reserve-fund, derived from deductions on the salaries of the members; and the rest consists of money placed in the funds by the twenty-nine members, at 50*fr.* each, of stock, tools, &c., and of profits obtained since March, 1840, after deducting the expenses and labour of organization, which involved a period of two unproductive months. They are paid by the piece, and keep the profits for extending their business. Such a result, in so short a period, is an evidence of the superior intelligence with which their affairs have been managed; and yet this association is composed entirely of *working men*, not a single master having joined them; and when they applied to the Government for a portion of the three millions voted to the associations, they were refused, on account of the representations of the master manufacturers. With courageous hearts, however, they set to work, some bringing their five or twenty francs, others their tools; some pawning their watches and others their clothes: and they went without fire in the winter, drank no wine, not even on Sundays; lived upon bread, though working so hard, and, what was worse than all, they made their children live on it too! Thus they deprived themselves of every comfort, and even of the necessities of life, in order to amass the small sum of 300*fr.* (£12), which, with their tools and the savings of the adherents who worked in private establishments, amounted to about 1000*fr.*; a paltry sum that many a young lordling has squandered in one night in profligacy. They hired the miserable rooms I have described; induced a benevolent timber-merchant\* to let them have the most valuable woods on trust; made a piano, sold it, and with the price were able to make two others: sold them, and made four more; invented, and by friendly mutual criticism, perfected important improvements in the manufacture of pianos, for which they have become so celebrated that they have more orders than they are able to accomplish, having refused an order for fifty-six pianos to be purchased, and one hundred and twenty to be let on hire; and when we visited them, had already engaged more spacious ateliers, to which they intended to remove in a few days. They only regretted that their friend and benefactor, *citizen Louis Blanc*, to whom they were indebted for the first establishment of these associations, was not among

\* Prudential reasons prevent the publication of his name.



them to witness the results of his benevolent exertions, "Bon jour, citoyens," said I, and "Bon jour, citoyen," with a hearty shake of the hand, was the reply. "Think of us when you return to your country, and tell your countrymen what can be done by association. Tell Louis Blanc we never forget him," said one who had been a delegate at the Luxembourg, "and we hope soon to see him again among us. Thank you for the interest you take in us, and we trust our enemies may soon be led by the accounts they read to have better feelings towards us." J. E. S.

#### CHRISTIAN SOCIALISM.

In answer to the enquiries of a "Master Tailor," and for the information of those of your readers interested in the subject, I beg to state a few facts relative to the working of the Tailors' Association in Castle-street, which was commenced in February by fourteen men, with a capital of £300. It has now been in operation six months, and its success thus far is signal and indefeasible. During that time we have completed work to the amount of £2500, thus "turning over" the capital borrowed eight times in half the year. The association now numbers twenty-three associates and six auxiliaries. There have been twelve auxiliaries during the last three months, but this is one of the slackest periods of the year for business. After liquidating the cost of all repairs of premises, fitting up of shops, show-room, and paying for all furniture, rates, taxes, rents, cost of management, and interest on capital, our net profit has been £220. We divide this into thirds, one portion accrues to the associates divided equally; one-third goes to repay capital, and the remainder falls into trade for extension of stock which we now value at £180. After repaying the capital borrowed, we are pledged still to devote one-third of the profits, be they never so large, to assist our suffering brothers. Therefore working men in aiding us may the more speedily work out their own redemption. As an earnest of what we intend, we have started eight associations in six months! It would surprise those who know not what we are doing to see a list of our customers. We work for all classes—Bishops, Catholic and Protestant—lords and draymen—marquises and masons—clubs and costermongers—earls and bricklayers—with general satisfaction. We do not set ourselves up as the "Saviour of the people not yet saved," but we can point to our associations and say these are practical illustrations what working men can do when they have learned to trust themselves and each other. We have made association a veritable fact, and that is worth something in this competitive age. We have abolished the terms of "master" and "employed," and with us the workman is no longer a hireling! We can say to the world, when the statesman and the legislator are shrinking aghast at the Nemesian logic of this nineteenth century, when they know not how to answer the gnashing, and the lamentation, and the curses that ascend, ever ascend, from the nether pit of poverty's hell of torture, "behold the way," and we have set about solving the problem of labour in right earnest, ours is but an humble working of the grand idea of the age, but its success will be compoundly accumulative with the widening of its basis of operation.

The *Daily News*, while writing against us, has done us good service by apprizing their readers of our existence, by which we have obtained much custom. In conclusion I may say that any persons desirous of examining our balance-sheet, ledger, and wages-book, may do so by calling at 34, Castle-street East, Oxford-street. GERALD MASSEY, Secretary.

#### LIFE ASSURANCE FOR THE WORKING CLASSES.

The operations of the assurance system are receiving at the present time a more extensive and advantageous development than at any previous one. Not only are the benefits derivable from that system rendered greater by the reduction in premiums, which, both by experience and the improved health and increased longevity of the public, is proved to be compatible with profit to the assurers and security to the assured, but the amounts to be assured by way of payments at death, and of deferred annuities or fixed sums to be received at certain periods, have been, in some instances, lowered so as to put the system and its benefits within the immediate reach of the poorer and industrial classes.

Such is the aim and intention of the "Industrial and General Life Assurance and Deposit Company." Policies and deferred annuities for sums as low as £5 are granted by it, and facilities to insure are given to those who are in the receipt of small periodical incomes, by its being made optional with them to pay their premiums either by the year, the quarter, the month, or the week. There is also, in the case of endowments for children, a singular advantage offered by this society. It is the anticipating of the period fixed for the payment of the endowment by that of a sum not exceeding one half of the premiums paid, if required by the parent or guardian for the apprenticing of the child or its advancement in any other way. There are many other benefits which may be

derived from this association, and of which we trust the thoughtful and economical among the working classes will avail themselves, and so obtain security from many of those evils which in the present antagonistic order of things are incidental to their position.

DR. EPPS'S PHYSIOLOGICAL LECTURES.—At the Literary and Scientific Institution, John-street, this gentleman is delivering a course of lectures on Human Physiology. The playful vein of personification which the doctor employs in his illustrations of the functions of the human frame seems very much to gratify his audience, who acquire and retain a very distinct impression of the lesson he seeks to communicate.

LECTURE-HALL, GREENWICH.—Mrs. Matthews, of London, has just delivered two lectures on the "Title of Woman to Political Power," in this hall. The arguments were selected with considerable care, and presented with earnestness and force. The audience, select and attentive, listened with interest to this too-seldom advocated thesis.

THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TRACT SOCIETY.—A tea-party held at the Literary and Scientific Institution, on Sept. 22, commemorated the useful efforts of this Society. Mr. G. J. Holyoake, President of the Institution, took the chair by request. He observed, that the persons moving in the class to which the company belonged were in all probability never destined to rise above the proud level of history. To them it was neither given to manifest gigantic vices nor sublime virtues: their sole attainable usefulness lay in the continuity of little duties well fulfilled, and there was no mode of usefulness practicable to those who took no part in public life like that of employing the agency of Tracts. He read the concluding paragraph of the Reverend Charles Kingsley's letter in the *Leader* of Saturday last, pointing out the necessity of explaining to the public the serious misconceptions under which so earnest a friend of the people was labouring, and vindicating the great principles of moral government advocated in that Institution. Mr. Turley and Mr. Hoppy addressed the meeting, and Mr. Austin Holyoake reported that the Tract Society had issued four tracts in considerable numbers and yet retained a small fund in hand. The meeting added to it by a voluntary collection sufficient to enable another tract to be issued.

REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—We urge on the friends and members of the society the propriety of paying up their contributions to the Communal Building Fund. If one hundred pounds more are raised, the two hundreds will be so near complete as to render it a matter of certainty. Received in the week ending September 16:—Leeds, £1 11s. 3d.; Hyde, per Mr. Joel Bradley, 17s. 2d. For the week ending September 23:—Leeds, £2 0s. 1d.; Merfield, John Gray, 10s.; Rochdale, per Mr. J. Breerley, 7s. 4d.; Hull, per Mr. Forster, 10s. For Communal Building Fund, Leeds, 6s. Preparations for the Harvest Home Festival are proceeding. It is the custom of the Temperance Society to address the people attending the feast, &c. Sunday last was Holbeck feast (Holbeck is a part of Leeds), and the Redemption Society embraced the opportunity of addressing the assembled thousands. The people listened with great attention, and much good was done to the associative cause without expense of bills or rent of room. There is little doubt but that the associative idea has made much progress of late; this is a necessary antecedent to associative action; but we cannot conceal from ourselves that it is possible for the idea to spread greatly, and yet that firm and practical conviction which some denominate *faith*, and which leads to immediate action, shall be very limited. We should gain little if all the world should assent to our idea, and still remain inactive. When England numbers many thousand Communists! Does such a boast represent that extent of insincerity, or unfaithfulness? Are the anticipated answers to these interrogatories too harsh. The existing amount of communal action is the most accurate reply. When the Harmony experiment terminated, a few people at Leeds thought that they detected the cause of its failure in certain fundamentals of its policy. They instantly set about organizing a new society, free from the defects which they considered had proved so fatal to the old one. Whether that step was a wise one or not, one thing is true, that the Society has steadily, though slowly, advanced in power and wealth from that day to this. If the Society had not been formed, the Welsh farm could not have been gained for Communism. The experiment of the Redemption Society is an existing fact: the press may not appear to know of it; but should it fail to answer the ends of its founders, it is quite possible that the *Times* might find room for a leader on its failure. The men of the Redemption Society never lacked loyalty when the cause was in other hands. They still believe that all parties concerned acted from the purest motives. The project failed through want of experience, and we trust that we have gained by the failure. Other rocks there may be, but we shall not split upon that which wrecked the other vessel.—D. G.

STAFFORDSHIRE POTTERIES.—On Sunday and Monday, the 22nd and 23rd instant, Dr. Lees, F.S.A., of Leeds, delivered three admirable lectures in the People's Hall, Shelton, to numerous and respectable audiences. At the close of the third lecture a tastefully executed bust of the doctor was presented to that gentleman by his friends, as a slight token of their regard for his very able services in the cause of the industrious but oppressed operative classes of this empire.

PROGRESS AMONG NEWSPAPERS.—The provincial papers throughout are discussing the question, Competition *versus* Association. Several of the influential metropolitan papers are furnishing able articles on the same subject. The report of the committee of "Savings of the Middling and Working Classes" has excited very general interest. Six months ago, nobody would have believed that the press of England would be overflowing with discussions on *quasi* communism.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, Sept. 28.

Her Majesty and Prince Albert went out walking in the early part of Wednesday. Prince Albert afterwards went out shooting. The Earl of Aberdeen, who arrived at Balmoral on Wednesday, and Sir Edwin Landseer, who has been there for some days, dined with her Majesty on Wednesday. At the Privy Council, on Tuesday, it was resolved that the Parliament, which stands prorogued to Tuesday, the 15th day of October next, be further prorogued to Thursday, the 14th day of November next. A ball was given by her Majesty on Tuesday night to the tenantry on the estates of Balmoral, Abergeldie, and Birkhall.

A meeting was held in the Great Rooms at Uxbridge, on Tuesday evening, to hear an exposition of the principles of the National Reform Association. Mr. H. J. Slack said the association was really what it professed to be; it was truly national in its principles and objects:—

"The first aim of the association was such an extension of the suffrage as would confer the right to be registered as an elector upon every man of full age, not subject to any legal disability, who had for twelve months occupied a tenement, or a portion of one, for which he had claimed to be rated to the relief of the poor. He knew that there were numbers who advocated manhood suffrage, maintaining that the sacred right of voting was inherent, not in the bricks and mortar, but in the man. (*Cheers.*) What he would impress upon such persons was, that the proposed enfranchisement was one of very great extent. He did not stand there as the advocate of 'finality'; he detested the word; but he maintained that they might consistently be contented to pass through an intermediate space in order to attain the ultimate end. (*Hear, hear.*) With this view they should endeavour to unite as many reformers as possible. This country now contained between six and seven millions of adults, and of these only about 800,000 possessed the franchise. If the first principle of the association was carried into effect, there would be 3,000,000 electors. What was contemplated was, in fact, a lodger suffrage—that every one who occupied a lodging, and went through a formal process of rating—for it need be nothing more than formal—should have a vote, and as the great bulk of the industrious classes in this country resided in their abodes as permanently as the wealthy classes, it would be seen that under what was proposed scarcely any adult need be without the franchise."

The other objects of the National Reform Association were—vote by ballot, and such a change in the electoral districts as would produce a fairer apportionment of representatives to the population.

Mr. George Thompson delivered a long and able speech in which he exposed the evils of the present mischievous system. Unless they had a real representation of the tax-paying community, it would be better for them to place the power of laying on the taxes in the hands of two or three men than in 656. The latter, though personally interested in the maintenance of high taxes, profess to represent the nation, and, consequently, the people are said to be taxed by themselves, and cannot complain in the manner they might and would, if a few men were individually and personally responsible for the laying on of these impositions.

A resolution, declaratory of confidence in the association, was then carried unanimously; and a vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

A "farewell group meeting" of the emigrants connected with the Family Colonization Loan Society, who are to sail from Gravesend on the 30th instant, was held in the Royal British Institution, City-road, yesterday evening. Mr. Wyndham Harding stated that fifty families and forty young girls are going out by a vessel, who have subscribed about £1400 towards the expenses of their transit. Mr. Lowe, a member of the Legislative Council of New South Wales, spoke of much approbation of the principle of the association:—

"The principle was not eleemosynary, but that of sending out the emigrants at their own expense, and for that he admired it, because it would work out and demonstrate the enormous power of coöperation, and show how it could be made to work out any good object that was required. Not a shilling was asked to be given to the society; but what was wanted was a floating capital, which might be contributed by the upper classes, which, being returned, should afford the means of at once relieving the labour-market of this country, and of enabling the working classes to find remunerated labour and happy homes in the colonies. The emigrants who were going out now were not doing so only to better their condition, but also as the pioneers of a great principle, and upon their conduct depended the destinies of hundreds and thousands of men hereafter. If they returned the money advanced to them it would be proved that the working classes were worthy of confidence; the system would progress, and the money returned would be the means of sending out others, and continuing the working of the principle."

The meeting was afterwards addressed by Mr. Vernon Smith, Lord Clifford, Mr. Sydney, and Mr. Mosman; all of whom spoke in the highest terms of the efforts of Mrs. Chisholm in promoting the objects of the association.



We regret to learn that his grace the Duke of Newcastle is in such a precarious state of health as to leave but little hope of his recovery. The knowledge of this circumstance has caused a general feeling of regret throughout the district, among parties entertaining different political opinions. The demise of his son, Lord William Clinton, has augmented the grief of his grace's numerous relatives and tenants. Lord Lincoln, with Lords Charles and Robert and the Ladies Clinton, are in attendance on their noble parent. Prayers were offered for his grace on Sunday last in Workop and other churches in the neighbourhood.—*Morning Post*.

The writ for the election of a new member for Cambridge University in the room of the Right Honourable Charles E. Law, was issued from the Crown-office on Thursday afternoon, and transmitted by that night's mail to the Vice-Chancellor of the University, by whom the day of election is to be appointed.

The *Glasgow Daily Mail* contains a report of an interesting public meeting which took place on Thursday evening in that city on the slave-trade question. It was called by the Lord Provost, in compliance with a numerous and influentially-signed requisition, and was held in the City-hall, for the purpose of considering the propriety of adopting resolutions, and appointing a committee to prepare petitions to the Legislature in favour of enforcing the treaties ratified between Great Britain, Spain, and Brazil, for the suppression of the slave trade.

It is now certain that the loss of life consequent on the loss of the *Superb*, is far greater than has yet been stated. Upon a comparison of the passenger list of the vessel, with the names of those saved, it has been ascertained that at least seventeen persons have been lost, and from enquiries which have been made, it is feared that, in addition to those, there were four other sufferers. Mr. Willis and niece, Mr. Pinson, Mrs. Baker and child, and a native of Jersey, name unknown, were amongst those drowned. A coroner's inquest is sitting, and the circumstances attending the calamity will no doubt receive a searching investigation. The *Superb*, which was left high and dry on the rocks by the receding tide, after the accident, has now disappeared, having sunk in deep water. It appears pretty certain that this catastrophe is mainly attributable to the culpable acquiescence of Captain Priaux in the desire of some of the passengers to pass close to the wreck of the *Polka*. It is also asserted that if the captain had remained on board, and used his authority for the maintenance of order, no one need have had even a wet foot, but, that instead of endeavouring to control the panic, which almost invariably follows such an occurrence, he was one of the first to originate it. Some of the attendant circumstances of this catastrophe are painfully interesting. The two children of Mr. Jackson, who had been rescued from the *Polka* the week before, were on the deck, and, on first seeing the rocks, enquired what their name was. The reply was, "The Minquiers;" but the poor father added, "I think they ought to be called the *Polka Rocks*!" Scarcely had the words been uttered when the vessel struck, and the enquirers were precipitated by the shock into the water, and were seen no more.

We are glad to learn that the result of the West Riding is such as to leave no doubt of the triumphant return of Mr. Cobden at the next election, unless the Reformers are divided. The advantage to the Liberals in all the large towns is very considerable, their net gain being in Leeds, 161; in Bradford, 152; in Halifax, 78; in Barnsley, 37; in Sheffield, 42: total in five districts, 470.

A very alarming and destructive fire broke out on Thursday night, at the Grove, near the floating harbour, Bristol, and, notwithstanding the efforts used to subdue it, it continued to rage with unabated fury for many hours, placing the shipping in the floating harbour, among which were many first class vessels ready for sea, in jeopardy. The total damage cannot be estimated at less than £6000. Among the property, either destroyed or greatly injured, were a number of fine paintings by the old masters, belonging to Mr. Gomersall, jun., the comedian.

From the reports in various German papers, it appears that a general movement of foreign troops toward the Hessian frontier is taking place.

The *Cassel Gazette*, published at Frankfort, contains a proclamation from the Elector, denying the right of the Chamber to refuse the Government the necessary taxes, and gives the following resolutions of the Diet, the ancient enemy of all constitutional rights:—

"1. The Electoral Government is called upon to apply all the means possessed by a Government of this confederation to establish the rightful authority of the Sovereign, now menaced in the electorate. 2. The said Government is at the same time desired to report, without delay, to this Assembly any proceedings taken by it in pursuance of the foregoing direction, together with their result. 3. The Diet reserves the right of ordaining further proceedings necessary for securing or restoring the legal state of relations between the Government and nation of Hesse-Cassel."

At Cassel the Permanent Committee and the officers of the various civil departments are waiting to learn the nature of the measures threatened by Hassenpflug. Meanwhile they are not idle. On the 23rd the Permanent Committee, upon the receipt of memorials from Fulda, preferred two indictments for violation of the constitution, through the attempted execution of the ordinances of September 7th, against Major-General Schirmer and the Burgermeister Mackenrodt. The court is now occupied with the preliminary investigation of these two cases.

The large spinning manufactory near Thann, Haut Rhin, was destroyed by fire on the 15th. More than 200 workmen are thrown out of employ.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 1850.

## Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in its eternal progress.—DR. ARNOLD.

### SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN AND HESSE CASSEL.

THE policy of the Absolutist Cabinet in Schleswig-Holstein is closely connected with that in Hesse Cassel; its aim is the oppression of all constitutional liberty in Germany. By the fearful lesson given to mis-government in 1848, Count Nesselrode and Prince Schwarzenberg, the statesmen of Russia and Austria, have not learnt how to govern in a cheap and liberal way, so as to prevent popular outbreaks. They were, however, convinced by facts that the material forces of the absolute or semi-constitutional Governments were insufficient against the overpowering rise of the people. The princes were everywhere compelled to grant concessions and constitutions, and only by a lasting state of siege and bloody battles were they able to regain, step by step, all the absolute power they had lost in one day. The aim of the combined policy of Russia and Austria is now to strengthen the continental Governments, not by financial and social reforms, but by increasing the material forces of the princes. They soon became aware that the voice of the people becomes irresistible in the small states of Germany, and that the military establishment commensurate with the financial resources of such petty states is not only unable to resist the people, but that the soldiers are even inclined to side with their brethren out of regimentals, whenever these claim constitutional freedom. As soon as the reaction felt itself strong enough for greater political changes, the Absolutist policy developed more freely its aim to check everywhere the constitutional progress, to rescind the concessions granted in 1848, and to unite the smaller states of Germany into larger bodies, not for sake of German unity, but to form stronger centres of resistance, better able to crush every attempt for rational reforms. This is the reason why the great champion of Legitimacy, the Czar Nicolas, disregards the legitimate claims of the Princes of Augustenberg in Schleswig, because the duchies alone never could be ruled in an absolute way. But Denmark itself proved likewise insufficient to resist, at Copenhagen, the constitutional movement; the King was forced in 1848 to grant a liberal constitution and a popular administration. Now, his power must be increased that the democratical constitution may be altered and obliterated in the same manner as those of Saxony, Wurtemberg, and Austria. The somewhat rotten throne of Denmark is to be the share of the Prince of Oldenburg, the kinsman of the Czar, that the German Grand Duchy of Oldenburg may strengthen the prerogative of the Danish King, who will easily overcome all the difficulties of the democratical constitution in Denmark with a garrison of Oldenburgers and Schleswig-Holsteiners at Copenhagen, as well as, with his Danish guards, all the German feelings in the duchies.

But the heir-apparent of the Crown of Denmark is not the Prince of Oldenburg; it is the Prince of Hesse, and we heard a year ago that he is ready to give up his claims to the Danish crown. The fact is undoubted; but the papers have not yet mentioned the price for which the Hessian Prince is to sell his rights, though no one doubts that, in spite of the philosophical genius of the Germans, no German Prince ever resigned a crown simply for philosophy. The price is, of course, another crown, as, by the grace of the Czar and of his Satrap, the Emperor of Austria, the Electorate of Hesse Cassel and the Grand Duchy of Hesse Darmstadt are to be united and erected into a separate kingdom for Prince Frederic of Hesse. This is the result of the Austro-Russian conferences on the German question. It is further well known that the house of Brunswick is on the eve of its extinction. The reigning Duke, as well as his elder brother, deprived of his throne in 1830, not being married,

the King of Hanover is to succeed in Brunswick, and it seems that the last journey of the reigning Duke William to Austria is in connection with some arrangement in order to hasten and to ensure the union of Brunswick and Hanover.

Secret as these proceedings were carried, they nevertheless transpired; and the smaller princes were frightened, as the tendency of the greater powers to swallow up the smaller ones became obvious. This is the reason why the second-rate German Sovereigns cling with such tenacity to the Prussian Union, notwithstanding that Prussia itself would be willing enough to drop it altogether. The Prince of Nassau, for example, who formerly began to waver and to approach the Austrian schemes of confederation, now decidedly declared anew for the Union; he fears to be absorbed by the new kingdom of Hesse. The Prince of Cobourg, the brother of Prince Albert, is the most strenuous adherent to the Union; for, if the Austro-Russian policy should triumph, the Duchies of Thuringia would soon become the prey either of Saxony or of Bavaria.

Such are the intrigues with which continental statesmen think to pacify Germany and to re-establish order; and the "liberal" Lord Palmerston thinks it consistent with the dignity of England to meddle in the transactions of the German Princes, who are blind enough not to perceive that all their artificial constructions, the Interim and the Plenum, the *Innere Rath* and the Federal Council, the Union and the College of Princes, will fall asunder, as a house of cards, at the first popular movement. Diplomacy never will ensure the thrones; it is only a Government based on justice and the sound principles of economy which can lastingly maintain them.

### LORD LONDONDERRY ON TENANT-RIGHT.

THE Town Commissioners of Newtonards, the Marquis of Londonderry's own peculiar borough, have received a severe reprimand from their Lord for having ventured to introduce the subject of tenant-right into their late address to Lord Clarendon. The Marquis is quite at a loss to understand why they, above all men in the world, should have meddled with this question, seeing that they are living on an estate where tenant-right has been the invariable practice from father to son. He complains in the most affecting terms of the sad change which has lately come over his tenantry, who used to proclaim him as the best landlord in Ireland:—

"I cannot refrain from deploring the change that seems so suddenly to have sprung up in a town and tenantry that have been pleased, for more than twenty years, to proclaim me as the best landlord in Ireland, constantly and universally admitting that my lands were far lower let than all the estates around me; while our local institutions, our agricultural societies, our subscriptions for the advantage of our towns have ever been proverbially preëminent. That such a sudden metamorphosis has arisen from natural causes is impossible. But wherever the poison is instilled, or in what quarter soever the serpent of agitation is encoined, be assured, gentlemen, that it will make no impression upon a landlord who is conscious of having done his duty, to the best of his ability, to those who have lived under him; and that the clamour of unjust pretensions, the counsels or proceedings of Presbyterian ministers (who should know better, and direct their energies to other objects than fomenting discord and disorder), and, above all, the slanderous ribaldry of anonymous placards, only to be surpassed by the villany of the composers of them, will all pass by me like the idle wind, which I regard not."

The Marquis cannot believe that the change is owing to anything that he has done: "That such a sudden metamorphosis has arisen from natural causes is impossible." We know not what the Marquis means by "natural causes;" but if he will only take the trouble of cross-questioning any of his refractory tenants, he will probably find that the potato-rot and the repeal of the Corn-laws, with rents no lower than they were when wheat was 70s. a quarter, have conspired to produce that "sudden metamorphosis" which seems so very unintelligible to him. If he wish to maintain his character as the best landlord in Ireland, he must grant long leases to his tenants at very moderate rents. All the fine phrases in the world will have little effect in conciliating popular regard, unless accompanied by substantial acts of justice.

### "PERVERSIONS," INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE.

THE surprising thing in regard to the churches that are now contending for possession of the English public is that they busy themselves so ardently with secondary matters, while the main



object of their contention, the People—the great spirit of their purpose, the enforcement of religion—are almost forgotten; as if each church were willing to leave its rivals in full possession, except the trifles. Here we see one journal contending very energetically that the Reverend W. J. E. Bennett, of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, is not in retreat preparing for admission to the Roman Catholic Church, but that while the report to that effect was circulating he was actually preaching at one of his churches "in strains of Church of England orthodoxy, completely opposed, and as all such preaching ever must be, both in letter and spirit, to all sympathy with those distinctive errors of Romanism to which the perverts in question must undoubtedly commit themselves." "The text of his sermon at St. Paul's was from the Epistle of the previous day—'Therefore, seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy we faint not; and, alluding directly to the present unhappy state of things in the English Church, and to the 'dissensions' (his very expression) which are so deplorably taking place, he gave his hearers distinctly to understand that he could not for a moment reconcile such a step with his sense of duty, but was determined in so trying a conjuncture to 'faint not,' God being his helper.'"

So says the *Post*. This should be satisfactory to the Church claiming the reverend gentleman. But, after all, it is the position of only one man retained—retained, too, in spite of doubts on his part and inclinations to "faint;" while reports of perversions like those of the Reverend Thomas Allies, of Launton; the Reverend Henry Wilberforce, vicar of East Farleigh; the Reverend Edward Bathurst, fellow of Merton College; Lord Feilding and his wife, and others, attest the unsettled state of men in the Church, who regret the authoritative position which it is losing. These "perversions" to the Church of Rome mean that the converts miss in the Church of England some distinctive and authoritative power capable of satisfying the mind on the authenticity of the faith professed and on the efficacy of the observances ordered. How the Church of England, whose doctrine is certified, not by its own supreme authority, but by the lay authority of the Privy Council,—whose most essential tenets are litigated between the Bishop and a contumacious clergyman like Mr. Gorham,—and whose most sacred observances may be twisted this way or that, at the fancy of the minister,—can pretend to authenticity or authority over its followers, or expect to hold them together, we cannot understand. For, observe, it does not possess a comprehensive dominion through the mere simplicity and breadth of its doctrines, leaving minor questions to sectional or individual variation; but its most fundamental doctrines are in litigation, while its oracle is in abeyance. The Church of England, as it now exists, has no unity, no voice of authority: it can neither be united nor proclaim its own law; it is distracted; it is mute. These are the reasons why its sons fly from it to the older Church of Rome, which still retains its unity of observance, its power of self-utterance.

But we know well while this process of retrogression to the older church is going on, a converse process of secession from the Church of England and of all its offshoots of dissent is going on to the immense multiplication of the unorganized body that may be enumerated as free-thinkers. Since we last alluded to this subject new instances have come to our knowledge—several, not only among the laity, but among persons in orders; and, indeed, it appears to us that the spirit most antagonistic to the Church of England, most wishful of its destruction, most, so to speak, vindictive for the degree of authoritative restraint which it still exercises, is to be found amongst those seceders who hold their place and their peace, and ostensibly remain in the body of the church that they have abandoned; for many do so. They are thus unable to share in that effort which is now made with more or less of accord to bring the scattered body of seekers after truth under some common opinion. To many it might seem strange at first if they were told that such an accord is more possible to free and independent minds than it can be to sects now contending over minor doctrines and technical trivialities. The broadest truths of religion embrace many forms of faith; but the dogmatic church militant rejects the broader truth to raise its standard on trivialities. The champion of orthodoxy, for example, presumes that Queen Victoria is prepared to abandon her constitutional supremacy in the church because the Queen has ordered the Reverend Dr. Cumming

"to preach before her Majesty in Scotland" after the Scottish method.

While the several churches are contending for the possession of individual ministers, or for the observance of particular doctrines; while they are exulting or deploring the multiplication of altar cloths worked by British hands in tapestry, what are they doing to obtain possession of the people? What are they doing to establish their hold on the world as it is, and by possessing that world to bring it under allegiance to what in their eyes is the truth? Their conduct is strange if we seek for any signs of such a policy. The head of the Roman Catholic Church in Ireland, for example, formerly editor of a periodical at Rome, which contended that the earth stands still the great fixed centre of the universe,—readopting, in short, the dictum which the Inquisition forced back upon Galileo,—is now heading the movement to suppress the advancement of education in Ireland, of that education which is preparing the rising youth far to excel its parents in knowledge and conduct, and is already promising to do so much in redeeming the country from famine and misery. In England we see the clergy striving to suppress the newer amusements of the people, those which are weaning them from bad habits, as the clergy of Bath have tried to suppress the Sunday excursion trains. The Bishop of London made a similar effort some years back against the Thames steamers which now pass his Fulham Palace enlivening the air with the gayest strains. But will anybody, who can compare the conduct and appearance of the passengers on board the steamers some years back with that which now listens to secular music on the Lord's-day, regret that the Bishop failed in his enterprize. He was unable to suppress the Sunday amusements of the Thames; but he did succeed in one thing, in establishing among the people a sense of permanent antagonism to the metropolitan Bishop, and so far an alienation from the Church which he officially represents. When we look for the conscious and deliberate action of the Church on the body of the people, such we find to be the processes which they are setting at work. How far they are likely to gain the people, we must leave sager heads to determine. Meanwhile perversions, excursion trains, Sunday steamers, free discussion of opinion, and many other movements, bad as well as good, but all terribly destructive of sectarian supremacy, are gaining ground every day.

#### WORKING MEN'S ASSOCIATIONS AND THE LAW OF PARTNERSHIP.

It is a wholesome and significant sign of the times to find the *Examiner* advocating an amelioration of the law of partnership. Some time ago the *Economist* took up the question, and we are glad to find our contemporary pluck up heart and follow in the good cause. It is true that great care is taken to convince the readers of the *Examiner* that they need have no fear of such amelioration leading to the establishment of Socialist or Communistic systems. This, to the timid and sensitive readers of our contemporary, may be so far needful, as to cause it to have recourse to the *caveat* on the ground of self-preservation. For ourselves, we have no fear from the clear heads and warm hearts to which we address ourselves. We shall plainly state the grievance and the remedy required, and leave our readers to infer what dangers will or will not be run by the adoption of the latter.

The grievance is this: that, by the existing law of partnership and joint-stock companies, all persons uniting together for purposes of trade or business are individually liable, on the one hand, to the full extent of their means for the debts of the concern on which they enter, if their numbers are not below twenty-five: and that, on the other, should they amount to that number, they cannot carry on their affairs, even with an unlimited responsibility, without the cumbersome and expensive process of registration under the last of the acts of Parliament named above. Should they require their liability to be confined to the amount of their respective shares, they must go to the further extent and trouble of incorporation under a special act of Parliament, or of a charter from the Crown. The consequences of these difficulties to the working classes are very serious. It renders it impossible for them to unite among themselves for purposes of trade; for from less than twenty-five of their number the requisite capital could not be contributed, while, if they reached that amount, their capital would be swallowed up by the necessary expenses of registration. The expensiveness

of this process militates also against the junction of capitalists, however well disposed, with a large number of workmen for industrial ends; while the law of partnership, and the boundless liabilities imposed by it, except in the case of the promoters being incorporated, prevent their entering upon such joint undertakings, except by advancing capital in the shape of a loan to the treasurer or manager of the association of working men, with the chances of whose honesty and prudence they, as well as the parties assisted by them, are forced to be content. Thus are the working classes, and those who are disposed to assist them, hindered from joining their means so as unitedly to produce that from which may be derived the improvement in all respects of the condition of the former. It is true that some noble hearts have disregarded all chance of loss; and, in the full face of its risk, aided in the establishment of Working Men's Associations. But these are the very persons who should be guarded from the disasters possible to hazardous benevolence. The selfish and the worldly minded need no such protection; they can guard themselves.

The grievance has been stated; the remedy, we conceive, is this. To pass, either as a separate bill or as an extension of the Friendly Societies Act, a law that shall enable the powers and privileges of joint stock companies, without the present cumbrousness and cost, to be extended to bodies of men united for trading, or industrial purposes, however large their number, provided that their capital did not exceed a certain fixed amount. With this might be combined a provision, drawn from the French law of partnership, *En Commandite*, which should relieve from responsibility, beyond the amount of their actual shares, such persons of capital, whether large or small, as should be disposed to assist the undertaking by their contributions without taking part in its management. The *managers* of the concern would, as is the case in France, be liable to the full amount of their property. Thus, relieved from unjust risks and oppressive expenses, generosity and industry would have fair scope for united exertion. The wrongs and privations of the working classes would have the best possible chance of being remedied by their own endeavours; and the assistance in the good work of those able to afford it would tend to establish a bond of brotherhood between rich and poor.

For such a law we know it is the intention of some of the People's friends strenuously to agitate in the next session of Parliament. The People themselves must aid them. All friends of progress must unite to press forward the great step in the onward march of humanity: and we do not undervalue the services of the *Examiner* in lending the good work a helping hand.

#### THE CAUSES OF INTEMPERANCE.

THE thoughtful author of *Friends in Council*, speaking of the sad condition of the working class, says:—"All that the rich could do to elevate the poor could hardly equal the advantage that would be gained by the poor themselves if they could thoroughly subdue that one vice of drunkenness, the most wasteful of all the vices." Did it never occur to the author to enquire whether all this drunkenness is not owing more to neglect and misguidance on the part of the middle and wealthy classes than to any inherent inclination for vice on the part of the poor? Few men who are properly educated, and who can rely upon earning a comfortable subsistence for themselves and their families, free from sudden vicissitude, ever become drunkards. But the want of a sound national system of education, which would inspire the labourer and the artisan with purer tastes and a higher sense of duty; our scrambling industrial system, with its long hours of toil and consequent exhaustion of body and mind; our want of cheap and wholesome amusements for working men; and, above all, the wretched condition of the poor man's home, owing to the crowded state of our large towns, and the neglect of sanitary reform by the middle class—all conspire to drive the working man to the beer-house or the gin-palace in his hours of relaxation.

Temperance reformers are too much in the habit of addressing their exhortations to the poor alone, as if the work of reformation lay chiefly with themselves: they would do much more good were they to call upon the middle and wealthy classes to bestir themselves actively in removing those baneful causes which tend so powerfully to tempt men to escape from domestic discomfort and misery in



dissipation. Some very sound remarks on this subject will be found in a letter signed "Alick" in to-day's "Open Council."

#### THE DRENGUS AT PLAY.

THE trial of Lord Brougham's "illegal netting dispute" is like a story from "The World Turned upside down." Law is altogether inverted: the great lawyers appear as outlaws, and final justice is arrived at by a striking abnegation of law.

The best of the story is derived from the evidence of Mr. William Brougham, who makes a clean breast of it, with a naïveté the most engaging. He, a Master in Chancery, was party to a proceeding in which the principal actors were charged with using a net illegal in the smallness of its meshes. "The object was," he said, "to go down and draw the river with a net of a peculiar construction;" and he describes "the double-armoured net" as if he had a faith that the mere nature of the tool established the innocence of the proceeding, or that the "peculiarity" warranted the peculiarity of the expedition. But they, that is Mr. William Brougham, Master in Chancery, and Lord Brougham, ex-Chancellor and sometimes sole representative of the Peers sitting on Appeals—these two dignitaries of the law went to try whether the act of dragging the river with such a net "was illegal or not." Imagine an ex-Chancellor provoked to active investigation under particular statutes, thus ascertaining, personally and experimentally, whether certain acts are "legal or not." This is the "pursuit of knowledge under difficulties" carried to its utmost verge.

But the Alexander of Useful Knowledge has a wider field before him than the Macedonian when he wept at finding that he had come to "the beginning of the end." Lord Brougham may earn endless laurels in that field. To test the popular notion that a shopkeeper in a London thoroughfare cannot claim, for each window broken, more than three shillings and sixpence, Lord Brougham may poke his finger through innumerable window panes. Some time since a young gentleman was arrested for snatching from a young lady that walked with him through the thoroughfare of St. James's-park, at night—they were personal friends—a transient kiss, as the forfeit of some idle defiance of the moment: Lord Brougham may kiss a given number of girls between St. James's and Buckingham Palace, to try whether such proceedings are "legal or not." He might drive with Master Brougham all the way down the Strand on the wrong side; purchase a large apple-basket and take his stand in the middle of 'Change-alley; sit astride of the Bude light in Waterloo-place; play at hoop on the terrace of Somerset-house; "take a sight" at the Queen's Majesty as she drives down Constitution-hill; empty the pockets of the first gentleman he follows in Piccadilly; or bathe in the fountains of Trafalgar-square;—all of which steps would bring some important legal questions to a practical issue, and would add signally to Lord Brougham's personal efforts for the elucidation of truth. We need not specify the practical shape which truth would take in such issues.

Mr. William Brougham seems to have an idea that the freedom of the subject is tolerably extensive; and he has some strange notions as to the basis of English law. He thinks that a logical necessity must establish a technical legality:—

"Their notion was," he said, "that they had an undoubted right to go down the Cumberland side, in order to fish the Westmoreland side. He could hardly believe it possible there could have been any objection to that, because, if persisted in, the river would be perfectly useless to both parties, as it was impossible to fish with a net in one part of the river without going over to the other; a draught could not be made by taking half a river only."

So that Mr. William Brougham supposes the logical expediency of a course to justify it in the eye of the law! As, for instance, if it were the shortest way from one place to another across the grounds of Brougham Hall, that path would be open to anybody on the principles of primæval reason. If the hungry passenger should chance to see a tempting fruit, he would have a right to vault the fence and shake the tree; otherwise, how is it possible that he could satiate his appetite?

We are forgetting that Master William is not at all a common lawyer, but a judge in equity,—in that branch which gives its judgment, not on technical grounds, but on natural justice and absolute equity; called the Equity Law from that fact.

Embued with that wisdom, and having, it seems, a very hermit-like sense of common law, the two

brothers wander forth to fish in the waters of nature, and walk on either bank of God's earth, Sir George Musgrave and certain statutes notwithstanding. For they rely, like Voltaire's Huron, on their own immaculate virtues, on justice, and necessity. So unspoiled is human nature by the commerce of the equity law! They proved, however, too good for this earth; and, as often happens to persons who are too good for practical life, their virtuous proceedings were cut short by triumphant violence. Such is the victory of wickedness!

The Magistrates—who are only common lawyers—were fain to get at justice by a very curious device—by a sort of circumvention: they induced both sides to withdraw their charges, and they themselves "refrained from giving judgment on the case in question." This is an admirable example! How often justice would be best served if the judge "abstained from giving judgment in the case," and if, under that judicial forbearance, the litigants were to repent even at the twelfth hour, and were simply to leave the court.

Having got up this little drama in useful knowledge, Lord Brougham returned to the calculus and other light amusements, including Law Reform; which, perhaps, might be made to include obedience to the law?

#### JUSTICE TO INDUSTRY.

THE tenant-farmers of Shropshire have formed themselves into an association "for securing and maintaining justice to British industry;" and their first step has been to issue an address to the landowners of Great Britain, in which they call upon that very unhappy class of persons "to assume their proper place in preparing for the coming struggle." When will farmers learn common-sense? Are they really simple enough to believe that the landowners will ever engage in a "struggle" of any kind so long as rents do not fall much below their present amount? If the farmers want to obtain substantial justice to industry, they must adopt a course very different from that which they have hitherto pursued. Above all things, they must put a stop to that practice of engrossing farms, throwing two or three into one, which has been gradually going on till the number of the farms in England has been reduced to little more than one-third of what it was a hundred years ago. The consequence is, that there are twenty or thirty competitors for every vacant farm, and that rents are now 200 per cent. above what they were in 1750. Why should landlords seek to make any change in an industrial system which has worked so profitably for them? Their policy is to remain quiet. If the farmers are resolved to improve their condition they must form a union among themselves for their own benefit. How can they expect that the landlords will heartily join them in any movement that would provoke enquiry into the rent question?

#### SOCIAL REFORM.

EPISTOLÆ OBSCURORUM VIRORUM.

X.—CAPITAL.

Sept. 26, 1850.

I KNOW, my dear Erasmus, that you are not a mere free trader, and, as you say, that you "would not be satisfied with the freest trade." I perfectly understand your position on this point, and address myself to you, not as an antagonist, but as one of a vast class, including some of the first intellects of our day and country, that stand on the verge of Communism without having entered into that doctrine, because they have not yet seen its principle. They have been too pertinaciously required to look at systems. Communists, too, of every sect have, with too much subjection to a sentiment, ignored both the truth and the language of political œconomy; of which, however, the material portion of Communism forms an important element. We want a new chapter in political œconomy, somewhat more thorough than the pages which John Mill has as yet given to us. I do not agree with you that it requires "long years for the solution," because I believe that as soon as we see the principle, we may at once understand it, at once begin to make a practical improvement in the organization of industry. But to that question I shall come in one of these letters not far distant.

Meanwhile, we are talking of trade and some of its social incidents. One friend tells me that I am unjust, because I do not declare the merits of trade; but I am not rewriting Adam Smith: I am only touching upon some incidents commonly overlooked. Another tells me, that in my last letter I am too "abstract"—which means, of course, too far away removed from the practical business of daily life: but I am trying, to account for the mode

in which some immense evil produces deplorable wounds over all the body of society, wounds, alas! are not abstract at all. I am trying to find out why so many of the middle class toil to escape sinking into poverty; why so many of the industrious feed ill, clothe ill, live in bad houses, pass their days in bad workshops, and count it a privilege to do all these things, the other alternatives being a prison or the workhouse. Have we grown so selfish or so effeminate that we cannot fasten our attention for a few minutes on an explanation of causes that produce effects like these? Indeed, I do not believe that we have, as yet, quite come to that pass.

The deadly errors to which trade is liable are not to be clearly and thoroughly understood without we understand the nature and operations of Capital.

What is Capital? It is that part of produce which, being more than is needed to supply the immediate wants of persons engaged in its production, is stored for future use: it may consist of food and other necessities of life, tools, or exchangeable goods. As long as that store of "stock" is unconsumed, the industry which would be necessary to go on producing the same things, is free to produce other things; and hence it is rightly said that the accumulation of capital is the first step towards extensive improvement in industry; which improvement, again, setting industry still more free, leads to the still more rapid and extensive accumulation of capital; and so the reaction goes on, reciprocally, until it makes such countries as England.

The gratitude of "a shopkeeping nation" has been excessive, and has blinded us to some terrible incidents of this great power. We worship the idol with gaze so fixed that we do not see the victims, though they strew the ground about us. It is capital which enables trade to create such classes as needlewomen. Capital gives wealth and luxury; it purchases the respect of mankind; it shall bring around a Hudson hosts of men distinguished by the highest titles and offices in the State, very few of whom would seek the homely abode of an Ariosto or a Correggio. It brings men into the most powerful Chamber of the Legislature by direct purchase; it buys up whole branches of traffic; it sets the remuneration of industry; it consigns the plans of towns, street by street, to common "builders," and does a vast number of things that intimately concern the comfort, moral condition, the very life of human beings, in countless numbers.

œconomists tell you that it is absolutely good, so that we cannot have too much of it. Some heretical œconomists, like Chalmers and Wakefield, a growing school, tell you that it may be "redundant" in proportion to population or land, or both, and then it produces respectively "intense competition" in the labour market or the land market; of which competition I will speak hereafter. I am now considering the most direct and absolute mischief caused by capital in what are esteemed its legitimate operations.

Capital is by its nature transferable wealth, able to be directed upon any employment of industry. I have already shown you that industry, debarred for the most part from direct employment on the occupations of primary and vital necessity, has no guide to the expediency of any occupation except "the higgling of the market;" in the wealthy market those occupations "pay" best which most minister in some way to luxury. Hence industry is quite guideless, except that it seeks the highest wages; and thus it is the readiest slave of luxury; a liberal but a precarious paymaster, shrinking at every rough breeze, and leaving the slaves, as Don Juan leaves his servant, to endure the wind and the rain. Often tempted, often baffled, often disappointed, industry ends by being simply guideless, ready for the first offer. In many cases, "division of employments" sets the employment of possessing capital free from that of actively using it, the possessor merely asking a fee in return. Hence capital blindly lent, on the bait of promised profit, is ever ready for the employment of industry, as blindly lent on promise of wages.

But trade is not infallible: it makes mistakes; it enters, for example, into huge speculations for the American markets, and finds that it has filled those markets long before the factories in Glasgow and Manchester, in Sheffield and Birmingham, have worked up the orders which trade has given: there is a glut—masters work "short time," make no profits, look grave and alarmed, and live upon their savings; workmen are out of work, and live



upon *their* savings, which consist too often of the fat about their bones—a kind of capital much spent before the glut is over.

Capital, ever ready for transfer, enormously augments these errors. It creates them. But for our vast heaps of disengaged capital, we should not have known the over-trading of 1825, the glut of 1842, the railway crisis of 1847. But for our over-abundant capital, we should not have proposed to make miles upon miles of railways not needed—should not have formed armies of surveyors, engineers, and “navigators,” to be suddenly cast loose upon society without work or hope; should not have eaten up the savings of the orphan and the widow—who are ruined, while the real big capitalist merely slinks into retrenchment or gaily passes to “other markets;” should not have had companies of shareholders now trying to raise millions sterling to make good Hudsonian bargains. If Trade is disposed to make a mistake, Capital can throw its whole moveable weight into the error, and give to it a fatal momentum.

Capital is greedy: the capitalist must be paid for being rich. Just as the landowner will not allow you to use land without paying him, who works it not, so the capitalist will not allow you to use “stock” without you pay him. Separately, too; for if the capitalist and the projector are united in the same person, the capitalist is careful that you should pay him in that capacity, distinctly, for “interest of capital.” Capital will not allow any share of itself to be retained by Industry. The capitalist, owning an immense treasury, can *live* upon a very small return—upon the return of a moderate amount; a still smaller return upon huge amounts secures to him luxury: if a small capitalist, say, with a thousand pounds, can live in any business on a return of 5 per cent., the great capitalist can drive that small one out of the market by underselling him, accepting only 4 per cent.; which would be too little for the small capitalist to exist upon, but returns huge revenues to the owner of many small capitals. The large capitalist monopolizes the employment market, and decrees the rate of wages—laid so low that, if the workman can scrape any together as savings towards the beginning of capital, he must possess singular will and energy. Capital, therefore, can buy up the trade-market and the labour-market—and it does. Owned by luxury, Capital directs industry mainly for the benefit of luxury. England works for Belgravia—a state of things not only invidious, but precarious and dangerous.

Capital decrees that there shall be waste. It sets industry—struggling in the scramble of the blind labour market for subsistence—much more about secondary occupations than primary; it chokes the warehouses with nicknacks and stuffs while whole classes are naked and starving: you cannot find a loaf or a shirt in this hovel, in that palace you cannot count the carpets, the rugs, the cushions, the toilet implements, the varieties of foods and condiments, the jewellery, the perfumes, the wardrobes, the endless appliances of wealth. Industry is bound down to the task of encreasing that very capital which tyrannizes over it and misleads it, which exists even to waste.

Do not say, my dear Erasmus, that I am ignorantly blind to the necessity and use of capital; I know that industry must have “stock,” in order that it may be free for the best choice of occupations; but I, in my lifetime, am not bound by any natural duty to make “stock” enough for the next thousand years; especially if that stock shall belong to somebody else, and that owner shall set against my industry all the industry present and future available to the fattening of his idol, vouchsafing to me the lowest wages ascertainable in that hideous auction. I know that we cannot do without capital; but I say that in the idolatry of it we overlook its operation in augmenting all the mistakes of our present social organization or rather disorganization. Stock is most excellent for use; but we have made the toolhouse a tyrant, and the treasury an idol, in our questionless obedience to Capital.

Ever your affectionate,

THORNTON HUNT.

**SINCERE BENEFICES.**—A return to Government has been printed, containing a list of sincere benefices in England and Wales, with the name of the patron and incumbent, and the annual value and population of each. It appears that there are 57 sincere benefices, of which 18 are in the diocese of Norwich. The annual value of those benefices ranges from £10 to £1125. In some of the places there are no churches, and in others the churches are in a dilapidated state. The population exceeds in some of the sincere benefices 1000 souls.



## Open Council.

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

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

### CONDITION OF THE POOR.

Sept. 24, 1850.

SIR,—I join with some of your other correspondents in congratulating you on the excellent working of your Open Council. To hear with respect the voice of others on matters of deep common interest is the way towards universal enlightenment.

I do, indeed, object to a very few of the letters that have appeared. If any one were to write to you in defence of magic or astrology, or some other occult doctrine, I hope you would exclude his letter on the same ground as you would exclude a mathematical disquisition. Not wishing to seem to dictate, I merely ask you to consider whether you have not here erred twice through too great liberality.

On the other hand, you are right in admitting letters on religion (which other newspapers treat as too technical), so long as they deal with the subject as a popular one, cognizable by the popular understanding and heart.

But I did not mean to fill your columns with such critiques: I write to comment on the controversy which divides you and Dr. Smiles, and see whether it does not point to some practical result. You appear to me to be both right: Dr. Smiles, in alleging that the state of the poor has improved, and you, in declaring that it has deteriorated. How so? First, because *the poor* is a vague phrase, embracing two different classes—the employed and the unemployed poor. Secondly, because they are partly better and partly worse; and to strike the balance is often difficult.

Dr. Smiles\* alleges that wages (at least in the towns) are higher than they were, and go farther than ever. You reply, that many people are out of work; and a hand-loom weaver farther replies, that *his* remuneration is very bad. Of course it is. There is no contradiction here. We must embrace both sides to gain a complete view of England.

Dr. Smiles, moreover, declares that the political power of the poor is far greater than it was. Your reply seems to be, that they are more than ever driven off the soil. Again I say both are right. I proceed to draw conclusions, and make general comments.

1. Every school of anti-political economists—whether Socialists or Protectionists, Aristocrats or Republican democrats—is unjust towards master-manufacturers and master-tradesmen. This calumniated class of persons pays every year larger sums for wages than at any previous time in England, and is complained of because there are still people out of work, or because the wages still are not so high as workmen wish. May they rise! Amen; but blame not the masters if they are low, as certainly no one thanks, or will thank them if they are high.

2. Until a company of coequal workmen has shown in actual trial that it can permanently carry on a great manufactory, which needs machinery and other fixed capital, knowledge, enterprise, and energy, no one has any right to speak of it as more than a *possibility* for Socialism to undertake such works. If the workmen at present do not like the work or the wages, let them find a better, or, at any rate, not blame the master. It is absurd to quarrel with your crutch till you are well of lameness, or can, somehow, walk without it.

3. A large part of the sufferings of the English people is a *payment for their personal liberty*. For instance, they have free right to move from the country into the town; hence, they have been open to the temptation of migrating into the towns to get higher wages: and since far more are seduced by the hope than can actually find employment, the towns are flooded by needy vagrants, too numerous, too independent, and too unorganized to be overseen by the authorities. They become demoralized, and propa-

\* I am obliged to quote from memory.

gate misery. In Germany the police would not allow to the poor this freedom—would treat them more like children, and thus save them from many miseries.

What else is the right to drink ale, cider, and gin without restriction, than part of an Englishman's birthright? As the song of the Lancashire morrice-dancers says—

“I shall always maintain 'tis an Englishman's right  
To dance, to drink, to work, and to fight.”

4. The laws or institutions of society may make men miserable; but cannot make them happy any more than virtuous. All populous nations hitherto have had considerable masses of vicious and indigent persons whom nothing human can help. That England has not been able to hinder this painful result is to be lamented. Let us try to find out its causes and dry them up at the source; but let us not think England worse than other old and fully peopled countries.

5. If Spain or Greece be disordered and poor while England flourishes, that is no disgrace to England. So, if one part or one class of England is vicious and distressed while others are prosperous, that is not necessarily a disgrace to the prosperous—perhaps the very contrary. If the law gives no artificial bonus to the prosperous, their prosperity is *prima facie* evidence of superior talent or virtue. And if the law gives them no control over the vicious and miserable party, it is unjust to treat them as responsible for the misery. All this applies to the justification of master-manufacturers and great tradesmen.

A state of things is to be desired, when all the world shall be so knit together that the overflowing wealth, knowledge, wisdom, and goodness of one part shall relieve the wants of another less happy part; but no one blames a more civilized nation barely because we are very far off from this state. What I have here said concerning different nations, is true of the different classes of the same nation *in proportion as they aim at independence*. If the poorer will insist on being their own masters, and spurn a state of serfdom or tutelage, they must leave off whining about their neglect by the richer classes, and must look to themselves for everything. Let them cry for help to Wisdom, but not to Wealth.

I fear I am tedious, and I must be more concise. Abruptly let me say—I have no doubt that you have attacked the right point in your recent articles concerning LAND. The disease of England is fundamentally this, that *her rural industry is unexpansive*; hence the whole increase of population flows over into the towns. The result is, that the towns must always contain masses of indigence, clustered in unwholesome dwellings, with benefit to nothing but to the rent of land.

In part, the law of England is to blame; namely, in so far as entails and the difficulties about title, want of registration, and expence of deeds impede the free sale of land. This is an Augean stable which not even a river of revolution could cleanse: for the law would revive and survive any process of mere violence. Nothing can here aid us but a revolution of opinion among the educated, and especially among lawyers: and gradually it will come, with or without University Reform.

But in part, also, the yeomanry itself has been to blame. I have for years past tried to preach to the few landed proprietors of my acquaintance the advantages of *peasant freeholders*; but I have always been met by the objection, that this state of things, somehow, everywhere dies out of itself. One friend showed me the fact by the county registers of Devonshire; another testified it to me from his own knowledge of Cumberland. I asked *why* this was, and received the following explanations.

Sometimes the freeholder is tempted by the offer of an extravagant price for his land by a rich peer or banker; he cannot resist, but sells his little freehold for a large sum down. He employs it in trade, and either swells the number of thriving townsmen or loses it, and makes beggars of his children.

Sometimes (and in Cumberland, I believe, often) the little freeholder, with other old-fashioned habits, retains that of excessive drinking, and cannot compete in the market with sober men. Thus competition (naughty, unchristian practice!) ruins him, and he sells his land in despair.

Sometimes he envies the more rapid and splendid gains of trade, and does not calculate on its reverses, and sells his land to speculate. Or, again, he leases it to a neighbouring farmer, and keeps a shop or becomes a bricklayer or other artizan. This, I am told, is a common case, and that it is the desire of some more enterprising employment, with a chance of larger, though less secure, gains, which makes small freeholders give up.

To this must be added the taste for foreign luxuries and disdain of coarse abundance. Peasant proprietors have thriven, only in proportion as they seek to be independent of market prices, and to find sufficiency in native products, principally raised by themselves. If our notions of civilization become purged of the monstrous error which puts it in the external polish of dress and house and appurtenances; if we look to abundance of wholesome food and dress for the body, with wholesome culture to the



mind, there may be a better chance for peasant proprietors. But if foreign luxuries and superfine cloth are thought necessities, and rye bread and loose shapeless garments are disdained, the trial is a harder one.

The object, however, in my view, ought not to be artificially to encourage peasant freeholders, or any special tenure of land; but, to secure that the land shall maintain those who are born on it, and that they shall not flow over into the towns; nay, if possible, to bring about a steady flowing back of the tide from the towns into the country. We want a trumpet tongue to proclaim that, unless the growth of the towns be checked by developing rural industry, there is no hope, no possibility, of hindering the towns from containing heaps of misery which it is shocking to contemplate.

I have much more to say, but fear I have said too much for the present.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,  
FRANCIS WILLIAM NEWMAN.

#### ROBERT OWEN'S FIRST PRINCIPLE.

September 24, 1850.

SIR,—In the *Leader* of last week three gentlemen have each written a letter on this subject. Two of these correspondents were called into the field of controversy in consequence of some remarks of mine in a previous number of your paper, and I conclude you will permit me to say a word or so in reply to their strictures. Mr. Charles Kingsley and Mr. E. V. Neale are the two who have honoured me with a direct opposition, and it is with their epistles only I shall deal at present. I will be as brief as I can. To maintain in the columns of the *Leader* a long debate upon the interminable questions of the free will and free agency of man is not very desirable, except insofar as they relate to the practical working out of the vast social problem of the age. Mr. Kingsley will, I am sure, agree with me in this. He is, however, one of those who believe and teach that man is a free agent and in possession of a free will, and he accordingly ridicules my late humble attempt to show the impropriety and absurdity of that doctrine, as illogical and as "a most complicated form of confusion." Now, I confess, after an attentive perusal of my offending article, I have not been able to discover in what part of the argument the "confusion" exists; and I strongly suspect it lurks quite in another quarter. Nor can I discover that my reasoning has in the least outraged legitimate logic. I argued hypothetically—*if* such and such premises be admitted, then such and such conclusions will necessarily follow—and there is no breach of logic in that. My object was to point out by means of this hypothetical process the weakness of the assertion, that "all men are free agents," and I here repeat the argument, and am prepared to stand by its validity, that if it be granted that certain circumstances over which man has no control have at any time the power of *compelling* the course of conduct any individual shall take, and if, in no single instance, we can positively affirm that a man's conduct was not determined, compelled by circumstances beyond his control, such as education, physical organization, and social position, then, I say, it is inconsistent, it is a piece of unjustifiable dogmatism, to broadly proclaim the universal *free* agency of man. With all proper respect for Mr. Kingsley's logical acumen, I must deny that there is any similarity between this ratiocination and that which would prove "all horses are green because one *may* be so." But Mr. K. is somewhat pleasant with me for asserting a mere "truism," as he calls it; the fact is, however, that I am guilty in his eyes, not of having given out a "truism" as a philosophical discovery, but of having applied a "truism" in a manner adverse to his own theories. Utterly unable to refute the reasoning, he tries to render it ridiculous; how far he has succeeded in this others will judge as well as myself. Few, I fancy, who read his letter will obtain from it much enlightenment as to the definiteness of the author's views on the questions he writes about. He admits "that men are formed and compelled by circumstances, warped and stunted by them," though he does not tell us what those compulsory circumstances are. But, then, he thinks man *ought* not to be formed and compelled by them. Why so, I would ask? If men can be made vicious by bad circumstances—and that they can "is a fact which needs no further proof than a walk through St. Giles's"—why may they not be made virtuous by good circumstances? Why is Mr. Kingsley advocating so warmly, and with so much noble enthusiasm, the cause of co-operative labour? and why does he indignantly denounce as "degrading" the prevailing system of competition? Is he not using means to substitute "brotherly help" for "wolfish competition?" and is not "brotherly help" to promote brotherly kindness? and is not brotherly kindness the holiest of all social virtues? and are not the means which he is employing to realize these glorious ideal *circumstances* antecedents to consequences? Mr. Kingsley himself is one, and not perhaps the least influential, of the circumstances by which the world is to be improved; so that, according to his own logic, *he* is "a practical

falsehood" — "the utter bane of Socialism!" I wonder if he ever considered himself as a Circumstance.

Again, he admits that "education, social reforms, and all other outward appliances," can prevent a man's character being "warped, stunted, degraded;" and yet he denies that man *ought* to be formed by external circumstances. How can this apparent contradiction be reconciled? The object of education, he says, is to put men into favourable circumstances, in order to *educate* something already in them. Granted; education is designed to draw out and properly direct all the human faculties; and, when that design is fulfilled, man will be "delivered from evil—inward evil," as Mr. K. terms it—"from inward selfishness, pride, laziness, meanness, and ferocity;" and I hold that the "outward circumstances" of education—education in its widest acceptance—can do this. But Mr. Kingsley believes in the inherent corruption of human nature, and never hopes to eradicate our "primæval lusts." I should feel much obliged if Mr. K. would inform me of what these "lusts" consists, and how they found their way into our nature. For my own part, I reject the doctrine of the necessary wickedness of man, and with it the legend of Eve and the Serpent.

There are two more points in Mr. Kingsley's letter I must notice before I dismiss it; one is what he remarks of Luther, Bacon, Elizabeth Fry, and other great reforming spirits by whose exertions the world has been driven onwards in religious freedom, philosophy, and philanthropy. These individuals have become great, saith Mr. K., by keeping up a constant battle with their passions. Quite the reverse is the truth. These Reformers became great by an assiduous development of their predominant powers or passions. Luther had a passion for opposing the Pope, Bacon had a passion for philosophy, and Mrs. Fry for improving our criminal law; and by cultivating these powers, as far as circumstances would permit, have enrolled themselves among the heroes of humanity. The other point on which I wish to remark is where Mr. K. says, if my theory of non-free-agency were true I should be now "grubbing up pignuts in a state of primæval breechlessness, for those were the circumstances of our forefathers." This is a fallacy; and any school history of England will prove it so. Such might have been some of the circumstances of our forefathers, but assuredly were not the *only* ones. Had certain invasions never happened, with a few other trivial events, perhaps things might have remained as they were 1850 years ago. But, my dear Mr. Kingsley, fear not, society will progress, and Socialism will be triumphant at last, although you ignore "Robert Owen's first principle," a principle you have not succeeded in overthrowing.

Sir, I am afraid your limits will not suffer me to devote many words to Mr. Neale, whose alarm at being told he has no free will is prodigious. Let me ask if Mr. N. has ever read the work of Jonathan Edwards on the Will, or the opinions and arguments of the late Dr. Chalmers on that subject. I am inclined to think he has not done so, or he would hardly have written the letter to which I am now referring.

In spite of the metaphysical differences between Socialists of the present day, I hope they will all work together hand in hand to advance the common cause, and not allow errors of the head to sever the sympathies of the heart.

I am, yours obediently,

F. G.

#### THE SAME.

London, Sept. 23, 1850.

SIR,—It is evident that Mr. Kingsley imagines Mr. Owen's first principle to be something which it is not; for his arguments are directed against a very different idea.

That some men are "the puppets of the circumstances around them," like the "masses" whom Mr. Kingsley refers to, and that others are not the puppets of the circumstances around them, like the distinguished individuals whom he names, is very true; but this has reference only to *some of the circumstances* which have been concerned in the formation of their character and conduct. This is not what is meant by those who understandingly assert that "man is the creature of circumstances." *All* the circumstances of parentage and education—that is to say, all the circumstances which have had any part in producing and developing them, are included in the assertion. Take away these, and what have we?—Nothing. If, for instance, St. Bennett's father, or his grandfather, or any of his forefathers, had not been caused to marry the individual whom he did marry, St. Bennett would never have been born. And, allowing all these circumstances to have been as they were, many changes in the circumstances of his parents or ancestors may be supposed which would have materially altered the infant organization of which St. Bennett, the man, was made. But, let all the circumstances which preceded and produced the birth of St. Bennett be exactly as they were, and let the infant be born with the organization with which he was born—what would he have become if he had never

seen a book—never been taught to read or write—been placed from his birth among savages, for instance? Consider this, and the effects which might have been produced by a thousand other modifications in the circumstances in which he was placed from his birth, and then say if the statement that "man is to a very great extent the creature of circumstances" is too strong. But do not imagine that it is asserted that after the child has been born he is entirely the creature of subsequent circumstances—"the mere recipient of external impressions," as Mr. Kingsley says. Here, again, Mr. Kingsley mistakes the principle, and objects to something which is no part of it. It is not denied, as he imagines, that the effect of education is "to educate something which is already in the individual." But it is affirmed that this something, or these somethings, may be educated in such an endless variety of ways by the influence of varied circumstances, that the effect of those circumstances may truly be called "overwhelming." Circumstances would not make a Napoleon of the infant of whom Bacon was made, nor a Bacon of the infant of whom Napoleon was made, nor a Shakespeare of the infant of whom Mozart was made, &c.; but circumstances might have made an endless diversity in the adults "manufactured" out of those "raw materials," might have made far better and wiser, or far less good or less wise men of them. Does not society, do not external circumstances, continually take, say, two children, *with nearly equal powers and tendencies*, and make one a man of much scientific knowledge, the other totally ignorant of science; one a man of sense, the other a fool; one a man of honour and honesty, the other a hypocrite, a liar, a thief; one a man of intelligence and moral courage, the other an ignorant superstitious coward? In short, do not circumstances produce an endless variety of characters from organizations having nearly equal natural capacities, the worst result being often produced from the superior natural organization? The facts which demonstrate all this are continually occurring around us and before our eyes.

Considering all this, does not common sense suggest that we should endeavour to ascertain what are the circumstances or the external deficiencies which produce or allow the growth of the inferior results, and what circumstances will produce the superior results in all—will cause the natural "somethings" in every sound organization to be the most beneficially "educated"; and that we should remove the former, and combine the latter in the most beneficial manner, and make them operative upon all? The rational system is merely this common-sense proceeding.

Mr. Kingsley asks—"Can external circumstances deliver us from internal selfishness, pride, laziness, meanness, ferocity?" Facts answer—"Yes, if you take the right circumstances, and take them in time."

Mr. Kingsley says the monks tried ten thousand "dodges" to effect this, and failed. True. But why? Because their dodges were not the right dodges. They were a mixture of good and bad circumstances, in which the power of the latter produced the bad effects which resulted. The results were the natural consequences of such a mixture of good and bad circumstances. How shall we judge them but by their fruits?

Mr. Kingsley says Mr. Owen failed. Facts say he succeeded to the full extent of the circumstances he was allowed to apply—quite sufficiently to prove the truth of the rational principle, if such proof were needed.

Mr. Kingsley says, if circumstances had formed Mr. Owen's character, he would have been at this time an idle, self-indulgent country gentleman. Facts say that some of the circumstances of his youth might have made him so; but others intervened and made him what he is.

Mr. Kingsley asks, why he and F. G. are not grubbing up pig nuts? Surely, the circumstances which account for this are not very difficult to discover.

In short, Mr. Kingsley has not yet sufficiently studied the facts of the subject—has not taken a sufficiently comprehensive view of them, or he would not object as he does to the principle in question; nor would he imagine that men and women could "rot into hogs and savages" when placed within "a scientific combination of good and superior circumstances;" or that anything but good, and that of the most exalted kind, could be produced by the right application of a doctrine which facts prove to be a practical truth pregnant with the most important and immediate beneficial practical results, and without the reception of which by society no permanent substantial reform of the present old, worn-out, irrational, and most vicious system can be effected.

HENRY TRAVIS.

#### A FREE PRESS AND A FREE EXPRESSION OF OPINIONS.

John-street, Shelton, Staffordshire Potteries,  
Sept. 15, 1850.

SIR,—I cannot conceive any subject to be more deserving of public attention than this; nor any more likely to secure the permanent elevation of a nation



in point of knowledge and philosophical eminence. If I were to pray for any blessing which should stand as a monument of honour to a nation—which should keep the world in accordance with the immutable law of its creation—in eternal progress under every variety of circumstances—which should infuse into the hearts of men happiness, cheerfulness, and a love of truth and freedom, and which I would have to stand as a shield against the numerous ills to which a vitiated and isolated state of society is sure to be subjected—they should be those of a "Free Press and Free Expression of Opinions."

In England this right is denied us. There are few—far too few—periodicals or weekly papers which can be termed free or unprejudiced; and which are open to the free and unfettered expression of each man's opinions. There would be more, I have no doubt, were it not for the enormous and unjust taxes already levied on the English newspaper press; for the universal interest taken in the politics and present social position of England would not alone be the means of accounting for the astonishing variety of newspapers and periodicals which would be permanently established, were the taxes completely abolished. True, we have many cheap, good, and substantial periodicals now; but they are not sufficiently known, and, therefore, are not sufficiently appreciated to affect any material difference in the shape of reform:—

"But smallest helps, if rightly given,  
Make the impulse stronger."

And the establishment of these alone is a sufficient signification that men are beginning to think for themselves, and not allowing those to think for them who have treated man as an incubus, a curse, a thing, because he has happened to exist in the poorer ranks of society. But England owes the cheap literature which it now possesses to the labours of those glorious names, Carlyle, Hetherington, and Cleave. These men, by their energetic labours, have made the newspaper press of England an engine of great utility and power; and the crowning glory to the English people would be to abrogate the taxes on knowledge, and emancipate the press from the shackles of an injurious influence.

Powerful for good or evil is the newspaper press at the present time; and, unfortunately, its influence is directed to the propagandism of evil, with but very few exceptions. To a class or section of the people is the newspaper press of this country at the present time addressed, and to those of the least importance to the nation—the middlemen and aristocracy. Party-spirit and party-influence is the foundation which alone upholds the fabric of the press in England. There are daily, weekly, and monthly periodicals, all intent upon perpetuating our present social structure, the proprietors of which are ever ready to speak, and write, and lecture as to the great magnitude of privileges we possess when compared with other nations, and the universal happiness visible throughout the universe. Every shade of opinion in the higher classes has its representative organ or organs.

Let us compare the magnitude and extent of the newspaper press of the United States with a population amounting to half that of Great Britain—to that of England. There is not a village in America without its newspaper. They take an equal pride in having their weekly organ, as the metropolis of our own country does in having its daily and weekly papers. The press of America is the voice of the people: it speaks to every one, and of every movement. Independent, it has become the great pabulum of democratic information. It is perfectly free; and every shade of opinion—religious, political, and social—has its representative; and the controversial tendency which pervades throughout its whole ramifications, making itself dependent in every public and private department. "It is seldom," say Messrs. Chambers, "that a population as low as two thousand is found without its newspaper or periodical; and yet the very place in which I now reside (the Potteries), containing a population of 100,000 people, is entirely devoid of a public newspaper of any creed whatever; and there are only printed two penny periodicals, one devoted to the cause of emigration, and the other to the cause of justice and the progress of humanity. I infer that there are other towns, equally as large as this, void of any means of communication, or any periodical or newspaper whatever."

It is impossible to contemplate the important results that would eventually follow the establishment of a free press. It is a great, a sublime power that will work its own irresistible way through all obstacles. Knowledge has within itself the latent powers of deliverance; and although it may be disappointed for a short time, its triumph over ignorance, fanaticism, and irreligion is sure and certain. We hope the day is not far distant when she shall be surrounded by all the sons of men, and glory in the vigour and luxuriance of the crop she has sown! The seeds of genius have been scattered forth into the sunshine of open day, and it only remains to struggle bravely for its complete deliverance from thralldom, and it will "spread over their sterile birth-place all the beauties of vegetation!" The phil-

sophy of liberty alone consists, in my opinion, in a "free press and a free expression of opinion." God grant that this great desideratum—the freedom of the press—be accomplished.

I am, Sir, yours very devotedly,  
A THINKER.

#### TEETOTALISM AND TRUE REFORM.

Sept. 26, 1850.

SIR,—Most sincerely I wish the prosperity of your paper. I have induced at least twenty of my friends to become subscribers, and believe that energy on the part of your readers in making the *Leader* known would at once secure its success. In the Open Council of last week is a letter on "True Reform," signed Rawenin, upon which, with your permission, I would make a few observations. With your correspondent, in reference to the evils of intemperance, I fully agree. I have abstained from those drinks the greatest portion of my life, and have urged, to the best of my ability, a similar practice upon others. I have mixed amongst the working classes in England and Wales, in manufacturing and agricultural districts; I have made myself acquainted with their condition, and do not believe it is possible to improve them unless they can be freed from the gin-temple and the pot-house. Still teetotalism, with all its advantages, and they are many, cannot do for us all that we need. There are evils it cannot touch, sorrows it cannot remove. Our temperance friends often err in supposing drunkenness to be entirely a cause and not an effect. We are continually told what intemperance leads to, but are not referred to what leads to intemperance. I would urge upon temperance people the importance of making themselves acquainted with the causes that lead to intemperance, and strive to remove these. The New Testament mentions one evil that lies at the root of most of our social and political wrongs. It says, "The love of money is the root of all evil;" and until this is overcome no society, no matter how benevolent its object, or how zealous its advocates, can secure for us lasting good.

This same evil contributes much to our intemperance. Were it not for an ungovernable love of money, no man would be base enough to earn a subsistence by selling the filthy drugs of the gin-temple and pot-house, or to grow fat by feeding upon the moral filth and degradation of his species. It is the love of money that causes us to neglect providing suitable amusements for an over-worked people, leaving them no choice but the skittle-alley and the dog-fight. And the same passion occasions all the horrors of the "sweating system" and a thousand other evils similar in character that so emaciate the bodies and sink the spirits of toiling men and women, that they rush to the ginshop to purchase even with their lives a momentary forgetfulness of their sorrows. I earnestly join in the entreaty of your correspondent that you should sometimes help us in the *Leader* in our temperance reformation; but at the same time would warn my temperance friends against the fallacy of supposing that teetotalism will do for us all that is required. Goodness, and not possession of wealth, must be the mark of distinction amongst us. It must not be the interest of one man to get as much as he can out of, but to do as much as he can for, his brother. Mutual help and not selfishness must unite us together. I wish you most sincerely every success in your noble efforts to bring about a better state of things than now exists, and remain yours truly,  
ALICK.

#### A REFORMATION.

"The truth is, Christian nations want a genuine reformation, one worthy of the name. They need to have their zeal directed, not so much to the spreading of the Gospel abroad as to the application of its plain precepts to their daily business, to the education of their children, to the treatment of their domestics and dependents, and to their social and religious intercourse. They need to understand, that a man's piety is to be estimated, not so much by his professions or direct religious exercises as by a conscientious surrender of his will, passions, worldly interests, and prejudices, to the acknowledged duties of Christianity, and especially by a philanthropy resembling in its great features of mildness, activity, and endurance, that of Jesus Christ. They need to give up their severe inquisition into their neighbour's opinions, and to begin in earnest to seek for themselves, and to communicate to others, a nobler standard of temper and practice than they have yet derived from the Scriptures. In a word, they need to learn the real value and design of Christianity, by the only thorough and effectual process; that is, drinking deeply into its spirit of love to God and man."—W. E. CHANNING.

Sept. 9, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have given my best attention to two letters in the last Saturday's *Leader* upon a pure Reformation, and I cordially unite in the opinions they propound, which I have joyfully incorporated in the proposed code, and I beg again to submit it to the scrutiny of your readers. I earnestly invite suggestions of correction or addition, and I fervently assert that I shall be happy to associate myself with any one in an endeavour to have those elevating equitable principles universally published, maintained, and defended as truth. I have much pleasure to subscribe

myself an Unitarian believer of the Priestleyan school, and your constant reader,  
ANTICHRIST.

The First Epistle General of John ii. 18:—"Little children, it is the termination of the era: and as ye have heard that Antichrist shall come, even now there are many Antichrists, whereby we know that it is the termination of the era."\*

#### A PURE REFORMATION.

Religion is a practice of the following personal, or individual duties:—

Prayer, being the worship of One True God.  
Innocence, being an abstinence from vice.  
Self-examination, being a condemnation or approval by conscience.  
Repentance, being the remission of sins.  
Atonement, being an expiation of offences.

Morality is a performance of the following social or relative duties:—

To generate, rear, and establish a family.  
To promote virtue and to prevent vice.  
To amend, improve, and reform the laws.  
To eradicate slavery and to foster equality.  
To prevent, arrest, or suppress all warfare, and to uphold coöperation.

Faith is a belief in one omniscient, omnipotent, and omnipresent Being—the Creator, Saviour, and Everlasting Benefactor of mankind—and, consequently, the only proper object of human worship.

Hope is a longing for the second advent of the Son of Man, with great power, honour, and glory, to reign over all mankind, and to decree such rewards or punishments as their actions merit.

N.B. I shall be delighted to reply to any definite questions upon the above, and I will endeavour to answer them by short lucid explanations.

Sept. 18, 1850.

P.S. In reply to the letter of a Constant Reader, inserted in last week's newspaper, I beg to submit the following answers, preceded by the proffered questions:—

Question: What are the reasons for subscribing myself Antichrist?

Answer: Because I deny that the Creator is a Father, and I likewise deny that the Son of Man is the Son of God. And we read, "He is Antichrist that denieth the Father and the Son." (The First Epistle General of John ii. 22.)

Q. What is an Era?

A. An Era is a succession of years commenced by a particular event which indicates the name. Thus we have the Mundane Era, commencing with the creation of the world. The Christian Era, commencing with the birth of Christ. And the Mahomedan Era, commencing with the flight of Mahomet.

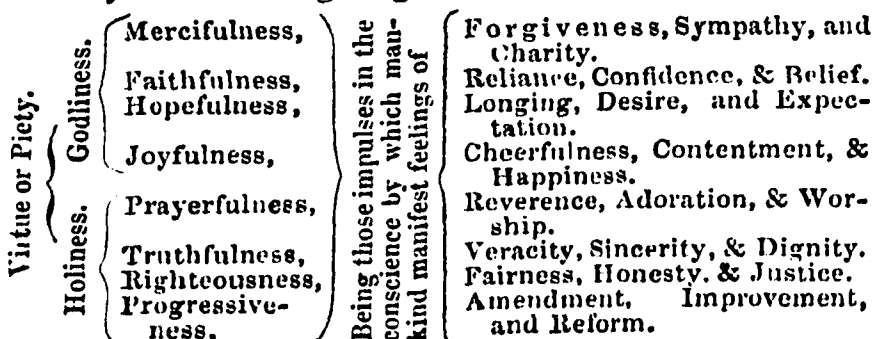
Q. What is Prayer?

A. Prayer is the vocal utterance, legible writing, or inward conception of distinct ideas of gratitude, confession, and petition addressed to the Creator, either during congregational ceremony, or in family worship, or as habitual devotion, and yields the most efficacious discipline for perfecting mankind. My opinion of distinct ideas may be inferred from the following example:—

"Almighty Lord God! I adore Thee as my great Creator, I worship Thee as One Omniscient, Omnipotent, and Omnipresent Deity, I offer Thee my grateful thanks for every daily blessing, I endeavour at all times to merit the approval of my conscience, I condemn myself for all my past offences, I devote my life to Thy service, I resign myself to Thy watchful providence, I supplicate power to bear with fortitude my afflictions, I desire to act more wisely in the future, and I hope for whatever Thou deemest right. Amen."

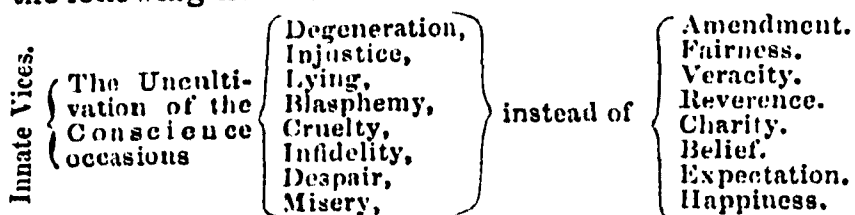
Q. What is Virtue?

A. Virtue is the result of perfect conscience, and might be realized by a proper cultivation of the natural feelings of mankind. The capacity of conscience will be seen by the following diagram:—



Q. What is Vice?

A. Vice is of three kinds, viz: Innate, Devilish, and Beastly. Every kind of vice may be found under one of the following heads:—



\* The alterations from "last time," to "termination of the era," have been made to give in the text the apparent meaning of the writer more clearly to the reader.



Devilish Vices.  
Selfishness.  
Vanity.  
Deceit.  
Suspicion.  
Gluttony.  
Covetousness.  
Malice.

Beastly Vices.  
Intoxication.  
Mammon-service.  
Hero-worship.  
Uncleanliness.  
Lust.  
Prejudice.  
Idleness.

Q. What is sin?

A. Sin is the character of any action, word, or thought that occasions the condemnation of conscience.

Q. What is the opinion of Antichrist on the Bible?

A. The opinion of Antichrist is, that "Bible" is a word which signifies "The Book," and is a name used to denote the volume which contains the revelations of prophets to mankind. The Bible is divided into three parts, viz.:—The Testament of the Prophet Moses, the Gospel of the Prophet Jesus, and The Koran of the Prophet Mahomet.

The Testament possesses three distinct characters, viz., History of the Past, Evidence of the Present, and Prophecy of the Future.

In the History of the Past, we read of a (1) nation called (2) Jews, the (3) children of (3) Israel, and the (4) chosen people of God, who are instructed in the worship of (5) One True God.

In the Evidence of the Present, we read of the Jews being (8) scattered in all the kingdoms of the earth, to be a curse, and an astonishment, and a (6) hissing, and a (7) reproach, among all the nations whither they are driven, which is to continue until the (9) redemption of (9) Jerusalem, and the coming of (10) Shiloh, unto whom the (11) gathering of the people shall be.

In the Prophecy of the Future, we read predictions of the coming of two distinguished beings—the first in (13) humble circumstances, resembling the (12) Son of Man; and the second with great (15) power, (14) honour, and (15) glory, as a (16) Prince called the (17) Messiah.

The Gospel also possesses three distinct characters, viz., History of the Past, Evidence of the Present, and Prophecy of the Future.

In the History of the Past, we read of the rise and progress of Christianity, with the (18) genealogy, (19) birth, (20) life, (21) teaching, (22) crucifixion, (23) resurrection, and (24) ascension of the founder, who upholds the (26) worship of (25) One True God.

In the Evidence of the Present, we read of many (27) remarkable events connected with the dissolution of Christianity, which are to be followed by a rising and spreading of the opinions of (28) Antichrist, and at last succeeded by the (29) Son of Man receiving unto himself his full power and (30) reigning over the whole world.

In the Prophecy of the Future we read predictions of the reappearance of the (29) Son of Man with great (15) power, (14) honour, and (15) glory, accompanied by his holy (31) angels, who will gather together his (31) elect from every quarter of the globe to live and (32) reign with him for a (32) thousand years, not, however, until the times of the (33) Gentiles be fulfilled.

In reference to the moral principles, their apparent impracticability is not a satisfactory argument for disregarding, but it is an excellent reason for the attempt to be made to elucidate them. ANTICHRIST.

#### A PROPOSED PRIZE ESSAY.

September 19, 1850.

DEAR SIR,—We have recently had published to the world a series of writings named "Last-day Pamphlets," which have not failed to produce considerable effect upon many of the numerous readers in whose path they have appeared, both on account of the captivating style of their composition and the very prophetic title which has introduced them into circulation. My curiosity has been excited by them, and they have occasioned me anxiously to expect a "Last-day Pamphlet," which might possibly be followed by Tracts for the Millennium, or, perhaps, some great work upon the approaching inevitable and eternal Future. Hoping to be a humble instrument in aiding the progress of human happiness, and desirous to be instructed of coming events, which we are told cast their shadows before, induces me to trespass upon your notice, and request you to advertise for Essays in elucidation of verse\* 18 in the 2nd chapter of the first general Epistle of John, and to award a prize to the author of the Essay selected by competent judges as most deserving of public attention; the successful Essay could be published in connection with your newspaper, and be very appropriately called the "Last-day Pamphlet," especially if published upon the 31st of December, 1850, that being the last day of this eventful half century. Enclosed is my contribution toward a fund for the proposed prize. I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

A CONSTANT READER.

- |  |   |                      |
|--|---|----------------------|
| (1) Exod. xix. 6.  | (2) Jer. lili. 28.  | (3) Exod. i. 7.      |
| (4) Deut. vii. 6.  | (5) Deut. vi. 4; Zec. xiv. 9.                                   |                      |
| (6) Jer. xxv. 18.  | (7) Jer. xxix. 18.  | (8) Jer. xxx. 11.    |
| (9) Luke ii. 38; xxi. 28; Isa. xl. 2; lili. 9, 10; Joel iii. 17, 20; Zec. viii. 7, 8; xiv. 16; Mal. iii. 4.                              | (10) Gen. xlix. 10.   |                      |
| (11) Deut. xxx. 3.   | (12) Dan. vii. 13, 14.  |                      |
| (13) Isa. liii. 2—12; xlii. 1, 6; Dan. ix. 25.   | (14) Matt. xxv. 3, 14, 14.                                      | (15) Mark xlii. 26.  |
| (16) Dan. ix. 25; Matt. xvi. 27.   | (17) Luke vii. 19; Zec. xii. 9, 10; Mal. iv. 2, 3.              |                      |
| (18) Matt. i. 1—16; Luke iii. 23—38.   | (19) Luke ii. 6.  |                      |
| (20) John v. 26; iv. 31.   | (21) John iii. 2.   |                      |
| (22) Matt. xxvii. 35; Mark xv. 21; Luke xxiii. 33; John xix. 18.   | (23) Matt. xxviii. 9; Mark xvi. 14; Luke xxiv. 36; John xx. 26. |                      |
| (24) Mark xvi. 19; Luke xxiv. 51.  |   |                      |
| (25) Mark xii. 29, 30; John iv. 23.  | (26) Matt. vi. 6, 9.  |                      |
| (27) 2 Peter iii. 3; Matt. xxiv. 6, 7, 10, 11, 24, 29; Mark xlii. 13; Luke xxi. 11, 25, 26; Acts ii. 17—21; 2 Tim. iii. 1—5; Jude i. 18. | (28) 1 John ii. 18, 19.   | (29) Matt. xxiv. 30. |
| (30) Rev. xi. 15.  | (31) Mark xlii. 27.   | (32) Rev. xx. 4.     |
| (33) Luke xxi. 24.   |   |                      |

\* This verse was very strangely quoted in the Leader, Aug. 31, in connection with what is called "A Pure Reformation."

## Literature.

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

ENGLISHMEN have reason to feel a pride in their Press. It is not only the great organ of public opinion on public matters; but every private grievance, in anyway likely to affect the public, gets a voice, and angry travellers, or repentant dupes, "write to the Times," as to the great arbiter and avenger of private wrong. The amount of good which results is incalculable. Every abuse is brought to light; and if, unhappily, it is not enough to remove an abuse to expose it, yet one may confidently say that were it not for the exposure it never would be removed. Among the many excellent papers which have appeared in the Household Words, there is one this week bearing the unmistakable signature of the editor in every sentence, which unveils an abuse so ancient and so monstrous, that we cannot think the exposure will be unavailing: public attention thus called to the matter some steps must be taken towards rectifying it. The subject is that of the shameless neglect of Wills by the Cathedral Registrars, who enjoy princely incomes for conserving them, and whose pecuniary interest it is not to do their duty. The paper graphically describes the visit of a gentleman to one of these Registrars, with the hope of inspecting a will; and among the rubbish of a limebasket he finds, in the very place where it should have been preserved with religious care, no less a document than the Charter of William the Conqueror—the identical instrument by which the See of Dorchester was transferred to Lincoln; and appended to it was the counterpart of the only seal extant of the Great Conqueror! Yet this was thought of "no consequence," and left to rot in a limebasket. Other discoveries of a like nature were made, and the writer sums up his *exposé* by saying, "Thus are documents involving the personal property of seven English counties allowed to crumble to destruction; thus is ruin brought on families by needless litigation; thus do Registrars roll in carriages and Proctors grow rich; thus are the historical records of the great English nation doomed by an officer, whom the nation pays the income of a prince to be their conservator, to rottenness, mildew, and dust." More revelations are promised; we await them with anxiety. The nation pays twelve hundred a-year in pensions to its benefactors in Literature, Science, and Art, and it pays seven thousand a-year to one of its officers for the trouble of—allowing its records to rot! Who can wonder that Tories hate the notion of meddling with "time-honoured institutions?"

LENAU is dead! The first of the Young Germany Poets, the author of so many beautiful lyrics, of that powerful narrative poem *Savonarola*, in which the death of LORENZO DE MEDICI and the Plague in Florence are painted by a master-hand,—and finally of *Faust*, which Young Germany has often compared with the *Faust* of GOETHE—NIKOLAUS LENAU (or, to call him by his real name, NIEMBSCH EDLER VON STREHLENAU) died recently in a Madhouse at Vienna, where he had been kept since November, 1844. He was only forty-eight years of age, having seen the light on the 13th of August, 1802, in Csabad, in Hungary. It is a loss thousands in Germany will deplore; and not a few English admirers will receive the intelligence with the sadness of regret.

German literature no longer presents the aspect it has worn for so many years, and that by which one invariably thinks of it. By German literature we are accustomed to mean an incessant issue of solid laborious works, bulky in form and unwieldy in style, the labours of patience and academic training. History, philosophy, art, science, archaeology, classical researches, were all cultivated with a fervour and fecundity unknown to other nations. No subject was too remote for their interest; nothing too comprehensive for their treatment. They were the miners of literature, digging in the dark and unexplored regions of the earth, and shovelling up dross as liberally as ore, but unwearied in their digging. This ore was then carried to France. French clearness, sharpness, and love of symmetry soon separated the ore, stamped it, and gave it European currency. England also stamped it, after her fashion, and put it to immediate use. So avowedly was Germany the land where ore was first to be obtained, that no scholar or historian

thought himself properly fitted for his task until he had ascertained all that had been done for him by the beer-drinking doctors on the other side of the Rhine. The revolution of 1848 has changed all this. During the first few months of excitement the cry was for pamphlets, journals, and placards; accordingly placards, journals, and pamphlets were produced with rabbit-like fertility. The reading public had changed. It was no longer a public of professors and students, it was the nation to whom men addressed themselves. Be brief! that was the stern cry of necessity. A terrible cry to a German author; none more so. How should he be brief, accustomed to make books of prefaces, and encyclopædias of books? But the Sovereign People had no time for treatises; and brevity was the one thing indispensable. It is an incredible fact, but a demonstrable one, that the Germans were brief! *O paupertas artium reperit!*

The year 1848 passes, and the German begins to breathe again in a more expansive manner. The single sheet of 1848 becomes rarer, the pamphlet in more deliberate prolixity swells into a volume; but the genuine book of the old school is still a rarity. The publications want the ancient solidity. They are mostly reminiscences, collections of songs, or desultory essays. Our German GEORGE SAND, the bold LOUISE ASTON, has issued her *Freischärler Reminiscenzen*, a collection of twelve Radicals poems; one of which, "Das lied einer Schlesischen Weberinn," has a certain poetic vigour in it. If you are curious you will read the strange tract called *Denkschrift eines Apostaten an die Cabinette von Wien und Rom, betreffend die Errichtung eines geheimen militärischen Ordens*. The author gravely proposes to raise a standing army of 200,000 men, the object of which will be the perfect restoration of the power of Rome—a military Jesuitism, in fact. The order is to be secret; and, to infuse a proper spirit into the ranks, the books most recommended are *Les Paroles d'un Croyant*—the Books of Ruth, Tobias, and Esther—the Biographies of Plutarch, the Iliad, the Cyropædia, and the Nibelungen Lied. As a specimen of the imbecility of the retrograde party it is amusing. The title of WELLER's treatise, *Die Freiheitsbestrebungen der Deutschen im 18 und 19 Jahrhundert dargestellt in Zeugnissen ihrer Literatur*, promises more than the work fulfils: it is a mere patchwork of quotations from MÖSER, LESSING, FICHTE, CLAUDIUS, &c. To judge from recent publications one may say that Germany will not be saved just now by her writers.

The Weimar Festival, in commemoration of HERDER and GOETHE, seems to have gone off with brilliant effect. For five days the gaiety continued; the last day was the people's holiday, and the *Daily News* says of it:—

"It was one of those joyous meetings which agree so well with the poetical traditions of old Thuringia. The peasants arrived from all parts in their holiday dress, and peopled the streets of Weimar with an unaccustomed crowd, coming to admire Herder's statue. The Society of Jagers gave a grand entertainment in an enclosure belonging to them. The sight was for all the world like a Flemish fair. A great number of booths, constructed of a kind of trelliswork, surrounded the green close. Equestrian performers and the famous puppen-spieler plied their arts, and a learned elephant awakened curiosity and created mirth. The majority of the crowd, however, devoted themselves to a large consumption of beer, sausages, and pastry. The dress of the German girls, with their short jupes, long tresses, and bare arms, imparted an air of liveliness to the scene."

The colossal statue of Herder, erected in the square of the Cathedral, was inaugurated; and in the evening his dramatic poem, *Prometheus Delivered*, was performed, with music by Liszt. Altogether, it seems to have been a joyous festival. Why do we not encourage such commemorations of our great men?

#### THE VARIETIES OF MAN.

The Natural History of the Varieties of Man. By Robert Gordon Latham, M.D., F.R.S., &c. Van Voorst.

THERE is not a notion of more consequence to the student of history than that which conceives the human race as—though really one, homogeneous in its essential character, and borne along by a common destiny—yet made up of a number of distinct masses or aggregates, presenting subordinate differences of type, capability, and function. Whoever has mastered this notion, and can illustrate it to himself by enumerating the chief groups or sections among which the habitable surface of our globe is divided, possesses a generality of almost incalculable power in affecting his views of the past history of our species, and of its future prospects. It is only of late that there have been books in our language cal-



culated to facilitate the acquisition of this important kind of knowledge. Compared with the work before us, all previous books on the subject, not excluding that of Dr. Prichard, will, we believe, be now found obsolete and imperfect. Dr. Latham's work is decidedly the best ethnographical treatise that we have seen. It is a complete and elaborate descriptive analysis of the entire population of our planet. The amount of learning required for its preparation must have been prodigious; and yet it is clear, precise, and beautifully compendious—not overloading the student with details, but containing exactly those general and significant facts relative to the various tribes of the world which suffice to distinguish and individualize them. It abounds also with excellent speculative hints—bringing the reader up to the present level of ethnological science, and giving him more insight into the *questiones vexatæ* of the affiliation of races and the derivation of languages than it would be easy to obtain in any other single volume. Altogether it is a work for which hundreds will be thankful.

There are some important features of novelty in the book as compared with other books on the same subject. Perhaps the classification of the varieties of man hitherto most in vogue, at least among those that have not cared to be too particular as to *minutiae*—has been that adopted, amongst others, by Schlosser in his general history. According to this classification (on which Prichard improved) the human race consists of three great masses or aggregates, physiologically and philologically distinguishable—the NEGROES, the MONGOLIANS, and the CAUCASIANS: the Negroes tenanted Africa, and little distinguished in history; the Mongolians overspreading Eastern Asia, the Pacific Islands, and America, and distinguished in history chiefly as conquerors and producers of material changes over the globe; and the Caucasians, more important and gifted than either, charged with the whole of the higher functions of the race, and overspreading primarily Western Asia and Europe. Of these three fundamental stocks or varieties of mankind, the Caucasian stood most in need of subdivision. It was accordingly distributed into two great families—the *Semitic* family, consisting of men having an Arabic or Jewish cast of physiognomy, and speaking languages like the Arabic, and occupying the lands of Western Asia, lying between the Mediterranean and the Tigris; and the *Indo-European* family, occupying Europe and nearly all the non-semitic parts of Western Asia, including Hindostan and Persia, and speaking languages derived from or akin to the Sanskrit. This second family, being large and various, was again subdivided into groups or races, as follows:—1. The Armenian race, whose seat is near the Caspian. 2. The Scythian race, stretching from the Mongolian confines in Asia westward into the East of Europe; and divided into the Turks, Tatars, or Asiatic Scythians, and the Slavonians, Sarmatians, or European Scythians. 3. The Pelasgic race (the great parent race of the Greeks and Romans), at one time overspreading Asia Minor and South-Eastern Europe. And 4. The Indo-Germanic race proper, stretching in Asia from the Caspian to the Bay of Bengal, and the parent of those two distinguished European races—the Celts and the Germans.

Dr. Latham's classification in many points runs athwart this, and is doubtless entitled in some respects to supersede it.

Like other ethnographers, he founds his classification chiefly on three things—the diversity of physical conformation, the diversity of languages, and the diversity of social forms and civilization, among the inhabitants of the globe. As might be expected from so distinguished a philologist, he lays much stress on the consideration of language; and the following is his lucid, and, we think, novel arrangement for ethnographic purposes of the different kinds of languages spoken by men. 1. *Aptotic* languages (from *a*, not, and *ptosis*, a case), that is, languages of the Chinese type, which do not express the relations of actions and objects by inflexions, but by separate words: thus a Chinaman, if he meant to say "Peter's book," would say, "Book, possessor Peter." 2. *Agglutinate* languages; that is, languages which do inflect, but in which the inflexions on the whole retain the appearance of independent words stuck on to the inflected word. 3. *Amalgamate* languages, that is, languages in which the inflexional additions are so thoroughly incorporated with the inflected words as to have lost all obvious appearance of having

been once separated. 4. *Anaptotic* languages (from *ana*, back, and *ptosis*, a case), or languages of the English type, that is, languages which are non-inflexional, not because, like the Chinese, they have never developed inflexions, but because they have abandoned inflexions once possessed. This order would seem also to be the order of dignity.

Applying these considerations, together with those of physical conformation and degree of social culture, Dr. Latham falls on the following classification of mankind:—

**I. MONGOLIDÆ.**—Face broad and flat from either the development of the zygomatic, or that of the parietal bones; often from the depression of the nasal bones. Frontal profile retiring, or depressed, rarely approaching the perpendicular. Maxillary profile, moderately prognathic or projecting, rarely orthognathic (upright). Eyes often oblique. Skin rarely a true white; rarely a jet black. Irides generally dark. Hair straight, and lank, and black; rarely light-coloured; sometimes curly, rarely woolly.

*Languages.*—Aptotic and agglutinate; rarely with a truly amalgamate inflexion.

*Distribution.*—Asia, Polynesia, America.

*Influence upon the history of the world.*—Material rather than moral.

**II. ATLANTIDÆ.**—Maxillary profile projecting, nasal generally flat, frontal retiring, cranium dolichokephalic (long-headed), the parietal diameter being generally narrow. Eyes rarely oblique. Skin often jet-black, very rarely approaching a pure white. Hair crisp, woolly, rarely straight, still more rarely light-coloured.

*Languages.*—With an agglutinate, rarely an amalgamate inflexion.

*Distribution.*—Africa.

*Influence upon the history of the world.*—Inconsiderable.

**III. IAPETIDÆ.**—Maxillary profile but little projecting, nasal often prominent, frontal sometimes nearly vertical. Face rarely very flat, moderately broad. Skull generally dolichokephalic (long-headed). Eyes rarely oblique. Skin white or brunette. Hair never woolly, often light-coloured. Irides black, blue, grey.

*Languages.*—With amalgamate inflexions, or else anaptotic; rarely agglutinate, never aptotic.

*Distribution.*—Europe.

*Influence upon the history of the world.*—Greater than that of either the Mongolidæ or the Atlantidæ. Moral as well as material.

In this division it will be seen there are considerable differences from that now in vogue. One of the terms is the same in both, but the other two differ. For *Negroes* Dr. Latham substitutes *The Atlantidæ*—a term which has the advantage of being more general and less vitiated for ethnographical purposes by concrete associations. Then, again, for *Caucasians* (a most unfortunate word, as Dr. Latham thinks, inasmuch as it perpetuates what he considers a positive blunder, occasioned by a single observation of Blumenbach on a Georgian skull—viz., the notion that the Circassian, Georgian, and other Caucasian tribes exhibit a resemblance to the highest types of European humanity, whereas he considers them truly Mongolian) he substitutes the term *Iapetidæ*, which has also the advantage of nonconcreteness.

Having made this fundamental classification Dr. Latham occupies the remainder of his book with special accounts of all the populations and tribes included under each head.

**I. THE MONGOLIDÆ.**—These he distributes into seven sections:—1. The Altaic Mongolidæ, divided into the *Seriform* stock, including the Chinese, the Thibetans, the Siamese, the Burmese, &c.; and the *Turanian* stock, including the Mongolians proper, the Tungusians, the Turks, and the Ugrians (from which last come the Hungarians). 2. The Dioscurian Mongolidæ, including the Georgians, the Circassians, &c. 3. The Oceanic Mongolidæ, including the Malays and other inhabitants of all the Eastern Asiatic, Polynesian, and Australian islands. 4. The Hyperborean Mongolidæ, including the Samœids, Yeniseians, and other Arctic nations. 5. The Peninsular Mongolidæ, including the Koreans, the Japanese, &c. 6. The American Mongolidæ, including, with a slight exception or two, all the native American tribes and peoples. And 7. The Indian Mongolidæ, including the Mongolian inhabitants of India.

**II. THE ATLANTIDÆ.**—These he also divides into seven sections:—1. The Negro Atlantidæ. 2. The Kaffre Atlantidæ. 3. The Hottentot Atlantidæ. 4. The Nilotic Atlantidæ: i.e., Nubians, Gallas, &c. 5. The Amazirgh Atlantidæ, including the so-called modern Berber tribes of Northern Africa, and all the ancient Libyans. 6. The Egyptian Atlantidæ, or native Copts or Egyptians. And 7. The Semitic Atlantidæ, including all the so-called Semitic nations—the Syrians, Arabs, Jews, Phœnicians, &c.

**III. THE IAPETIDÆ.**—These he divides into—1. The Occidental Iapetidæ, including all the so-called Celtic nations, the Gauls, Ligurians, Picts, Irish,

Cimbrians, &c. And 2. The Indo-Germanic Iapetidæ, divided into the *European Indo-Germans*, including the Gothic or German nations proper, the Sarmatians, or Slavonians, and the original Mediterranean nations; and the *Iranian Indo-Germans*, including the inhabitants of Persia, Afghanistan, Beloochistan, and Northern India.

Such is a sketch of Dr. Latham's scheme of Ethnography: for the elaborate and really rich and interesting filling up we must refer to the book itself. By way of criticism we will offer but two remarks.

In the first place, it seems to us that a disproportionate length of space has been assigned to the description of the Mongolidæ. The whole volume contains 568 pages of text; and of these no fewer than 450 are devoted to the Mongolidæ. It does not appear to us that this overplus of ethnographic consideration for that portion of the human species was warranted by the necessities of the case; and we think we can see that unfortunate haste has been thereby occasioned in the appended accounts of the Atlantidæ and the Iapetidæ; at any rate, of the latter.

Again, whether it is owing to our prepossessions in favour of the old scheme or not, there are some points in Dr. Latham's arrangement that at least stagger us. His constitution of those so-called prototypes of high Caucasian humanity, the Georgians and Circassians, into a division of the Mongolidæ, we rather like; nor should we feel any decided repugnance to his transference of the Turks and Hungarians from the Iapetidæ, or so-called Caucasian family, where many authorities have placed them, to the Mongolidæ; but we do feel somewhat averse to the association of the splendid Semitic nations and the ancient Egyptians and Libyans under one family with the Hottentots and Negroes. We are aware there may be deep scientific grounds for this; but we feel as if no strength of mere linguistic or other such reason whatever, could justify such an outrage on common sentiment (and the sentiments of different portions of mankind with regard to each other is as valid a ground on ethnographic classification as any) as is inflicted by tethering together with whatever length of string two such diverse creatures as a Jew or Assyrian and a Hottentot. Does not Dr. Latham himself set down the Atlantidæ in his fundamental synopsis as having been in respect of historic influence *inconsiderable*? How, then, does he reconcile this with the fact that under this head he includes the ancient Egyptians and Libyans, and the Semitic nations—whose historic influence, as he himself admits, has been enormous? It seems to us that either these splendid nations should be associated with the Iapetidæ as in the old scheme, or that care should be taken to give to the Atlantidæ, as a whole, such a high preliminary reputation as will overbear the fact that to this family belong the barbarians of Africa. Of course here we talk scientifically: morally, and as concerns action, ethnographical considerations of difference are often mere impeding rubbish, and in a supra-ethnographic view, Atlantids, Mongolids, and Iapetids, are all one firm.

Appended to Dr. Latham's book are some "General and Special Apophthegms" of great interest. In one of these the writer states that the balance of inconveniences in his mind regarding the question of the unity of the species, is in favour of the idea of universal descent from one pair.

#### WORKS OF H. DE BALZAC.

*La Comédie Humaine.* Œuvres complètes de M. Honoré de Balzac.

IN the sixteen volumes which form the completest edition of his works hitherto published by Balzac, under the bold yet appropriate title of the *Comedy of Life*, the philosophic reader will find ample material for reflection, the mere novel reader will find excitement. Balzac has now passed from criticism; but his works remain rich in instruction of various kinds; and to writers they are almost as useful in the lessons they contain on faults to be avoided, as in the models they offer for successes to be achieved. Balzac has, perhaps, every fault that can mar a fine writer: affectation of style, impurity of moral feeling, exaggeration in the portrayal of character, a tendency towards the prosaically fantastic, prolixity, overcrowding of details, and, worst of all, tediousness! Yet, although it is very easy to criticize his works and lay bare faults, such as those just named, such is the genuine power of the man, such his laborious conscientiousness, such his exquisite perception, both of scene and character, and such his real artistic power, that no one story of *La Comédie*



*Humaine* can be read without admiration, and some of them are chefs-d'œuvre. Throughout literature we know of no writer, the magnitude of whose faults are allied to such splendid qualities. His immense ambition was to become the Historian of Society, to make every aspect of modern life and character, however varied, pass before his pencil that he might copy it. To embrace the whole nineteenth century, its heroisms, its vices, its silent sufferings, its loud and ostentatious enjoyments, its crimes, its frivolities, its ambitions and intrigues, and to make them live in a world re-created by him for this special purpose: this was his dream, his daily work! The perseverant labour with which he worked at it is known to very few. He studied almost every science and every profession that he might be able to depict it. The arid labours of the law were not too repulsive; the painful scenes visited by the physician and the priest were as eagerly sought by him as the gayest supper party, for they helped him to fill out the details of his great picture. Nay, such was his intense realism and genuine artistic feeling that he actually invented a whole noblesse, provincial and metropolitan, and this noblesse has not only its accurate genealogy, but even its heraldry; little does the ordinary reader suspect that those high-sounding names and splendid blazonries which he meets in almost every chapter of Balzac are all creations, not the names and arms taken at hazard, but each having its true relation to the rest, and being as true, in fact, as the real nobility of which it is the representation. Trivial as this detail may seem, it is not so when taken as an illustration of the writer's method. It is from genuine love and unsparing labour that great works proceed; and the artist who shows a solicitude about the verisimilitude of his work shows the right feeling. To speak only of Balzac, who will deny the singular charm which his works have in their air of reality? Somehow, all the fantastic and exaggerated pages are unable to shake your perfect belief in the truth of his pictures. He believes in them himself, and makes you share his belief. Here we touch upon a curious trait. Balzac was one of the most credulous authors that ever lived: his imagination had the force of hallucination. He believed in his own creations; he believed in his own prophecies; he believed in his own impossibilities. Writing about an Alchemist, he wrote himself into a belief in Alchemy. He created a world for artistic purposes, and almost inhabited it afterwards. His readers often shared his enthusiasm. At Venice, where he was idolized, a society was formed among his admirers, who assumed the personages of his fictions, and Rastignac, Maxime de Trailles, Vandenesse, Generals Montcornet, Montriveau, &c., no less than the Duchesse de Maufrigneuse, de Langeais, Madame Firmiani, and Madame de Mortsauf, all found actors who brought into real life the fictions of Balzac's *Adorable*!

His love for "*son œuvre*," as he used to call his novels (regarding them as so many stones in one edifice), made him

"Blot and alter many times,  
Till all was ripe and rotten."

In this—as in many other respects—he resembled Bulwer. A work printed is generally an irrevocable act, not to be mended, not to be touched, except in the matter of a few misprints and verbal alterations. Bulwer, like Balzac, always alters a new edition as hesitating authors alter their proofs; so that, after a few editions, the work presents somewhat the appearance of the baronet's stockings, immortalized by Martinus Scriblerus, which, from frequent darning, had lost every vestige of the original wool. Balzac's mode of composition was one which fostered this habit: his method was cumulative, not fluent; he built up the work, he did not fuse it in the white heat of inspiration. Having written what may be called a rough draft, he sent it to the printer's, and from the proof-sheets he rewrote the work—an expensive but an excellent plan, no doubt, if not abused, but it fostered his tendency to patch and patch; and his enormous love of detail forced him into over-elaborating parts which his first draft, impelled by the true artistic instinct of proportion, had left meagre—an instinct which the subsequent elaboration left out of view. This sort of habit grows upon a man, and makes him vacillate till his whole style suffers from the indecision. And in one of Balzac's proofs, instead of a scene there occurred this word—"SURPRISE." The proof was sold by a rascally printer to a Russian

publisher, who produced the work before it appeared in France. Fancy the puzzlement of the fair Russians on coming to that much-meaning word which by Balzac had been written merely as a memento that when he came to that part he was to write a scene of surprise. But we will venture to say that when he *did* come to that scene, he wrote it altogether in a different tone from what it would have been, had he written it at first; and much of the patchy appearance of his works we attribute to his method of composition.

Turning over these volumes of *La Comédie Humaine* (one of the cheapest books, by the way, that can be bought in France, considering the amount of matter and the superior style of getting up) one is struck with the various excellences they contain. Side by side with the peculiar diablerie of the *Peau de Chagrin*, and the Parisian revelations of *Les Secrets de la Princesse de Cadignan*—Gobseck, or *La Femme de Trente Ans*, stands the simple and exquisite story of provincial life, *Le Curé de Tours*, a chef d'œuvre of analysis and Dutch painting. The story is as humble as possible. A simpleminded curé succeeds his defunct friend to the long-envied position of a boarder in the house of an old maid, who keeps a pension, and who has rendered this friend's existence an unvarying round of delight by the way she cottoned life for him. This curé, simple soul! ignorant of the world, especially of that amiable but complex portion of it which poets have eternally hymned and satirists eternally laughed at, namely, woman—the curé, we say, ignorant of the road to the female heart, forgets to pay her those little civilities which in his predecessor were exquisite flatteries, and he incurs her hatred. Now, out of such a subject as that, Balzac has woven a story of attaching interest and of marvellous acuteness. The petty persecutions to which the poor curé is subjected, the gradual involvement of all the gossips of Tours in the warfare, the partizanship displayed, the defeat and death of the curé are painted with exquisite truth and felicity. Provincial life, in all that it has of monotony, smallness, gossip, and petty virulence, is here displayed; while the manner in which the intricate obscurities of egotism are traced by the analyst is truly wonderful. Let us add by way of parenthesis that the *Curé de Tours* is perfectly unobjectionable, and may be read by young ladies. The same may be said of *Pierrette*, *Ursule Mirouet*, *Eugénie Grandet*, *Le Médecin du Campagne*, *Modeste Mignon*, and some few others; but in general they are not the works which careful mothers would place in the hands of their daughters.

#### UNIVERSITY ABUSES.

*Oxford Unmasked: or, an Attempt to describe some of the Abuses in that University.* By a Graduate. To which is added, a new Preface of considerable length. Fifth Edition. Aylott and Jones.

ONCE upon a time some of the good people of Oxford University honoured the *Leader* by an indignant auto-da-fé. But that was in our extreme youth. We have survived the fury of canonical wrath, and the hatred of the vinous frequenters of College Common Rooms. We have lived over that—terrible, as doubtless it would have been, had we felt it. We have not the remotest wish to return the compliment in kind to that conscienceless corporation and endowed monopolist; but we do feel a certain homœopathic pleasure in giving publicity to the pamphlet cited above, which tears off, with no gentle hand, that mask of conventional attraction which so well mystifies the public as to the real character of the institutions it obscures. Our author finds ignorance, despotism, superstition, reckless extravagance, and immorality rioting in this focus of sanctity and privilege. The "Graduate" admirably expresses the tone of Oxford in the following paragraph, which he gives as the defence of the friends of the university:—

"We are bad old stupid colleges, but we have rights and charters. An Englishman's birthright is obstinacy. Let us alone. What have we to do with education? Peel was at Oxford. Let us sleep. Found a new university. Come and live near us; but don't ask awkward questions. A Royal Commission is illegal, i.e., it can be proved to be as much one thing as the other. The law of England is in that state. We are in that state. You cannot tell exactly what the law is. Who can?—Lord Brougham says it is illegal. It is lucky that he was not chancellor of this wicked Ministry, or he might have had a different opinion. You own you cannot compel us. We are so lost in antiquity. Well, then, why encourage our enemies to 'peach' and draw down upon us the indignation of the country and the irresistible

decrees of Parliament? We will reform ourselves, indeed we will, in the course of the next century, or so. Behold already a new statute."

He tells us what, indeed, we knew before, that in Oxford religion and her forms are more scoffed at and derided than in any other place in England; and he recites, as a familiar illustration, the instance of a man who has scarcely ever entered a church during divine service since he left Oxford; "and who gives as a reason that he considers that he 'took it all out' during his four years' residence there."

As to the Sacrament, the author continues:—

"It has been denied in the House of Commons that the sacrament is insisted upon; but we know that, in our time, few would have ventured to absent themselves. A certain College 'Hampden' of our acquaintance did upon one occasion do so, and gave as a voluntary reason, before being sent for, that he did not consider himself in a fit state to take it at that moment. *Cui responsum est*, 'Then, Sir, you are not fit for this College!' He was not sent away, as his time was nearly completed; but was subjected to every annoyance, with a view of causing rebellion. We aver that we have seen the sacrament spit from between the teeth, and heard ribald jokes passed about the cup and the wine in chapel, and that in every way there was a kind of shocking contrast between undisguised blasphemy, founded upon the aversion inspired in youth by a monkish discipline only in part carried out, and a 'saintship' too frequently derived from mean motives and early hypocrisy."

This species of moral coercion is the soul of the "Oxford system."

We recommend *Oxford Unmasked* to the Royal Commissioners.

## The Arts.

### THE DRAMA.

*The Princess's Theatre* opens on Saturday under the management of the Keans and the Keeleys, a combination which ought to work well. The company is as good as could easily have been assembled in the present state of dramatic affairs, and is especially strong in comedy, numbering Harley, Meadows, Alfred Wigan, and the two Keeleys, among its attractions. Tragedy seems to rest upon the Keans. We wish the undertaking every success, and in that spirit beg to offer a suggestion or two. The first is, that the management do all in their power to secure the comfort of the audience by ventilation, ample sitting room, and moderate hours. Let the theatre be a recreation, unaccompanied by physical discomfort, and people will get into the habit of going there. Secondly, let the management beware of the two traps into which their predecessors have fallen in relying upon "revivals" of plays that are no longer interesting, and in relying upon splendid *mise en scène* as a profitable mode of spending money. A certain amount of care and magnificence in the getting up has become necessary, for the public eye has been so pampered with spectacle that it craves the luxury, but theatrical experience demonstrates that, unless the spectacle be unusually magnificent, it fails to return the outlay, and even a success in that line only raises the standard of expectation, and so becomes ruinous in the end. The example of *La Juive* at Covent Garden is instructive. And although a piece like the *Island of Jewels* brought a considerable sum into the treasury, what, commercially, was its value compared with *The Wife's Secret*, let us say? A manager had better give a thousand pounds for an effective new play, than spend five hundred upon a spectacle. This is not the literary, but the commercial, view we are taking, because it is idle to address the capitalist on any other ground. Effective plays may be difficult to get—they are so; but managers usually prefer risking their money in any way except the legitimate dramatic way. It is known, for example, that Leigh Hunt has three unacted plays by him. In France or Germany such a thing, with a writer of his acknowledged genius, would be impossible. If what we hear be true, the new management is desirous of encouraging dramatic authors, by bringing them more liberally before the public. Already one new play is in preparation—*The Templar*, by Mr. Slous—formerly noticed in our columns, and since its publication altered for representation. Mr. Lovel is also said to have a new work ready; and, probably, Mr. Marston will not be long before following up the success of *Strathmore*. Let us, while noticing the plain straightforward Bill which the management puts forth, and commending the good taste with which all preliminary puffs and promises are kept back—a simplicity which looks like strength—at the same time gently hint that the three notes of admiration which follow the announcement of a Ballet Divertissement are singularly misplaced, and smack of a lower grade than the Princess's. There is nothing startling in the fact of a Divertissement, and this triple wonderment has the air of a paradox. Next week we shall speak of the performances.



## Portfolio.

We should do our utmost to encourage the Beautiful, for the Useful encourages itself.—  
GOETHE.

### ICHABOD.

Seven summers have set, and earth is once more sweetly flooded  
 With fragrance, for the virgin leaves and violet banks have budded;  
 Heaven claspeth Earth as round the heart first broodeth Love's sweet glow,  
 A blush of flowers is mantling where the silken grasses grow;  
 All things feel summering sunward, golden tides flood down the air,  
 Which burns as angel-visitants had left a glory there:  
 But darkness on my aching spirit shrouds the merry shine,  
 I long to feel a gush of Spring in this poor heart of mine!

Morn opes heaven's starry portal, back the golden gates are drawn,  
 And all the fields of glory blossom with the rose of dawn;  
 But never comes thy clasping hand, nor carol from thy lips,  
 That made my heart sing like a god just bursting Death's eclipse!  
 Sweet voice! it came like saintly music quiring angels make,  
 When Pain sat heavy on my brow, and heart was like to break;  
 Methought such love gave wings to climb some starry throne to win,  
 Thou didst so lift my life's horizon, letting heaven in.

I'm thinking, darling, of the days when life was all divine,  
 And love was aye the silver chord that bound my heart to thine;  
 When, like two dewdrops, in a kiss our twin souls wed in one,  
 And life bloomed at thy coming as this green earth greets the sun!  
 Ah! still I feel ye at my heart, and, 'mid the stir and strife,  
 Ye sometimes lead my feet to walk the angel-side of life!  
 The magic music yearns within, as unto thee I turn,  
 And those brave eyes, a blaze with soul, thro' all my being burn!

Come back! come back! I long to clasp thee in these arms, mine own,  
 Lavish my heart upon thy lips, and make my love the crown  
 And arc of triumph to thy life. Why tarry? Time hath cast  
 Strange shadows on my spirit since we met and mingled last!  
 Yet there be joys to crown thee with: the sunshine and the sweet  
 I've hived, like honey, in my heart, to share it when we meet!  
 How I have hoarded up my life, how tenderly I strove  
 To make my heart fit home for thee—its nestling Bird of Love!

God bless thee! once the radiant world thy beauty, crown-like, wore;  
 But life hath lost a tender grace that cometh never more!  
 The flowers will garland songful Spring, and happy birds make love  
 With melting hearts, a-brooding o'er their passion in the grove;  
 But thou wilt never more come back to clothe my heart with Spring;  
 Dear God! Love's sweetest chord is turned to Pain's most jarring string!  
 The glory hath departed, and my spirit pants to go  
 Where, 'mid life's troubled waters, 't will not see the wreck below!

GERALD MASSEY.

### CONFESSIONS OF A TIMID LOVER.

Gli amori  
 Le cortezia Panadee imprese io canto.—ARISTOTO.

#### PART IV.

##### *My Passion for Clara Lawrence; and how I lost her.*

SOME months after the event last recorded Colonel Grant invited me for the shooting season to his charming place in Herefordshire.

I am no great sportsman; but I like the collaterals of sporting: the country house, the lively guests, the purposeless rambles, and tired evenings. No place like a country house for flirtations! You are thrown so much together—you are so often alone—and there is such a deficiency of occupation that you *must* make love.

I arrived at the Grange on the 30th of August, intending to execute tremendous slaughter on the partridges, and on the female hearts within reach. I found nothing but men at the Grange except Mrs. Grant, and one young lady; the colonel warned me against losing my heart to her.

Imagine, O you whose eyes are destined to peruse this chronicle of my life! imagine my trepidation and surprise on being introduced to this young lady and discovering the charming milliner whose sad and pensive face had witched away my heart, and whom I thought I was addressing as Miss Hodgson!

She recognized me instantly, and a deep blush overspread her lovely countenance. I never felt more nervous. I dare say I looked almost foolish.

Her presence was soon explained. The colonel told me Clara Lawrence was the daughter of a brother officer who had left her penniless. She had tried to support herself by her needle, but had now by the colonel's interest succeeded in obtaining a situation as governess in Lady Dashwood's family. Meanwhile her home was at the Grange.

Perhaps you think I was delighted at being thus in the solitude of a country house with so charming a creature? A mistake! I was exceedingly uncomfortable. I could not help supposing she must have told them the whole of my adventure with Amelia, and as in that affair I had not cut a very brilliant figure it was natural that I should feel sore on the point. Whenever they laughed and I did not clearly understand what they were

laughing at I was tormented with a suspicion of their laughing at me. There seemed to be an undercurrent of fun at my expense.

It was this little humiliation which prevented my feeling for Clara Lawrence the affection I should otherwise have felt. All her former charm of manner had disappeared in my eyes, because I saw, or fancied I saw, a reference in her smiles to my absurd adventure.

One day, however, unable longer to endure this state of suspense and suspicion, I summoned courage to speak to her. She then informed me that the anonymous letter had been written by herself.

"I do not know whether I did right," she said, "but I could not bear to see your generosity so much abused. When you asked Miss Smith my name she told you in fun it was Hodgson, and informed us of it the next morning. Miss Hodgson anxiously awaited the result, and when your letter came she read it aloud. She resolved, in spite of my remonstrances, to answer it, and keep up the joke. She silenced me by calling me a prude..."

Here her voice trembled slightly as she added—

"She even accused me of wishing to write to you myself. This sarcasm always closed my mouth, till my patience becoming wholly exhausted, I adopted the rash plan of warning you."

She looked so lovely as she spoke; there was something so mild, so winning, so gentle, so retiring, that I was greatly moved, and seizing her hand I exclaimed—

"Bless you for it! Bless you!"

Alarmed at my temerity I stammered out some excuse and hastily left the room.

From that moment there was an exquisite constraint in our manner towards each other; an embarrassment which brought the colour into our cheeks and gave a meaning to the most insignificant words. Clara was very shy. Her position doubtless heightened this natural reserve. Then, too, the strange relation in which we stood to each other: her consciousness of my admiration for her, and my consciousness of her knowledge of it—this made a sort of interest between us as embarrassing as it was delightful. She knew how I admired her, and I knew that she knew it; this knowledge made us both uneasy.

Now my silent system of love-making had its due effect; because I for the first time met with one whose delicacy of soul appreciated it. Clara's eye scarcely ever met mine; and it was seldom she ventured to address an observation to me unless we were alone. I was over head and ears in love, and felt sure my passion was returned. We never spoke of love, but our silence was more eloquent than words!

Never shall I forget the transport of embarrassment and pleasure with which at her request I brought down my flute to play duets with her. She had remembered my flute! How charmed I was as I stood beside her piano breathing forth sentiment from that chaste and simple instrument! How beautifully I played! And then as we paused to talk about the music, as our hands sometimes in turning over the leaves came in contact and were swiftly withdrawn with intense consciousness on both sides, how deliciously the hours passed, and how little I envied the stupid fools who were broiling under an autumnal sun over ploughed fields in the hope of bringing down a few partridges! Did the wounded bird ever flutter as Clara's heart then fluttered beneath my impassioned gaze! Hours of bliss ye hover round me still! the flowers have fallen—are dead—but the perfume still clings to them! Every trivial action of that period I remember with singular vividness: for nothing is trivial which is shined upon by love. I remember, as if it were but yesterday, her breaking off a geranium and playfully fixing it herself in my buttonhole. I wore it all that day, wore it in tenderness and pride. I then put it in water, and kept it on my toilet table until it was quite dead, when I folded it very neatly in a piece of paper, on which was written "From Clara," and locked it in my dressing case, where I have it yet. I have also a great pile of manuscript verses, all addressed "To a withered flower." I shall publish them when poetical taste revives; at present publishers assure me that poetry is a drug.

New charms every day disclosed themselves in Clara. I determined on making her my wife. It was necessary, however, first to make my declaration, and for *that* I lacked nerve. It was not that I doubted her love: every look and every tone assured me of it. But my invincible shyness always kept me back. I never could stretch forth my hand to grasp a fruit until I was *sure* it was within my reach. Perhaps it was because I had been several times deceived; perhaps it was my natural reserve. There are men who only act upon impulse or upon necessity, whose "first lesson in swimming is a shipwreck." I was of that class. Daring and ingenious in my schemes, I could seldom bring myself to execute them. In thought a hero, in action I was a perfect Hamlet.

Indeed I have often thought I read my own character in Hamlet; the same elegance and refinement, the same high thoughts, but the same perhaps over-susceptible imagination—a super-refinement of delicacy. Hamlet is a great and noble creature, who wants a little more of earth, a little more of the coarse vigour of ordinary mortals to make him as great among men as he is among minds. I was a great mind.

I fancy Shakespeare must also have been of our class, or never could he have drawn such a character. Indeed, may not one say that this delicacy is characteristic of all the very great minds? Your Napoleons and Cromwells have, perhaps, more vulgar strength; but they are as potters' earth compared with the exquisite china of the highest order of intellects. But I digress.



The young men staying with me at the Grange used to quiz me about Clara, and Mrs. Grant was always sounding her praises. More than once did she exclaim that for any man who wanted a treasure of a wife Clara Lawrence was the woman. She also joked me, though in a covert manner, about Clara. But her joking only increased my embarrassment.

It is a psychological fact that all the highest pleasures have in them an element of pain. Exquisite music brings tears into the eyes. We cry from joy as well as from grief. This feeling of embarrassment, therefore, only added a zest to the intense delight of being with Clara. I could sit for hours in the same room with her pretending to read, while she was employed at her work; gazing over my book at her sad, sweet face, and doting on the quiet grace of her deportment. I suppose she expected me to talk; but I could not break the charm of silence, and I have no doubt she well understood the delicacy of my proceedings.

But the time grew near when she was to leave us, when we were to part. Now it was necessary for me to declare myself, or I should lose her. Here was the rub! I dreaded a refusal as much as I should have been overjoyed at an acceptance.

Often did I begin a conversation with her hoping to be able gradually to lead to the subject nearest my heart; but as soon as we reached the confines of that subject I grew timid and wandered away.

The last day now arrived and found me still in this hesitating mood. The morning she employed in packing up. I observed a strangeness in Mrs. Grant's manner towards me; and several times during breakfast she deplored with a very significant tone that such a girl as Clara should be forced to go to service. She also threw out some sarcasms respecting the foolish pride of men in general, and the mercenary nature of the young men of the present day. In her day it was not so. To me it was quite evident that she wanted me to marry her protégée. I also wanted to marry her; and had more than once thought of confiding my secret to Mrs. Grant, but was deterred from doing so by my old fear of making myself ridiculous.

Yet could I suffer Clara to depart? Impossible! I would that very day make my declaration.

But the day passed, and though I was often alone with her, every time I opened my lips my heart beat so wildly that I could not summon the requisite courage.

Dinner over a walk was proposed. I offered Clara my arm, and we wandered forth into the meadows to enjoy the beauty of an autumn evening. The "witching hour" of evening has always a peculiar effect upon me; and now, with the lovely Clara leaning on my arm, averting her melancholy face, and scarcely breaking silence except to sigh, I felt ashamed of my irresolution, and resolved to propose.

It was easier to resolve than to execute. My heart fluttered so that I was afraid to speak; accumulated nervousness made me powerless. We rambled on. The last tints from the declining sun had faded away in the distant sky—the harvest moon was rising full and brilliant—and Colonel Grant suggested the propriety of our return before the word had risen to my lips.

"They are going home," said Clara timidly.

"I could ramble thus all night," I ventured to reply.

There was a pause.

"I hope it will be fine to-morrow," she said.

"So do I," was my answer; then feeling that it was a very feeble sort of reply, I added, "And...this is the...last evening we are...to have you...We shall miss you terribly!"

She said nothing.

We walked on a few yards, and I said—

"Are you not sorry to leave England?"

"No: I am an orphan. I have few friends, and no one to regret me."

"Do not—oh! do not say that, Miss Lawrence!" I impetuously exclaimed, and then, blushing, I stopped suddenly.

I felt her arm tremble within mine, and heard a low sigh escape her. I trembled also. I expected her to speak—to say something which should encourage me to proceed—but she was silent; and we reached home before the word had passed my lips. Upbraiding myself for my timidity, I determined that at tea I would declare myself: I would whisper it to her at the piano.

The Fates had willed it otherwise. Clara was not present at tea. She was not well, and had retired to her own room. Next morning she was gone!

The state of despondency into which I fell at her absence was truly pitiable. Mrs. Grant was excessively cold in her manner towards me, and I also thought the Colonel changed. But I was too unhappy to pay much attention to these things. I was perfectly miserable, and neglected my flute.

"What makes you so melancholy?" asked Mrs. Grant one afternoon.

"Am I melancholy?" I replied, with an affectation of joviality. "I suppose it's because I'm poetical!"

"More likely because you are proud!"

"Proud?"

"Proud!"

"What can you mean?"

"I mean, Mr. Meek, that you have tampered with the feelings of an excellent girl—that you have lost an inestimable prize, and you know it—lost it out of pride! Do not pretend amazement. You know you won Clara's

love, and yet allowed her to depart without a word from you. And why? Because she is poor."

"Indeed, Mrs. Grant, you mistake me. I have not trifled with her feelings. I love her; indeed I do, upon my honour! It was only doubts of her love..."

Mrs. Grant shook her head incredulously.

"Mrs. Grant, I give you my word as a gentleman it is so."

"You are willing to marry her?"

"To-morrow."

"Then lose no time! Quick! to London, quick! Lady Dashwood must still be in London. Go and plead your own cause, and my word for it you will make Clara the happiest of women."

That very night I was in London.

After a careful toilet I went to Portman-square, where lived Lady Dashwood; but as I came up to the door I began to hesitate: surely, it was not proper to call at this hour? I would call to-morrow forenoon.

On the morrow I was in Portman-square by eleven o'clock. The sight of some gentleman looking out of the parlour window made me so nervous that instead of knocking at the door I walked past. About an hour afterwards I returned, when to my disgust I found a footman lounging at the open door. What can these insolent fellows do, always lounging on the door steps! I could not face that flunky, so walked away again.

I determined to write. The whole of the next day was consumed in writing, and in tearing up what I wrote. Skilful as I am with my pen I could not on that occasion please myself; so I resolved to give up the plan, and to see Clara myself, and open my heart to her in the burning eloquence of words.

I called next day. The house was shut up. A bill was in the window. Lady Dashwood had gone abroad!

I came home and sobbed like a child.

To this day I am a bachelor!

#### OPEN SPEAKING.

IN our day, candour is not only beneficial but *safe*: this is the point on which we especially insist, because the benefit will be little disputed, but the safety has, as yet, been scarcely tested save by those who are not the most timid. We can, however, bear multiplying testimony to the fact, that, whatever may have been the case in days not long passed, the most out-speaking candour is now accepted with respect by those who differ from the opinions spoken out, and even by those who do not feel justified in practising it themselves. This last fact, indeed, of which we have lately had several striking instances,—when we consider the disposition to a self-defensive disparagement of virtues which we cannot practise—is in itself one of the most estimable and generous acts of candour. But to the absolute safety we have testimony from a practical philosopher, so ably expressed, that we must pluck it out of a private letter, rather than suffer it to lie hidden; though the freedom with which it was written makes us doubt our right to adorn it with a name that would add to the weight of the evidence:—

"But for what I meet with continually among some of the freest and forwardest people I know, I should almost as soon think of insisting on the doctrine of gravitation, with long illustrations, as on the duty and expediency of a perfectly free declaration of opinions. I have met with only one person in all my experience who sees as I do the impossibility of calculating what the general mind can bear, and the presumption of concluding that other minds are incapable of receiving the truth that we hold. As I see a whole parishful of people who go to church for the sake of example to one another, I see a whole kingdom full of people who are hiding up what they think, out of consideration for every body else.

"For my own part, I dare not conclude other people to be my 'weaker brethren.' The presumption of this shocks one, when it is set down plainly. In every case of my 'ruining myself' by out-speaking, I have found a public ready and waiting; and (what is much more important to me) I have found myself brought face to face with persons, wiser and more experienced than myself in that particular matter, who have administered invaluable aid to me.

"The truth 'burns in our pockets.' Friends of mine, remarkable before the world for having borne testimony in an unpopular cause, are uneasy about it [this plain speaking], and remonstrate with me—some on the danger to other people's faith, and others on the peril to my own 'influence.' My answer is, that I hope people hold their convictions on some better ground than my sharing them; and that my 'influence' must take its chance. I never took any charge of it, and I certainly shall not begin now."

#### PRAYER.

Across the shuddering heaven slow creeps the breeze;  
The stars look down on me with earnest eyes,  
Revealers of the past eternities,  
And prophets of the future; the strong skies  
Lean o'er earth lovingly; the quiet seas,  
Chequered with shadows of the grazing sheep,  
And moving branchery of charmed trees,  
Trembling beneath the watchful moon in sleep,  
Are gliding into this calm soul of mine,  
Hanging its templed walls with pictures fair:  
Open they are unto the heavens divine,—  
To the glad breathings of the summer air  
From shores eternal. In this awful shrine  
The little Child within kneels down in Prayer.



## Matters of Fact.

**PRIVATE BILLS INTRODUCED IN THE SESSION OF 1850.** — It appears by a parliamentary return recently printed that the total number of private bills introduced into the House of Commons during the session of 1850 was 198, of which 28 were brought from the Lords. The number of private bills treated as opposed was 91, and unopposed 74. The total number of private bills which received the royal assent was 145; of which 35 related to railways, 16 to roads and bridges, 13 to waterworks, 7 to ports, piers, harbours, and docks; 2 to canals and navigation; 20 to paving, lighting, and improving markets; 1 to enclosures and drainage, and 23 miscellaneous. Every railway bill, without a solitary exception, was opposed.

THE GREAT FIRE IN MARK-LANE.—The following is a list of the insurances upon the buildings and their contents which have been destroyed by the fire in Mark-lane:—Mr. Joseph Barber's premises, Phoenix, £10,000; Alliance, £2500; and the goods warehouses, £8000 in various offices; Goed and Rigg, Phoenix and Alliance, £30,000; Samuel and Co., Alliance, £7000; Taylor and Sons, Alliance, £3000; Imperial, £2500; Church of England, £2500, Monarch, £2000; Holste, Alliance, £3000; Simon, Alliance, £600; Lloyd, Alliance, £13,000; Guardian, £8000; Storey and Co., Phoenix, £17,000; Cox and Co., Union, £5000, Guardian, £5000; Jones, Phoenix, £3300; Hilbert and Co., Phoenix, £2000; Adler and Co., Phoenix, £1000; Bruxner and Co., Phoenix, £2000; Spencer and Co., Phoenix, £2500; Plimpton, Phoenix, £1000; Davis, Sun, £3000; Biggs, Sun, £1000; Powell, Sun, £3000, General, £2000; Scott and Bell, Church of England, £3000; Vibers, £300; Philipps and Co., Sun, £3400; Hayter and Howell, Sun, £21,000; Gilbert and Co., Union, £1500; Alinutts and Co., Atlas, £3500, Phoenix, £5500. Several cornfactors and solicitors, who tenanted portions of their premises, are reported to be insured, but the various amounts have not yet been ascertained.

MARRIAGES IN IRELAND.—The second report of the Registrar-General of Marriages in Ireland has been issued. The number of marriages registered in 1849 was 9493, showing an increase on the preceding year, when the marriages registered amounted to 9048. In 1846 the number registered was 9344, and in the ensuing year the number fell to 6943. If this extraordinary decrease in the number of marriages was justly to be attributed to the fearful ravages of famine and disease, the great increase exhibited in the returns for the last two years, it is suggested, would argue that the country is gradually recovering from the effects of these afflictions. The above numbers furnish no satisfactory data as to the general disposition of the population of Ireland towards matrimony, the marriages of Roman Catholics, who, according to the last census, form nearly eighty-one per cent. of the population, not being included in the provisions of the statute under which the Registrar is empowered to act. Much stress is laid on the importance of establishing a general system of registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Ireland, and an extract is given from a letter addressed to the registrar by the Reverend John Armstrong, minister of the Presbyterian congregation at Kingstown, showing that among the Presbyterian body, up to 1841, no regular record of births was kept, and that, though an enactment of the "assembly" has since enjoined ministers to keep a registry of births and baptisms, many circumstances continue to cause considerable irregularity and neglect in the observance of this practice. The number of marriages registered which have been celebrated according to the rites of the Established Church for the five years, 1845 to 1849, has been respectively 4118 (last nine months), 5760, 4321, 5313, 5324; and of those not celebrated according to the rites of the establishment the numbers for the corresponding years have been 1996, 3584, 2622, 3735, and 4169, showing a gradual increase in the proportionate number of the latter class, chiefly attributable to the large number of marriages by civil contract, without the performance of any religious ceremonies, which have taken place in the latter years of the period to which the return refers.

**STATISTICS OF CRIME IN IRELAND.**—Returns, showing the number of criminal offenders committed for trial in the year 1849, and the result of the proceedings, have just been printed for presentation to Parliament. It appears that there is an increase of 3467 committals, or 8.99 per cent., as compared with 1848. The gross number of committals during the seven years ending 1849, has been as follows:—1843, 20,126; 1844, 19,448; 1845, 16,696; 1846, 18,492; 1847, 31,209; 1848, 38,522; and 1849, 41,989. In class No. 1, "offences against the person, with violence," the criminal records appear in a favourable light. There is a decrease under the head of "murder" of 25, as compared with the preceding year, or 12.83 per cent. The number of committals for murder during the year was 170; and in 138 cases the prisoners were acquitted on trial. The committals for shooting and stabbing had diminished from 110 to 60; while, on the other hand, those for manslaughter have increased from 160 to 173. In the class of offences against property with violence, there has been an increase of 203 over 1848. Under the heads of larceny and cattle stealing, the increase of committals has been—for the former, 1699; and for the latter, 1734. There is a further increase under the head of arson of 55, while in killing and maiming cattle, there is a decrease of 322, or 60 per cent. In the class of offences against the currency, there is an increase of 69 over those in 1848. Under the heads of riot and rescue there is an increase of 279 in the latter, and of 557 in the former. Of the 38 capital sentences passed, 15 were carried into effect, viz., 13 for murder, 1 for shooting, and 1 for solicitation to murder; 20 were commuted to transportation for life.

and 3 for fourteen years. Of the 41,989 persons committed, 21,202 were convicted, and 20,787 were acquitted and discharged. The total number of cases brought forward at the petty sessions within the year was 69,586.

**IMMIGRATION AT NEW YORK.**—The number of emigrants which arrived at this port during the month of August last is 18,091—a decrease of 16,385, as compared with the previous month. The total emigration thus far, up to September, 1850, is 144,536. During the same period in 1849, it was 172,126, and in 1848, 127,121.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

**BEET-ROOT SUGAR IN FRANCE.**—The *Moniteur* contains the official returns of the production of beet-root sugar in France for the season ending in August. The quantity made was 62,175,000 kilogrammes. In the season of 1849, the quantity made was only 38,639,000, but in 1848 it was 64,316,000. The increase of duty on beet-root sugar in 1850, as compared with 1849, is 4,815,000fr., but there is a falling off in the duty on colonial sugar of 4,800,000fr.

**THE BRAZILIAN COFFEE TRADE.**—Forty-two years ago, the annual crop of coffee in Brazil did not exceed 30,000 bags; and even in 1820 it only reached 100,000 bags. About that time the high price of coffee in England, superadded to the diminished production in Cuba, stimulated the Brazilian planters to extend its cultivation, and in 1830 they sent to market 400,000 bags, or 64,000,000lb.; and in 1847 the enormous quantity of nearly 300,000,000lb.—*New York Journal of Commerce.*

THE CLERGY IN ITALY.—The *Eco della Borsa*, a Milan journal, gives the following statistical account of the clergy in Italy:—Modena and Guastalla has five bishoprics, being to the population in the proportion of 1 to 116,000. The Pontifical States have eight archbishoprics and fifty-nine bishoprics, being to the population as 1 to 44,776. The kingdom of Naples contains twenty archbishoprics and sixty-five bishoprics; proportion, 1 to 75,176. Sicily has three archbishops and eleven bishops; proportion, 1 to 116,000. The kingdom of Sardinia has four archbishops and twenty-six bishops; proportion, 1 to 130,000. The Lombardo-Venetian Provinces have two archbishops and eighteen bishops; proportion, 1 to 217,000. Parma has four bishops, being as 1 to 124,000. The number of bishops in Tuscany is to the population as 1 to 85,000.

**ALGERIA.**—According to a report of the Minister of War to the President of the Republic, it appears that there are in Algeria 133 towns and villages, 115,240 Europeans, 11,488 colonists grantees of land; 133,396 hectares (about 300,000 acres) occupied by the towns and villages; 766,131 planted by these grantees; 52,034 head of cattle possessed by them; and 14,382,180*l.* (£575,000) the value of the buildings erected by them.

## HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Returns.)

In the week ending last Saturday, the deaths registered in the London districts were 858, a result which, comparatively, must be considered as a favourable indication of the state of the public health. In the same week of 1846, there were 863 deaths; in that of 1847 1169; in 1848, 1038; and in the same week of 1849, there were 1981. The average of ten corresponding weeks, corrected for increase of population, is 1105; and the present return shows a decrease of 247 on the estimated weekly mortality. In last week seven deaths were registered from smallpox, and four of the sufferers were persons of 25 years and upwards. Of these, a seaman brought from the Dreadnought hospital-ship, aged 28 years, died in the Smallpox Hospital (which is now removed to the west sub-district of Islington) of "smallpox, confluent, unprotected (11 days' illness);" and a mail-driver, aged 27 years, brought from the Marylebone Workhouse, died also in the hospital of "smallpox, confluent, unmodified (12 days)." Measles was fatal to 10 children, scarlatina to 30, and whooping-cough to 29. Diarrhœa and dysentery continue to decline; in the last four weeks the numbers have been successively 128, 85, 85, and 61. Cholera is returned in two cases. The births registered last week were 1374, of which 702 were males, and 672 were females.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean daily reading of the barometer was above 30 in. on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday; the mean of the whole week was 29·851 in. The daily temperature varied little during the week; it rose towards the end; the mean was 58·4 deg., which differs not much from the average of corresponding weeks of seven years. The wind blew from the north-east on the first four days; afterwards generally from the south-east.

starvation and beggary to tens of thousands of working men, and, out of the general wreck, immense fortunes gained by those few capitalists who can stand aside and wait for the rich harvest which a commercial panic invariably gives to the millionaire who is on the watch for such opportunities.

The English Funds have continued without variation all the week. On Saturday last, Consols closed at 96½ to 96¾, at which price they have remained up till to-day, with not more than a variation of one-eighth. The extreme range of prices during the week has been—Consols, 96¾ to 96½; Exchequer Bills, 63s. to 66s. premium.

In the Foreign Stocks little business has been done. The actual bargains yesterday comprised—Brazilian, Small, 93; Buenos Ayres, 58½; Danish Three per Cents., 78 and 78½; Mexican Five per Cents., 31, 30½, and 31; Peruvian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 82½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 97½; Spanish Coupons, 8; Belgian-Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 90½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 57½, ½, and ½; and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 91½ and ¼.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, Sept. 27.

There are liberal supplies of Wheat and Flour, both English and foreign since Monday ; the supply of Barley continues scanty, and the arrival of Oats have fallen off very considerably. There is a steady trade doing in all grain, without any alteration in prices :—

			English.	Irish.	Foreign.	Flour.
Wheat	..	..	2810	—	12990	1960
Barley	..	..	720	—	980	
Oats..	..	..	190	2820	1870	

**BANK OF ENGLAND.**

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32,  
for the week ending on Saturday, the 21st of September, 1850.

**ISSUE DEPARTMENT.**

Notes issued ....	£ 30,176,120			£
		Government Debt, ..	11,015,100	
		Other Securities ..	2,984,900	
		Gold Coin and Bul-		
		lion .....	15,951,162	
		Silver Bullion ...	224,958	
	<u>£30,176,120</u>			<u>£30,176,120</u>

**BANKING DEPARTMENT.**

£		£
Proprietors' Capital, 14,553,000		Government Securities (including
Rest, .....	3,557,595	Dead-weight Annuity) .....
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts) ..	10,222,879	Other Securities ..
Other Deposits ....	8,968,161	Notes .....
Seven-day and other Bills .....	1,239,992	Gold and Silver Coin .....
		635,578
£38,541,627		£38,541,627

Dated Sept. 26, 1850.

**M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.**

**BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.**

(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock ....	—	—	214	214	—	—
3 per Ct. Red. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 p. C. Con. Ans.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 p. C. An. 1726.	—	—	—	—	—	—
3 p. Ct. Con., Ac.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3½ p. Cent. An.	—	—	—	—	—	—
New 5 per Cts.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Ans., 1860.	—	—	8	8 1-16	—	8
Ind. St. 10½ p. ct.	—	265	267	—	268	—
Ditto Bonds ..	86	—	—	—	86	84
Ex. Bills, 1000.	63 p	66 p	63 p	63 p	63 p	66 p
Ditto, 5000.	—	66 p	—	—	63 p	63 p
Ditto, Small	—	66 p	63 p	63 p	67 p	63 p

**FOREIGN FUNDS.**

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Friday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents.	95½	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc.	31
Belgian Bds., 4½ p. Ct.	91¼	— Small..	31½
Brazilian 5 per Cents.	92½	Neapolitan 5 per Cents.	82¼
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts.	—	Peruvian 4½ per Cents.	82¼
Chilian 6 per Cents.	101½	Portuguese 5 per Cent.	—
Ecuador Bonds	3½	— 4 per Cts.	33½
Danish 5 per Cents.	—	— Annuities	—
Dutch 4½ per Cents...	57½	Russian, 1822, 5 p. Cts.	—
— 2½ per Cents.	91	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts.	18½
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris	93.10	— Passive	—
— 3 p. Cts. Sept. 27, 57.65	—	— Deferred	—

**SHARES.**

**Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.**

RAILWAYS.		BANKS.	
Caledonian .. ..	8½	Australasian .. ..	—
Edinburgh and Glasgow ..	26	British North American ..	42½
Eastern Counties .. ..	6	Colonial .. ..	7½
Great Northern .. ..	12½	Commercial of London ..	—
Great North of England ..	24½	London and Westminster ..	27½
Great S. & W. (Ireland) ..	34½	London Joint Stock .. ..	18½
Great Western .. ..	72	National of Ireland .. ..	—
Hull and Selby .. ..	95	National Provincial .. ..	—
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	48	Provincial of Ireland ..	32½
Lancaster and Carlisle ..	59½	Union of Australia .. ..	43
London, Brighton, & S. Coast ..	83½	Union of London .. ..	—
London and Blackwall ..	54		
London and N.-Western ..	115	MINES.	
Midland .. ..	43½	Bolanos .. ..	—
North British .. ..	7½	Brazilian Imperial .. ..	4½
South-Eastern and Dover ..	203	Ditto, St. John del Rey ..	14½
South-Western .. ..	69	Cobre Copper .. ..	31½
York, Newcas., & Berwick ..	16½	MISCELLANEOUS.	
York and North Midland ..	20	Australian Agricultural ..	—
		Canada .. ..	—
		General Steam .. ..	—
		Penins. & Oriental Steam ..	79½
		Royal Mail Steam .. ..	63
		South Australian .. ..	—
DOCKS.			
East and West India .. ..	—		
London .. ..	—		
St. Katharine .. ..	—		

## Commercial Affairs.

### MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

**SATURDAY.**

This has been another dull week in the English Stock Market. The remarkable absence of any exciting political movement, deprives speculators of all chance of working upon the fears or hopes of buyers and sellers, while the enormous amount of bullion in the coffers of the Bank of England represses every attempt to get up any alarm in the money market. Instead of prophesying evil, most people are now anticipating a wonderful period of prosperity from the operation of free trade, and the influx of gold from California. Should the belief in the coming commercial prosperity prove well-founded, we may expect to see a season of wild speculation also, which, in its turn, will be followed by a monetary panic, bankruptcy to thousands of the middle class,



GRAIN, Mark-lane, Sept. 27.					
Wheat, R. New	41s. to 43s.	Maple	35s. to 36s.		
Fine	43 — 45	White	27 — 28		
Old	41 — 43	Boilers	34 — 36		
White	43 — 46	Beans, Ticks	26 — 27		
Fine	42 — 44	Old	28 — 30		
Superior New	48 — 50	Indian Corn	28 — 30		
Rye	26 — 28	Oats, Feed	16 — 17		
Barley	21 — 22	Fine	17 — 18		
Malting	26 — 28	Poland	19 — 20		
Malt, Ord.	48 — 50	Fine	20 — 21		
Fine	50 — 52	Potato	17 — 18		
Peas, Hog	30 — 32	Fine	18 — 19		

## GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING SEPT. 21.					
Imperial General Weekly Average.					
Wheat	42s. 7d.	Rye	26s. 4d.		
Barley	24 10	Beans	29 5		
Oats	17 1	Peas	29 5		
Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.					
Wheat	43s. 2d.	Rye	24s. 3d.		
Barley	23 3	Beans	28 10		
Oats	17 8	Peas	27 7		

## FLOUR.

Town-made	per sack	40s. to 43s.
Seconds		37 — 40
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship		32 — 34
Norfolk and Stockton		30 — 32
American	per barrel	23 — 25
Canadian		22 — 24
Wheat Bread, 7d. the 4lb. loaf.	Households, 6d.	

## AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 24th day of September, 1850, is 26s. 6½d. per cwt.

## BUTCHERS' MEAT.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.*				SMITHFIELD*.			
	s. d.	s. d.			s. d.	s. d.	
Beef	2 4	3 2			2 4	3 8	
Mutton	2 8	3 6			3 6	4 0	
Veal	2 4	3 8			2 4	3 6	
Pork	3 0	4 8			3 4	4 2	
Lamb	3 0	4 0			0 0	0 0	

\* To sink the offal, per 8 lb.

## HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Friday.	Monday.
Beasts	1026	4872
Sheep	7360	29,810
Calves	502	281
Pigs	510	550

## PROVISIONS.

Butter—Best Fresh, 10s. 0d. to 12s. per doz.	
Carlow, £3 14s. to £4 0s. per cwt.	
Bacon, Irish	per cwt. 56s. to 58s.
Cheese, Cheshire	42 — 69
Derby, Plain	44 — 54
Hams, York	60 — 70
Eggs, French, per 120, 4s. 9d. to 5s. 6d.	

## FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, Sept. 24.

**BANKRUPTS.**—C. R. POTTINGER, Hardwick-place, Commercial-road East, wine merchant, to surrender Oct. 9, Nov. 13; solicitors, Messrs. Baker and Parson, Pancras-lane, and Mr. Wilde, Union-court, Old Broad-street; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—J. SEBLE, Free-school-street, Horselydown, rectifier, Oct. 9, Nov. 14; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—J. and T. JOWETT, Coventry, grocers, Oct. 1 and 31; solicitors, Mr. Darke, Newman's-court, Cornhill, and Messrs. Deves and Son, Coventry; official assignee, Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—R. BATTERSBY and J. TILFORD, Liverpool, ironfounders, Oct. 4 and Nov. 1; solicitor, Mr. Bell, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Bird, Liverpool—W. L. LOWE, Salford, victualler, Oct. 7, Nov. 5; solicitors, Mr. Kirkland, Glasgow, and Mr. Webster, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Fraser, Manchester—M. BAKEWELL, Manchester, size manufacturer, Oct. 4, Nov. 6; solicitors, Messrs. Bagshaw and Sons, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Fraser, Manchester—J. TAYLOR, Rochdale, cotton-spinner, Oct. 8, Nov. 5; solicitor, Mr. Lord, Rochdale; official assignee, Mr. Pott, Manchester—W. RICHARDS, Devonport, printer, Oct. 3, Nov. 7; solicitors, Messrs. Soles and Turner, Aldermanbury, Messrs. Little and Billing, Devonport, and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter; official assignee, Mr. Hernaman, Exeter.

**DIVIDENDS.**—Oct. 15, C. Smith, Enfield, wine merchant—Oct. 15, S. Pattison, Winchester, glazier—Oct. 15, J. and W. Chisholm, Dorking, Surrey, and Ludgate-hill, wholesale perfumers—Oct. 16, A. D. W. Desforges, Alford, Lincolnshire, brickmaker—Oct. 15, J. Robinson and E. Moore, Wakefield, Yorkshire, spinners.

**CERTIFICATES.**—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.—Oct. 16, W. Raynham, late of Ladbroke-road, Notting-hill, builder—Oct. 15, J. Robinson and E. Moore, Wakefield, Yorkshire, spinner—Oct. 23, R. Brown, Howden, Yorkshire, tailor—Oct. 23, A. Galbreath, Kingston-upon-Hull, merchant.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—J. Henderson, Dundee, merchant, Oct. 1 and 24—R. Walker, Kilmarnock, draper, Sept. 28, Oct. 17—W. Anderson, Arbroath, shipbuilder, Sept. 28, Oct. 13.

Friday, September 21.

**DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.**—W. and S. Hague and W. Shatwell, Manchester, commission agents; final div. of 6½d., on Tuesday, Oct. 22, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—P. Little, Blackburne, Lancashire, currier; first div. of 1s. 4½d., on new proofs, on Tuesday, Oct. 22, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—B. Royle, Manchester and Ardwick, check and gingham manufacturer; first div. of 10½d., on Tuesday, Oct. 22, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester.

**BANKRUPTS.**—H. F. ROSS, West Cowes, Isle of Wight, and J. W. BARROW, Philpot-lane, Fenchurch-street, commission agents, to surrender Oct. 5, Nov. 12; solicitors, Messrs. Tilson, Squance, Clarke, and Morice, Coleman-street; official assignee, Mr. Cannan, Birchin-lane, Cornhill—T. PROBYN, High Holborn, licensed victualler, Oct. 7, Nov. 7; solicitor, Mr. Holmer, Bridge-street, Southwark; official assignee, Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street—H. WILKINS, High-street, Kensington, draper, Oct. 4, Nov. 7; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Turner, Aldermanbury; official assignee, Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings—W. KEEPING, East-street, Walworth, common brewer, Oct. 9, Nov. 14; solicitors, Messrs. Wright and Bonner, London-street, Fenchurch-

street; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—E. H. KIDDLE, Valentine-place, Webber-street, Blackfriars-road, miller, Oct. 9, Nov. 14; solicitors, Messrs. W. W. and R. Wren, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—J. T. BRAMELD, Tichborne-street, and Great Windmill-street, Westminster, china dealer, Oct. 9, Nov. 19; solicitors, Messrs. Wiglesworth and Co., Gray's-inn-square; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—H. and T. LLOYD, Carmarthen, drapers, Oct. 10, Nov. 7; solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Turner, Aldermanbury; and Messrs. Bevan, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Hutton, Bristol—J. HORSFIELD, Whelock, near Sandbach, Cheshire, coal dealer, Oct. 8, Nov. 1; solicitors, Messrs. Bagshaw and Sons, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool.

**DIVIDENDS.**—Oct. 24, J. King, Buckingham, scrivener—Oct. 21, A. Inglis, Portsea, draper—Oct. 21, J. Elliott, Daventry, Northamptonshire, victualler—Oct. 17, P. R. Morrison, Hammersmith, merchant—Oct. 24, R. Heath, Limehouse, brass-founder—Oct. 24, R. Skinner, West Malling, Kent, brickmaker—Oct. 21, D. Pretymann and G. H. Hobson, Cornhill, ironmongers—Oct. 19, W. Henderson, Wolverhampton, tin plate manufacturer—Oct. 24, S. Knight, Broughton, Astley, Leicestershire, hosier—Oct. 22, J. Hilton and J. Fisher, Foleshill, Warwickshire, silk manufacturers—Oct. 22, C. D. Johnson, Liverpool, victualler—Oct. 23, G. Byford, Liverpool, wholesale grocer—Oct. 22, J. Hind and R. Warbrick, Liverpool, carriers—Oct. 17, W. Cornish, Bristol, cabinetmaker—Oct. 17, C. S. Fenwick, Tyne-mouth, banker—Oct. 17, J. Wallace, Carlisle, grocer—Oct. 18, R. Fairley, Sunderland, chemist—Oct. 23, W. Hamley, Crookernwell, Devonshire, victualler.

**CERTIFICATES.**—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—Oct. 18, G. H. Ward and B. Griffith, Bear-alley, Farringdon-street, printers—Oct. 21, E. D. Busher, Piccadilly, coachbuilder—Oct. 23, G. C. Baylis, Cardiff, dealer in flour—Oct. 21, N. Hedge, Bath, silversmith—Oct. 23, T. Williams, Trowbridge, auctioneer—Oct. 17, J. Wallace, Carlisle, grocer—Oct. 23, G. Shephard, Modbury, Devonshire, linen draper—Oct. 30, T. G. Pocock, Kingsbury Episcopi, Somersetshire, miller.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—J. Syme, Pittendriech, cattle dealer, Oct. 3 and 31—W. Beldon, Craigbank, New Cumnock, contractor, Oct. 3 and 31.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

## BIRTHS.

On the 20th ult., at the British Legation, Caracas, Mrs. Belford Wilson, of a son.  
On the 18th inst., at Woburn, Chertsey, the Honourable Mrs. Locke King, of a daughter.  
On the 19th inst., at Leamington, the widow of the late Captain H. C. Elwes, of a daughter.  
On the 19th inst., at Twickenham, the wife of Captain Lionel Mackinnon, Coldstream Guards, of a son.  
On the 20th inst., in Park-lane, the wife of B. W. Wynn, Esq., of a daughter.  
On the 20th inst., at Sudbury Rectory, the wife of the Reverend F. Anson, of a son.  
On the 20th inst., in Cadogan-place, the Lady Louisa Spencer, of a daughter.  
On the 21st inst., at Beeston, near Nottingham, the wife of the Reverend S. G. Rees, of a daughter.  
On the 21st inst., at St. John's-wood, the wife of H. Pilleau, Esq., staff-surgeon of the second class, of a son.  
On the 22nd inst., at Green Heys, Manchester, the wife of H. B. Phipps, Esq., captain, Sixty-third Regiment, of a son.  
On the 22nd inst., at Turnham-green, the wife of W. H. Wylde, Esq., of a son.  
On the 23rd inst., at Brighton, the Lady Louisa Moncrieffe, of a daughter.  
On the 24th inst., the wife of Wm. A. Langdale, Esq., Hyde-park, of a son.  
On the 25th inst., the wife of D. Coutts Marjoribanks, Esq., of a daughter.  
On the 25th inst., at Donnington, Berks, the wife of Captain Hayes, R.N., of a daughter.

## MARRIAGES.

On the 18th inst., at Marylebone Church, Mr. C. Goodwyn, of Kentish-town, to Kate, second daughter of Mr. T. C. Newby, of Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square.  
On the 3rd ult., at Bombay, Lawford Acland, Esq., to Robina Jemima, only daughter of the late Major Maclean, Third Regiment (Buff).  
On the 19th inst., at Brighton, the Reverend R. G. Bryan, vice-principal of the Malta Protestant College, to Salome, eldest daughter of Sir T. W. Blomfield, Bart.  
On the 19th inst., at Desert Martin, Ireland, the Reverend W. A. Ormsby, M.A., incumbent of St. James's, Norwich, to Helen Adelaide, youngest daughter of the late Honourable and Right Reverend Wm. Knox, Bishop of Derry.  
On the 19th inst., at Edinburgh, J. Robertson, Esq., eldest son of the Honourable Lord Robertson, to Isabella Traill, fourth daughter of the late W. Balfour, Esq., of Trenaby, captain, R.N.  
On the 21st inst., at Lewisham Church, Henry T. Moore, commander of the Emerald steam-ship, to Amelia, youngest daughter of the late W. Wybourn, Esq., of Greenwich.  
On the 21st inst., at Bishop's Castle, Mr. A. Williams, eldest son of R. Williams, Esq., of Brentford, to Mary Ann, second daughter of S. Bright, Esq., of Bishop's Castle, Shropshire.  
On the 21st inst., at Llanbadarn-vawr, Cardigan, Richard J. Dickens, Esq., of Croydon, Surrey, to Caroline, daughter of J. Maitland, Esq., of the East India-house.  
On the 21st inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, J. Holder Alleyne, Esq., late captain in the Fifty-second Light Infantry, to Louisa, daughter of W. Fisher, Esq., of Walsworth-hall, Gloucestershire.  
On the 21st inst., at St. Helier's, Jersey, E. H. Sterling, Esq., F.R.S., to Annie Isabella, youngest daughter of Captain Wm. N. Glascock, R.N.  
On the 24th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Charles A. Gamlen, Esq., of Clifton, to Frances Dyer, eldest surviving sister of Sir T. S. Dyer, Bart.  
On the 24th inst., at Edinburgh, G. P. Dudgeon, Esq., to Cecilia Jane, youngest daughter of the late Major-General Turner, G.B.  
On the 25th inst., at Wington, Somerset, Captain Henry Notte, Nineteenth Madras Infantry, to Sophia, daughter of the late Reverend R. Elsdale, D.D.  
On the 24th inst., at Bath, the Reverend W. Somerset, second son of the Lord William Somerset, to Georgiana Amelia, daughter of Major-General W. L. Darling.

## DEATHS.

On the 20th of June, at Taitan, near Amoy, China, Temple H. Layton, Esq., her Majesty's consul for Amoy.  
On the 13th inst., George Lyndon, third son of the late George Lyndon, Esq., of Gray's-inn, barrister-at-law.  
On the 15th inst., at Edinburgh, Louisa, the wife of the Lord Bishop of Gibraltar, and eldest daughter of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir P. Stuart, G.C.M.G.  
On the 17th inst., at Fentonston, Hunts, W. Wright, Esq., late of the Bengal civil service.  
On the 17th inst., in Dublin, in her 10th year, Elizabeth Mary, only child of the Reverend J. Compton, of Aldgate.  
On the 18th inst., at Stanley-hall, Gloucestershire, Charlotte Anne, widow of the late Vice-Admiral J. Young.

On the 19th inst., at Westbrook-hay, Hertfordshire, Francis Edward Ryder, aged 13, youngest son of the Honourable Granville and Lady Georgina Ryder.

On the 19th inst., in Cumberland-street, Bryanston-square, Captain T. Wilson, late of the Twentieth Light Dragoons.

On the 19th inst., at Leamington, Major Kempland, late of the Eighth Bengal Cavalry.

On the 20th inst., at Teddington, Colonel J. R. Wright, R.E., aged 75.

On the 21st inst., Louisa Susannah Thorp, eldest daughter of the late Sir Wm. Plomer, Knight, and wife of the late A. Thorp, Esq.

On the 21st inst., at Brighton, in his 82nd year, J. Lowe, Esq., of Tanfield-court, Temple.

On the 21st inst., in Edinburgh, John Jardine, Esq., advocate, sheriff of Ross and Cromarty.

On the 21st inst., at Brighton, Eliza, Baroness de Schacht, daughter of the late J. Grant, Esq., of Thoby Priory, Essex.

On the 22nd inst., at Rosenthal, Lewisham, Elizabeth, wife of Alexander Rowland, Esq., aged 72.

On the 22nd inst., at Boulogne-sur-Mer, J. J. Hopwood, Esq., late of Queen-square, Bloomsbury, aged 50. He was the founder of the flax-mills at Capcure.

On the 22nd inst., at Malvern, the Reverend John Willson, aged 70.

On the 23rd inst., in Hyde-park, Sarah, widow of the late S. W. Sweet, Esq., aged 79.

On the 25th inst., at Tandridge, Surrey, J. Campbell, Esq., son of the late Sir Archibald Campbell, Bart., of Succoth, N.B.

On the 25th inst., in Duke-street, Grosvenor-square, Richard Baldwin, Esq.

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