

London, 10, Wellington Street Strand
Joseph Clayton Junr, 26, Strand

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.

ANOTHER defeat of the renovated Ministers is the prominent fact of the week in Parliament; the occasion of defeat being of secondary importance in a political sense. Lord Duncan has been devoting his spare time to the Window taxes and the New Forest abuses, and has been one of those to rake up a very strong case of neglect and malversation. The scandal had already forced the Chief Commissioner of Woods and Forests to prepare a bill for the better management of the Forest lands, but Lord Duncan moved a resolution, that the revenue accruing from the Forests should be paid into the Exchequer. The abuses of the Forest administration are an old story; Members had no comparative knowledge of Lord Seymour's or of Lord Duncan's proposition, the merits of the case having a very slack hold on the attention of any party; and under ordinary circumstances the House would have supported the head of the department, especially when he was promising a measure. But, independently of the specific question, independently of any Ministerial crisis, which scarcely anybody in Parliament wishes to renew just now, there is a satisfaction in beating Ministers—because they have been beaten before, because they are down, because repeated beating helps to make them know their place. It is for this reason that Protectionists and Whig-Radicals are found voting with Lord Duncan, who beat Ministers by 120 to 119.

The defeat has not been regarded as very seriously important, until the pure Whig *Globe* made it a matter of solemn warning. The Whig journalist admits that Ministers might have done better—that Lord John Russell "might have been more communicative to his supporters," and that "a more judicious distribution of patronage" might have silenced Lord Duncan; but it warns the Whig-Radicals, "the mass of the Melbourne majority," "the ballot and household suffrage men of the first Reformed Parliaments," against the consequences of voting by the side of Protectionists and Orangemen, of Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright: they will let in a Stanley Cabinet!

"It is all very well to swagger about the clubs, and say that it is high time to make short work of a Ministry that gets beaten six or seven times a-week. We only venture to hint that this amusement is not quite compatible with the prudent and disinterested policy which we really believe that the Parliamentary Liberals honestly have at heart. We believe that nine out of ten of their number look with a natural dread on the possibility of any violent domestic convulsion, that they are determined to resist the reimposition either of taxes upon food or of religious disabilities, and that it is their honest wish to secure the transmission of the Monarchy to their descendants by reducing its cost and popularizing its defences. We believe that they look on the present Cabinet as the fittest engine for accomplishing this task. Now, we need not pretend to any very deep insight into Cabinet secrets, when we say that it is morally impossible for Lord John Russell again to go through the perplexities and humiliations of the last three weeks; and that, after a very few

more such divisions as that on Lord Duncan's motion, he can only be expected to wash his hands of the whole concern."

This is very alarming, as the *Globe* puts it—Lord John Russell, or a revolution; for the *Globe* sees no other alternative. The *Morning Post* seconds the Whig warning. If the alternative were true, it would be distressing; but even then there are not a few who might prefer revolution rather than a Russell Cabinet. The revolutionary alternative would hold out a promise of novelty; besides, it is untried, which the Russell Cabinet is not.

In this enfeebled state, which excites so much anxiety among his friends, Lord John Russell is trying to rub on with his Ecclesiastical Titles Bill in its mutilated form; but the concession which was intended to disarm objections has failed in that effect, while it has aroused a new class of objectors. The Irish Agitators suspended their operations while the Russell Ministry was in jeopardy; but no sooner has Lord John regained strength enough to go on with his fractional bill than the Irishmen, animated by their past success, again advance to confront him. The meeting at the Freemasons' Tavern to resist the bill shows that the Roman Catholic laity of London has awakened from its slumber; and there is every prospect that the resistance to the measure will increase as the bill advances in ulterior stages. At the same time the Ultra-Protestants are beginning to stir in an agitation against the measure as it is amended by Lord John Russell. The Roman Catholics will continue to oppose any fraction to which the measure may be reduced; the Ultra-Protestants will oppose it the more it is reduced to a fraction.

Of the other subjects in Parliament the most practically important are Mr. Baines's bill for the better protection of parish apprentices, and Mr. Milner Gibson's for the establishment of County Financial Boards.

Mr. Baines's bill would prevent the recurrence of cases like that of Jane Wilbred, and would secure a very needful protection to one of the most unfortunate classes of the community.

The County Boards are recommended by many practical considerations: they would add local representation where local taxation has been extended without it; they would familiarize the People with the practice of local government; they would create subsidiary local legislatures, to which might be transferred much of the local and private business which now overburdens the central Legislature. Mr. Milner Gibson may be obstructed for a time, but his perseverance is sure of ultimate reward.

The meeting on the adulteration of coffee ought to make an era in the history of retail commerce. The latter class of tradesmen, aided by two commercial Members of Parliament, Mr. Thomas Baring and Mr. Moffatt, are making a stand against adulterations in the grocery trade. According to hints at the meeting, the retail traffic in some articles is almost threatened with extinction by the

increasing trade in spurious substitutes. Were such practices to continue unchecked, all confidence in the dealer would be destroyed, and serious inconveniences would result to the trader as well as the consumer. There can be no doubt, however that if the respectable dealers persevere in the stand against adulterations they must succeed, not only in arresting the progress of fraud, but in drawing a larger portion of custom to the sound trader. Although the majorities at the meeting were very close, the balance of moral weight lies with the innovators.

The stagnation of affairs inseparable in England from the mock crisis we have just undergone would seem to influence—magnetically, we suppose—the politics of the Continent. Everywhere the same painful state of suspense.

Germany sends us notes, memorandums, protests, and protocols without end: the result of all, a return to the sleepy old Diet of Frankfort. Prussia proposes it in good earnest; most of the Princes are quite ready to accede to any measure that may be altogether of a negative character. Austria indeed would soar higher, and Schwarzenberg storms and thunders. But Metternich sends in a word of peace and moderation, and he is the man of 1815.

From France, next to nothing. Louis Napoleon tries to win Parisian hearts by cantering and caracoling along the Boulevards. His Ministers try to win over the National Guards by affecting to leave them the right of private suffrage to the last. They wish the French people to see how averse the President is to rob them of a franchise by virtue of which he has attained his exalted station, and by the aid of which he feels sure he would be enabled to retain it. There are rumours of an adjournment of the Assembly in April, to afford the Government leisure for sounding the people's mind, previously to the presentation of any motion for a revision of the Constitution. The feuds of Legitimists and Orleansists run higher than ever, and the breach between them will only cease with extinction of one of the branches.

They teach the French to cry, "A plague o' both your Houses!" and the ultimate success of the Bonapartists can no longer be matter of serious doubt.

A new turn has been given to the Slavery agitation in the United States. The act of Congress authorizing the capture of runaway slaves has been found to conflict with an act of the State Legislature in Massachusetts, and the conflict has been used to facilitate the escape of a captured slave. Here, therefore, we have the general slave question complicated with old disputes about Federal rights and State right. On the one side is the President issuing proclamations in support of the Federal statute; on the other side, the State officers are opposing to the Federal statute a certain passive resistance, and the eloquent theologian, Theodore Parker, is helping to fan the ardour of the Anti-Slavery party.

More accounts from the Cape of Good Hope bring melancholy details of the inglorious war with the Natives, in which defeat is doubly disgraceful and victory but the choice of a minor degradation. Some of the Government papers here are keeping up the cry that the colony must pay for the war; but England is far more responsible for it than the colony is. If the colonists had been left alone, they would have settled these Border questions long ago: it is the Government in Downing-street which keeps up the wars, by tampering with the Natives and holding back the colonists, and it is the People of England which maintains that Government in power.

PARLIAMENT OF THE WEEK.

The defeat of Ministers on Tuesday was only by a small majority, 120 to 119; but still it was a defeat. Lord Duncan's motion was to the following effect:—

"Whereas it appears by returns laid before this House, and before the Select Committee of Woods, Forests, Works, &c., that, during a period of seven years (from 1842-3 to 1848-9), the gross income derived from the possessions and land revenues of the Crown has amounted to £2,446,785, and that out of this sum only £774,000 has been paid to the public account at the Exchequer; and whereas during the same period it appears that a sum amounting to £1,672,785 has been withheld for charges of collection and management, and for other expenses charged upon the said revenues, it is expedient, with a view to place the expenditure of this branch of the public service under the more immediate control of Parliament, that the gross income derived from the said revenues should hereafter be paid into the Exchequer; and that the necessary expenses for managing and collecting the same should be voted by this House, upon estimates to be annually submitted to Parliament by her Majesty's Government."

In bringing forward the motion, he was at pains to explain that he did not wish to bring any charge against any public department; all he wished was to raise the question whether it was for the advantage of her Majesty's service to allow a department to collect and spend the public money without the control of Parliament. The Commissioners of Woods and Forests are responsible only to the Treasury, and the only cognizance which Parliament has of their proceedings is contained in a report annually presented to the House about the middle of the session, but not circulated among the members till September or October, when the session is fairly over. The gross rental of the property belonging to the Crown, if duly administered, would be amply sufficient for maintaining the Crown in all due dignity and splendour.

"The revenues of the Crown are derived from three sources—first, from the landed revenues, consisting of house property in different parts of London, such as in Whitehall, St. James, Regent-street, and the Tower; landed estates in different parts of the kingdom, fines on management, &c. Over all this property there is placed that great national bailiff, the Secretary for the Treasury. Now, with all due submission to the abilities of his honourable friend—yet, considering all the demands that were made upon his time, he protested against his honourable friend—he protested against such a large property being placed at his disposal. His honourable friend is certainly not the person whom, in his present position, he would choose to manage his private estate—(laughter)—and still less is he the person to manage the estates of the Crown. His honourable friend, when asked what was the rental of the property under his care, answered, that there was no rental—none arising from the property in Wales, Scotland, or Ireland. There are certain fee-farm rents which were committed to the care of the Commissioners of Woods, valued at £1000 a-year, and yet, would the House believe it that these fee-farm rents have never been collected—that they have been totally lost, and that the account of them was only found after a long search, in a drawer of the office of Woods and Forests, after the appointment of this committee. (Hear, hear). The second branch of the property consists of the royal parks—St. James's-park, Hyde-park, the Green-park, and other parks in the metropolis. The gross income of these parks amounts to £11,026. The expenditure to £61,729. The third portion of the property consists of the royal forests—these are seventeen in number—the New Forest in Hampshire, consisting of 60,000 acres; the Dean Forests, in Gloucestershire, consisting of 20,000 acres; and many other forests, altogether amounting to about 100,000 acres. This part of the property has been valued at two millions sterling; and yet, on looking to the latest returns of the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, he found that the income of this property amounted to £36,393, while the expenditure was £36,784—(hear, hear);—so that the expenditure was larger than the income in the management of property that was valued at two millions sterling. He saw many honourable gentlemen opposite who were intimately acquainted with the value of land, and he would ask them if it was not a monstrous thing that property of the value of two millions should produce absolutely nothing to the national exchequer. (Loud cries of 'Hear, hear'?)"

He went to describe how the Crown had become possessed of a large portion of the land of England, and how various kings, who had unfortunately been surrounded by a set of needy courtiers, had given away the Crown lands. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth it was agreed that she should

place her hereditary revenues at the disposal of the House of Commons, and the result of that arrangement was, that the Minister of that day came into possession of a very useful source of patronage and favour. So well was this exercised during the last century; that when Mr. Pitt instituted an inquiry into the management of the Woods and Forests in 1797, it was found that the annual revenues of the Crown from that source had dwindled down to £5000 a-year. In consequence of that inquiry, several large portions of the property were restored to the public; but of late years, it would appear, that the whole department has again fallen into a state of gross neglect. To take the case of the royal forests, for example. Lord Duncan had paid a visit to the New Forest during last recess, and never had he witnessed such a state of confusion as the way in which affairs were managed there. He had been placed in communication with Mr. Reed, the deputy-surveyor, who had the management of the forest, and when he called that gentleman's attention to the fact that the lots of timber lying by the roadside did not correspond with the official catalogue, Mr. Reed referred him to the solicitor, and immediately afterwards set off to France. One of the foremen committed suicide, and another ran away; indeed, the whole concern seemed to be in a state of confusion. Major Freeman, who had been employed to look into the management, said that a system of robbery had been going on for years. "Every one in the neighbourhood seemed to think that the forests belonged to them." Then there was an enormous amount of Crown revenues spent among the lawyers. The law expenses paid to the solicitors of the Woods and Forests during the seven years ending in 1848 amounted to £79,241. This was the amount paid in London alone, besides which there were large bills paid to solicitors in Dublin and Edinburgh, and other places. In Edinburgh alone the bills amounted to £3000 a-year. But the most startling fact connected with the management of the Woods and Forests is that, between 1842 and 1848, no less than £6,696,292 worth of the Crown property has been sold by order of the Treasury, without Parliament being made acquainted with the sales until afterwards, through the annual reports. Lord DUNCAN concluded by moving the resolution, which was seconded by Mr. HUME. Lord SEYMOUR denied that the revenues were in the disorderly state in which Lord Duncan had represented them, and stated the annual returns of income from 1797 to show what a large increase had taken place. He had taken great trouble to make himself master of the subject, having previously believed that there were gross abuses in this department complained of. His objection to the proposed resolution was, first, that it would be ineffective, for Parliament could not go into details of expenditure, but could do no more than lay down a broad principle, and insist on its being adhered to; and, secondly, that it would be impossible to carry out this resolution, and at the same time to carry into effect the proposed division of the offices of Works and Woods. He therefore moved, as an amendment, for leave to bring in a bill, of which Lord John Russell had given notice early in the session (a bill the same as that of last year, for dividing the above offices), for providing for the better management of the Crown lands.

Mr. HUME and Sir H. WILLOUGHBY supported the motion, as did also Sir BENJAMIN HALL. The latter suggested that the Crown lands should be treated as encumbered estates, put up to auction, and sold for the benefit of the Crown. The House having divided, the numbers were—

For the motion..... 120
Against it..... 119

Majority in favour of the motion..... 1

The debate on the Navy Estimates, on Monday evening, presented no new feature. Sir T. F. BARING in moving that the number of men voted for the naval service of the year 1851-2 be 30,000, took credit on the part of the Government for having acted with marvellous economy in the expenditure of that department. During the last two years the estimates have undergone a reduction of £1,500,000. Compared with 1835, the naval expenditure of 1851 shows an increase of £1,326,628, but then we must remember that the French naval estimates have increased £1,735,000 during that period. Mr. HUME ridiculed the notion of increasing the number of our seamen because the French increased their navy. In a late discussion in the French Chamber, the reduction of their naval expenditure was opposed on the ground of ours being so large. It was ridiculous to see two nations acting so absurdly. He referred to the sweeping reforms which had taken place when Sir James Graham presided over the Admiralty. He reduced the navy estimates to £4,000,000, and yet it was admitted that the navy was in a better condition after the reductions had been made than it was previously. In the years 1835-6-7-8 the average number of men was 29,638, and he could not see any reason for having more than that number in 1851. Then as regards the African squadron, there was now an excellent opportunity for getting quit of that costly absurdity. The French Government and

the United States Government were both anxious to be relieved from their engagements, so that the great difficulty of last year was now removed. In a digression upon the late Ministerial crisis Mr. Hume said:—

"It appeared to him that Lord Stanley paid but a very poor compliment to the Protectionist party in that House when he stated that there was only one man among them fit for office. Surely of the 270 gentlemen or thereabout who the other night voted for protection there must be enough talent to fill up the Treasury bench, the more especially when it was borne in mind that all the real work in each department was done by the clerks, who remained stationary. (A laugh.) It was not merely Mr. Punch who made a jest of their proceedings, they were the laughing-stock of all Europe, and well they might be. Who did not see, when the 'Old Doctor,' as Mr. Punch designated a well-known personage, was sent for, upon the remarkably judicious advice of the noble lord, that all the 'Old Doctor' would direct would be 'As you were'? (A laugh.) There was not one improvement in any way connected with the departments with which he had to do, that the 'Old Doctor' had not done his best to stop; for such a man, therefore, to be called in was utterly preposterous. ('They didn't send for you!') No, they didn't send for him; for he had been pretty nearly as long in practice as the doctor that was sent for (a laugh), had paid, he believed, more attention to passing events for the last twenty years (hear, hear), and very possibly he might have prescribed rather better than the other 'Old Doctor' had done. ('Hear, hear,' and a laugh.) It was his opinion that the country looked upon them as a set of dolts for allowing things to go on as they had gone on during the last two or three weeks. (Hear, hear.) There were 658 honourable gentlemen, representatives of the people of Great Britain and Ireland, utterly incapable of coming to a decision upon great national questions one way or the other. (Hear, hear.) There was this miserable Papal Aggression Bill; why, passed as it was introduced, that bill would involve imminent danger of a civil war in the sister country, yet 330 or 350 members of that House had voted for it in its full extent. He trusted that the noble lord would either bring in a bill that would satisfy the country upon the subject or give up legislation upon it altogether. (Hear, hear.) But, at all events, don't let the business of the country be at a stand still for three other weeks or more. Rather than this, much as he should deprecate anything tending to excite a 'No-Popery' cry, he should say that her Majesty had better have recourse to a general election. In fact, this seemed to be the only effectual remedy; for suppose this vote of 39,000 men refused, the Cabinet would cry out, 'We cannot go on.' The House would say, 'You must get on.' The Cabinet would say, 'We won't get on.' The Old Doctor would again be called in, there would be the same prescription as before, of 'As you were,' and so the farce would, for the second time, be presented. (Laughter, and cries of 'Hear, hear.')"

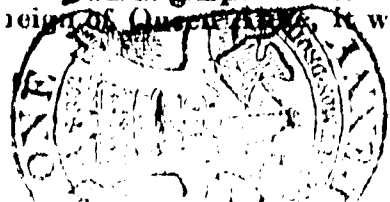
He concluded by moving that the number of seamen and marines should be reduced to 30,000. Mr. COBDEN supported the motion, and in doing so paid a high compliment to Sir James Graham:—

"The member for Ripon—of whose administrative talents no one had a higher opinion than he entertained, for he had had the honour of sitting with that right honourable baronet upon the same committee for three years, and he well knew his mastery of details and the comprehensive knowledge he displayed—(hear, hear)—had exercised a most useful sway at the Admiralty from 1830 to 1834."

Mr. COBDEN condemned the entire dock-yard system as wasteful and extravagant, and quoted Lamartine, Thiers, and other French statesmen, to show that the way in which France and England act in their naval expenditure was just a game at "Boggar my neighbour," without the slightest reason to justify it. He hoped the House would allow him, on a future occasion, to submit a motion for asking her Majesty to present a proposal with a view to prevent a continuance of this system, and, if possible, to enter upon a system of mutual reductions. "It was inconsistent with the advanced civilization of the age that two great nations like France and England, professing amity, should all the while be arming to the teeth, as if each expected the other to spring upon it like a wild beast." It was folly to talk of relieving the burden of taxation by transferring it from one class to another. He saw no way of relief except by a reduction of our armed force. Lord JOHN RUSSELL took great pains to show that our armaments are much smaller than we ought to have. The facilities of transit, by which large bodies of troops could be rapidly moved from one point to another, placed this country much more in the position of a continental country than it was when Sir James Graham was at the head of the Admiralty. We ought to look also to our dependence on other nations for food:—

"For the last two or three years we had imported 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 quarters of grain. Let any one think what a loss it would be to this country, being in the practice of having part of our food to that amount from foreign countries—(cheers and laughter from the Protectionists)—if, in the event of war, we had no naval force. (Renewed cheers and laughter.) He was, therefore, of opinion that, necessary as it was to have a naval force to protect our trade in all former wars, a nation like ours, which allowed a free import of grain, and was now in the habit—in the practice which might continue—of importing 8,000,000 or 9,000,000 quarters of grain annually, was still more under the necessity of maintaining a naval force."

Mr. MILNER GIBSON was entirely at issue with the



noble lord's doctrine that the extension of trade rendered it necessary to increase our naval force. The increase of our shipping, and of the number of sailors, made the facilities for manning our fleet greater in a case of sudden emergency. But war is less likely to arise with our increased foreign trade. The free-trade policy introduces a tie of mutual interest among nations, which is the strongest guarantee for the maintenance of peace.

The committee having divided, the numbers were:—

For Mr. Hume's amendment 61
Against it 169

Majority..... 108

Attempts were made to reduce some of the other votes proposed, but none of them were successful. Colonel SIMMONS raised a laugh by proposing to reduce the salary of the First Lord of the Admiralty from £4500 to £3500, on the ground that fish, meat, and other provisions were now cheaper owing to free trade, but only 34 members voted with him.

The County Rates and Expenditure Bill was read a second time on Wednesday, after a short discussion. The House was quite willing to admit the principle on which the bill is founded—that the rate-payers should have a voice in the expenditure of the rates, but the country members had a strong objection to the mode in which Mr. Milner Gibson proposes to carry the principle out. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON said the measure, if it became law, "would create a complete revolution in the manner of conducting county affairs." The bill would take away from the justices all control over the police and the gaols. He warned the House to beware of tampering with the principle of such an institution as the unpaid magistracy of England. "The bill was unjust, uncalled for, and mischievous. If he stood alone he should protest against it." He moved that it be read a second time that day six months. This amendment he afterwards withdrew on hearing from Sir George Grey and Lord John Russell that they were favourable to the bill being committed. The second reading of the Apprentices and Servants Bill passed without any discussion. Mr. BAINES, in moving it, explained the provisions of the bill, of which we gave an outline a few weeks ago. Its main provisions are an extension of the period during which masters and mistresses are made liable to provide food for the sustenance of servants or apprentices. By the law as it stands they were liable only in the case of "infants of tender years." By Mr. Baines's bill this liability is extended to all young persons under eighteen. Provision is also made, that until a person has arrived at eighteen, and so long as he remains in the Union in which he has been hired, regular visits shall be paid four times a-year to ascertain whether there is any cause of complaint against the master or mistress.

THE KAFFIR WAR.—A conversation took place in the House of Commons, on Monday evening, on the war in Kaffraria. Lord John Russell read a portion of a despatch from Earl Grey to Sir Harry Smith, written on Saturday, in which the Colonial Secretary warned the Governor that, whatever sums he might be compelled to draw from the military chest for the payment of the force he had raised, or "for any other expenses not incurred on account of her Majesty's regular troops, must be regarded as advances on the colonial treasury." Mr. Hume said it was all very well for Earl Grey to write in that style, but no one would believe that he could call on the colonists for the payment of a single shilling. The papers in his possession showed that the colonists had nothing to do with the expenses of the late war. They said they were willing to protect themselves, provided they were allowed to manage their own affairs, but they were not allowed to manage them. Sir H. Smith had been left at the Cape as a military despot. He could not understand why such a despatch as the one they had heard should have been sent to him. The truth was, that Earl Grey would sink any administration with which he remained." Mr. Labouchere defended the conduct of Government to the colonists, and affirmed that "a foundation had been laid by the Government of this country which would insure to the Cape Colony free institutions of the largest and most liberal kind." Mr. Adderley remarked that British Kaffraria was not a part of the Cape Colony. It was a separate British possession, under a separate administration, fiscal and political; and therefore neither Lord Grey nor the First Minister could call on the Cape to take any part of the charge of defending Kaffraria. The whole of the expenses would fall solely on the imperial government.

THE CONTINENT.

The Pope can no longer enjoy quiet slumbers within the walls of the Vatican Palace. The French garrison is all quartered in the Castle St. Angelo, and, perhaps, the Pontifical residence was subject to the annoyance of their early drumming. Perhaps, also, it was placed too inconveniently within reach of the Castle's protecting guns. By suggestion of the Russian and Austrian Ambassadors, his Holiness is about to remove to the Quirinal, where hasty preparations are made for his reception.

The King of Naples has issued orders for the prosecution of new sets of political offenders. Efforts

will be made to convict citizens in various classes, of the heinous crime of having hailed Ferdinand as "the Constitutional King." The Neapolitan Government has carried the Carnival at the point of the bayonet. In Sicily, and especially at Messina, the people having peremptorily refused to be merry, a few carriages, with military and civil officers, drove up to the *Corso*, hemmed in with double and treble rows of infantry, so as to bear all the appearance of a convoy of prisoners.

King Ferdinand has decidedly withdrawn his countenance from Hyde-park. The great mart will be the Exhibition of the Industry of "all Nations but one." Not a single *Macaroni* will the Two Sicilies contribute: the police-office will issue no passports for England during the whole period of the exhibition. Some people think the measure arises from the King's fears of the "burning eloquence" of Father Gavazzi. The fact is, however, that the Bourbon at all times evinced the same dread of similar national and international meetings. None of his subjects was ever allowed to attend the scientific Congresses that even Austria patronized. The Two Sicilies are kept in a state of Chinese *Celestialism*. All intercourse is contagion.

The Duke of Parma is on a visit to the Grand Duke of Tuscany. The latter, with his family, will embark at Leghorn for Naples. Who is there at the present day that does not apply for lessons of Neapolitan statescraft? Is not Baron Antonini, the Sicilian Minister, the oracle of Legitimists and Orleanists in Paris? Does M. Thiers draw his inspirations from any other source?

New troops are pouring down into Lombardy, from all parts, in hot haste. The Government of Vienna seems yet to labour under the greatest uneasiness with respect to Italy, and especially the Roman States. All the news of Austrian forces condensing in Umbria, at Spoleto and Foligno, and Terni, and Neapolitan troops on the borders at Rieti, receive the most ample confirmation. It is possible, yet, that all these movements are merely of a defensive character: that the Austrians wish to bring great masses of troops to bear against that poor influence that the French still flatter themselves with exercising at Rome. We have not forgotten that in the heat of its dissensions with Prussia, Austria found it necessary to borrow some of its best troops from the army of Radetzky. The great influx of soldiers into Italy at the present time, may, perhaps, be explained as the mere return of the Italian garrisons to their posts. By rapidity of motions those troops are actually multiplied in the eyes of terrified nations: forced marches and counter-marches give the Austrians all the prestige of ubiquity.

To secure the advantage of this all but instantaneous locomotion, Austria is sparing no expense in the rapid construction of railways. The line from Venice to Vicenza is now open to Verona and Mantua; a branch will stretch up to Roveredo and Trento, in the Tyrol; another is to come down to the South, as far at least as Ferrara. The French never understood that these iron arteries are the most efficient of fortifications; they wasted in their detached forts round Paris what would have enabled them to reach the Rhine, the Alps, or the Mediterranean with almost the speed of thought. Austria, however, is not neglecting the strongholds that proved the real Acropolis of her empire in 1848. New and extensive works are carried on round Mantua, Peschiera, and Verona. Padua, Vicenza, Milan itself, are hastily fortified. Really it will be no material strength that ever drives the Northerners from Italy.

Happily there is another and a mightier instrument of deliverance at work. The Piedmontese seem determined to make the most of their constitution while it lasts. The Chamber of Deputies at Turin concluded, on the 4th, the discussion of the general budget of the treasury and its additional articles. The following day was kept holy throughout the monarchy, being the third anniversary of the promulgation of the fundamental statute. There was high mass at the cathedral, a review of 4000 National Guards in the morning, a brilliant illumination in the evening. There, as well as at Genoa, the festivities passed off without the slightest disturbance.

The discussion of the treaty of commerce, lately concluded with Belgium, has given rise to parties of Protectionists and Free-Traders in the House of Deputies at Turin. The most liberal views on liberty of commerce have always enjoyed great popularity throughout Italy.

The constitution, as we said, is no dead letter for the Piedmontese. We have reason to be surprised at the excellent use the Italians make of their unlimited freedom of the press. There is greater talent and sense developed in the Piedmontese papers than could have been thought to be latent even in that proverbially-gifted Italian land; and this not in Piedmont merely but in Tuscany also, and even in Lombardy, under the very frowns of Radetzky. We have a few numbers of the *Stacuto*, a very able Florentine paper, now once more on its legs, after a month's suspension. We find in it a leading article on English politics, the work of a man thoroughly conversant with the subject. We would look in vain

for such a valuable effusion out of the whole mass of the Parisian press. Another paper, *Il Milanese*, has been suppressed at Milan on account of some ironical praises bestowed on Austrian rule. Vater Radetzky wages war against the very figures of rhetoric. People, he thinks, can say no good of him and his master, except through irony; and, like the old Venetian Government, Austria is not to be spoken of either for praise or censure.

Some executions in compliance with the Marshal's late proclamation against the diffusion of seditious writings, have already taken place. A poor journeyman baker has been shot at Venice, for having shown to a Hungarian soldier an address of the Hungarian Committee in London. Shooting, by wholesale, is going on in Romagna likewise. There, we are told, it is only robbers and malefactors that fall; and yet robberies and murders are more than ever rife in the country, and the town of Lugo especially was lately startled by some scenes of horror, such as our age ought only to read in bad novels. An Austrian soldier was found dead with thirty-eight knife wounds in his breast: another with forty-eight such wounds, forty-three in the breast alone. The murderers have escaped, and will swell the ranks of the houseless marauders.

A camp of 60,000 men will be formed by the Austrians, between the Adda and the Oglio, early in the spring. The Vienna papers contradict the report that the Government contemplated the reopening of Venice as a free port. Business is very dull at Leghorn, and the harbour nearly deserted.

From distracted Italy, it is even a relief to retire for refuge into bamboozled Germany; though even there, reaction threatens to bring the people back to the middle ages. Corporal punishment is again to be introduced in the Penal Code of Mecklenburg. It had been abolished in January, 1849; but the Government finds that it cannot be dispensed with. No discipline can be maintained without the lash in the prisons, and "no confessions are to be extorted from the prisoners." The dear, expeditious, economical stick will also have the good effect of driving "vagabonds and foreigners" out of the country.

The New Press Law has come into operation in Baden. Newspapers are to be guaranteed by caution-money. Every article will bear the author's signature. Authors, publisher, printers, the very devils, are responsible for all the contents of new publications. Ordinary courts are competent to try all usual offences of the press; for graver cases recourse will be had to the jury.

M. von Vincke's motion for an inquiry into the state of the country, has been negatived in the Prussian House of Deputies by 228 against 41 votes. The commission to which the motion had been referred reported against it, and, on their recommendation, the order of the day was proceeded with.

The King of Prussia has received the order of St. Andrew from the hands of a grateful and affectionate Czar; it is a rare distinction, and seldom bestowed out of the imperial family. The chain or collar is worth above 1,000,000 dollars.

The Prussian Government, unlike that of Naples, has thought proper to interfere with the carnival festivities at Cologne. The Saturnalia in the quaint old dirty city were said to be second in éclat only to those of Rome and Venice; though a great deal of drunkenness and debauchery was mixed up with dancing and masquerading. The sanguine Germans were better disposed to forget hard times in the enjoyment of their traditional merry-makings than the bilious Sicilians. The Government, however, put a veto on their plans and arrangements, and the gay season passed off on the Rhine with almost lenten dulness.

The great German question is absolutely on the same terms as we left it last week. No plenary meeting of the Dresden Conference has taken place on the 8th, as had been announced. Prince Schwarzenberg issued a circular to all the Austrian agents at the different German courts. It bears the date of March 2, and was first published in the Berlin papers on the 8th. It is full of arrogant threats against such of the minor German potentates as still resist the sovereign will of Austria; it contends that but for their jealousies and intrigues, Prussia and Austria would long since have set at rest all disputes on that complicated subject. The prince, at the same time, indignantly rejects the idea of any foreign power's interference in German matters, either as an interested party, or even as a mediator and adviser. The same high, independent tone is assumed by Manteuffel at Berlin; and the French note or protest against the intended annexation of the non-German provinces of Austria into the Bund has been received with cold contempt.

This non-interference of foreign powers, however, only applies to France or England. Russia does something more than mediate, it dictates at Dresden, as it did at Otmutz, Erfurt, and Warsaw; collars, of a million value, are not given away to independent and self-respecting princes.

In the midst of all these endless bickerings the German fleet has foundered ere it ever quitted harbour. The scheme is altogether abandoned, and

Prussia will put forward claims to the best part of the shipping and other materiel that was to make Germany a great maritime power.

The Austrians had quitted Lübeck; their last troops in that town set out for Bohemia on the 10th. Hamburg is always still by their garrison. In the midst of all her triumphs, Austria is evidently haunted by vague terrors. The Schwarzenberg Ministry is a prey to division, and almost feels the impossibility of carrying on the Government. They have, it is said, sent for Metternich's advice in their perplexity. The old sage recommends moderation; he thinks the great scheme of Austrian centralization should be substantially modified, if not altogether abandoned. Austria never was, never can be a State, but only a Federation. He also advises not to drive Prussia to extremities, lest she should throw herself into the arms of the revolutionary party, and once more rear up the national standard. He evidently is of opinion that Prussia has not irreparably lost all the sympathies of the patriots of the Gagern and Radowitz school, and that the German Lutherans cannot but look up to Frederic William for their natural chief and protector.

Under these circumstances it seems but natural to expect that Austria will give in to Prussia's proposition for a restoration of the old Frankfort Diet, upon the terms of 1815. There are those who think that neither Schwarzenberg nor the young Emperor will ever give up their magnificent conception of an Austro-German Monarchy; but they are likely to be satisfied with the substance of power, which is already theirs, without the vain title, at least for the present.

The dissatisfaction in Croatia and the border provinces is ever on the increase; and it is difficult to say whether Austria has more enemies in Hungary and Lombardy, or in those very provinces which were her very bulwark in 1848-9, and which now consider themselves shamefully requited for their fidelity.

The Bosnian insurgents have carried the city and citadel of Bajaluka. The Turkish garrison has been allowed to retire on parole.

There has been a great demonstration at Lausanne against the measures taken by the Swiss Federal Government against the Foreign refugees. The orders of the Diet will never be carried into execution in the French Cantons. A new kind of refugees—the Hungarian and other deserters from the army of Radetzky—threaten now to increase the embarrassment of the Swiss Government. Very large numbers of these fugitives cross the frontier of Canton Ticino, not daily only but hourly. The Sardinian Government had offered to rid the Swiss of their presence by embarking them for America. But the threats of Radetzky, backed on this point by the terms of existing treaties, have obliged the Court of Turin to send back the deserters to the Swiss frontier, and it is difficult now to decide what is to be done with them.

The people of Lausanne have held a tumultuous meeting in the open air, and passed resolutions to the effect that no Government officer or public functionary should be allowed a seat in the Great Council or Cantonal Parliament. More than 10,000 citizens were assembled. Their resolutions have made a deep sensation throughout Switzerland, where it is calculated that two-thirds, at least, of the members of the various legislative bodies consist of men belonging at the same time to the Executive.

Louis Napoleon is gaining ground in France. The election of officers of the National Guards of the Seine Department, which was to take place on the 25th instant, has been put off till the promulgation of the new law on the organization of that citizen militia, which is now in progress in the Assembly. The election, according to the old law, should have taken place by universal suffrage; and the President and his Government, desirous to spread a belief that they were partial to that mode of election, and that they would gladly see it applied to the great general elections of 1862, wished the officers of the National Guard to be appointed on that popular principle, but the Conservatives in the Assembly insisted on the postponement, and the Government gave in, ordering the officers, whose power would have expired on the 25th, to retain it till the election can take place according to the limited suffrage of the 31st of May.

The National Guard of Strasburg has been dissolved; seventy-three officers of that militia having petitioned for leave to celebrate the anniversary of the February revolution.

Louis Napoleon held a review of four regiments of the line, previous to their quitting the capital: every species of cry was forbidden to the men, while under arms, but a drenching rain would have been a sufficient damper on the ardour of the troops had they been disposed to show any.

There have been disturbances in the South, especially at Montpellier, on the recurrence of the days of the revolution, but none of a grave character.

The papers have been full of an imminent Ministerial Crisis,—a supposed combination which should bring MM. Odilon Barrot, Baroche, and Fould into power; but the rumour deserves no credit.

The schism between the Royalists widens apace. All chances of reconciliation between the partizans of the two branches have been abandoned. Venice

is crowded with Frenchmen coming to offer their homage to Henry V.; workmen, even, and minor tradesmen, with their humble presents to the illustrious exile—a pair of slippers to his consort, a map of Chambord, &c. &c.

Louis Napoleon has appointed new obscure men to some of the most important Prefectures and Sub-prefectures, taking good care to remove from office the men who had come into power under Cavaignac and the champions of order, of June 1848.

Some blows were exchanged on Tuesday last, on the occasion of a ride of the President along the Boulevards, between men who cried *Vive l'Empereur!* and others who shouted *Vive la République!* The Republicans, it is said, were worsted.

General Excelmans has been raised to the dignity of Marshal of France.

The Spanish Government has introduced important changes in its diplomatic department. All embassies are to be suppressed. The Marquis de Valdegamas, the famous M. Donoso Cortes, supersedes the Duke de Sotomayor, with the simple title of Minister Plenipotentiary, at Paris. M. Castillo y Aliensa is sent, with the same title, to Rome: and M. Alcala Galiano to Lisbon.

M. Tacon is appointed Consul-General in London.

We receive from Spain many conjectures respecting changes in the Cabinet, but no positive information.

The Concordat with the Pope has been signed by the Queen, and is on its way to Rome. It is said to be too favourable to the Papal Court, and likely to raise a stormy opposition in the Cortes.

THE POLISH AND HUNGARIAN EXILES IN LIVERPOOL.

The people of Liverpool have given their decision as to what ought to be done with the Polish and Hungarian refugees. At a public meeting, attended by about 3000 persons, held on Monday, it was resolved to memorialize Parliament in favour of the exiles. The chair was taken by Mr. F. Boulton, who introduced to the meeting Mr. W. J. Linton to explain the position in which the exiles stood. Mr. Linton, who was taken for a Pole by the meeting, said it was not his intention to interfere with the business of the people of Liverpool, or to say they did not know what course to take in this matter of humanity, but he merely wished to clear away certain false impressions which had gone abroad through the medium of the press. He then proceeded to comment on the statement of the Hungarian gentlemen which had appeared in several newspapers, and denied it point blank. The refugees had never consented to go to America; they had told Sir Stratford Canning that they would remain in England. Mr. Linton denied that any persuasion had been used to prevent those men from proceeding to America, or that any inducement had been held out to them to prevent their going there. The following resolution was then passed, after a slight show of opposition, and the moving of an amendment, for which only a few persons voted:—

“That this meeting expresses its warmest sympathy for the Polish and Hungarian refugees who had just reached Liverpool from Constantinople; and—understanding that it is their desire and intention to remain in England, and to endeavour to obtain employment here till such time as they may find opportunity to serve their country—this meeting urgently recommends that committees be formed in Liverpool and throughout the country, in order to assist them in gaining employment, and also to help their friends in supporting them till they shall be able to maintain themselves.”

A subscription has been opened for the relief of the refugees, toward which £9 10s. was contributed at the meeting. It is also stated that a theatrical performance is to take place for their benefit.

THE KAFFIR WAR.

The Kaffirs have not yet been put down. The latest news from the Cape, which comes down to the 1st of February, informs us that the coloured inhabitants of the Kat River have declared against the colony, that the European inhabitants had evacuated Fort Armstrong—which was said to be in the hands of the rebel Kaffirs and Hottentots, and that “the country between Graham's Town and Cradock—comprising the richest part of the eastern province, and embracing an extent of country of not less than 150 miles in length, dotted with farm-houses, and teeming a few weeks ago with flocks of fine woolled sheep, troops of horses, and herds of cattle, is now all desolate. Every homestead save one is abandoned, and every flock and herd either swept off by the enemy, or driven away by the owner with immense loss.”

A severe action had taken place on the 21st of January between the troops under Major-General Somerset and the Kaffirs, the latter having made an attack on Fort Hare and the town of Alice. The battle lasted two hours and a half, and ended in the defeat of the enemy with serious loss. A skirmish also occurred on the 24th near King William's Town between a few of the colonial army and a great number of the rebels, when the latter were defeated. Fort Cox, Fort White, Fort Hare, and King William's

Town, were occupied by the regular troops and Hottentot levies, the force amounting to about 3000 of the former, and 2000 to 3000 of the latter. The Swillendam levy, 677 strong, had joined the army in the field. Nothing decisive had occurred, but all the above-mentioned posts were surrounded by Kaffirs, who are described by the Cape journals as much straitened for provisions. Sir Harry Smith's communications with Cape Town were open by the Buffalo River, and by this means he was enabled to receive any reinforcements that might be sent to him. He was daily expected to come out of King William's Town in force to relieve the other posts.

The Government journals speak in high terms of some grand scheme projected by Sir Harry Smith for putting down the rebellion, by enrolling a body of 5000 of the native tribes dwelling on the western frontier of the Natal Colony; but we must say that we can see little ground for anything but alarm.

The *Globe* says the Governor-General was waiting until all his levies arrived before commencing operations on a great scale against the enemy. He had not sent to St. Helena or the Mauritius for troops, as it has been reported, and people at the Cape were confident that with his present forces he would quell the outbreak within three or four, or, at farthest, six months.

ANTI-SLAVERY DISTURBANCES.

The abolition movement in the United States continues to disturb the community, contrary to the expectation of those who fancied that it had been fairly set at rest by the late declarations in favour of the integrity of the Union. The chief exciting topic, when the last packet left New York, was a bold and unsuccessful attempt of a party of free negroes, in Boston, to liberate a fugitive slave.

Shadrach Winkley, the unfortunate black, had been pursued to Boston by his master, John Debree, and having been arrested, was brought before the commissioners for the purpose of verification. Now, it so happens that, by an act passed in 1843, and still in force in Massachusetts, it is declared that no judge of any court of record, or justices of the peace, can take cognizance or grant certificates in cases arising under the act respecting fugitives from justice and persons escaping from the service of their masters, and that no sheriff, constable, or gaoler can arrest or imprison in any gaol persons for the reason that they were claimed as fugitive slaves. When the case of Shadrach came on for hearing, on the 12th of February, his counsel moved for an adjournment, ostensibly for the purpose of examining depositions and documents, but in reality to afford an opportunity for his escape. Orders were given that Shadrach should be kept safely until the time fixed for the re-hearing of the case, but the difficulty was where to lodge him. The gaols being closed against fugitive slaves, a message was sent to the commodore, to know whether he would keep the slave in the navy yard. The application was refused, the commodore declaring that he was not authorized to use the yard for the purpose. So Shadrach had to be kept in the court-room, permission being given to his counsel to communicate with him. The opportunity was seized of the door opening to let out one of the counsel. A body of negroes in the staircase of the courthouse forced their way up, kept the door open, and whilst some jammed the sheriff up in a corner, and hugged the legs and sword of the marshal to prevent his moving, the rest hurried out the fugitive slave, who in five minutes found himself safe on the road to Canada.

Of course, so bold an infraction of the Fugitive Slave Bill has not been suffered to pass with impunity. Several persons have been arrested on charges of having taken part in the riot, and Mr. Elizur Wright, editor of the *Boston Commonwealth*, an Abolition organ, has been held to bail in the sum of 2000 dollars. President Fillmore has issued the following proclamation on the subject:—

“Washington, Tuesday afternoon, Feb. 18, 1851.

“Whereas information has been received that sundry lawless persons, principally persons of colour, combined and confederated together for the purpose of opposing by force the execution of the laws of the United States, did, at Boston, Massachusetts, on the 16th of this month, make a violent assault on the marshal or deputy marshals of the United States for the district of Massachusetts, in the Court-house, and did outrage the said officers, and did by force rescue from their custody a person arrested as a fugitive slave, and then and there a prisoner, lawfully holden by the said marshal or deputy-marshals of the United States, and other scandalous outrages did commit in violation of law: now, therefore, to the end that the authority of the laws may be maintained, and those concerned in violating them brought to an immediate and condign punishment, I have issued this my proclamation, calling on all well disposed citizens to rally to the support of the laws of their country, and requiring and commanding all officers, civil and military, who shall be found within the vicinity of this outrage, to be aiding and assisting, by all means in their power, in quelling this and other such combinations, and assisting the marshal and his deputies in recapturing the above-mentioned prisoner. And I do especially direct that prosecutions be commenced against all persons who shall have made themselves aiders or abettors in or to this flagitious offence. And I do further command that the district attorney of the United States, and all other persons con-

cerned in the administration or execution of the laws of the United States, cause the foregoing offenders, and all such as have aided, abetted, or assisted them, or shall be found to have harboured or concealed such fugitive, contrary to law, to be immediately arrested and proceeded with according to law.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, this 18th day of February, 1851.

"MILLARD FILLMORE.

"DANIEL WEBSTER, Secretary of State."

In addition to this the President has sent a message to Congress, in which he states the case at great length, and concludes with an expression of his determination to execute the law, and suppress all forcible opposition. The message gave rise to a long and animated debate in the Senate. Mr. Rhett, of South Carolina, could see no necessity for the message. The States were bound to carry out the provisions of the constitution of the United States; and the south would say to the north, "Your duty is a plain one; execute it, or we dissolve the union." Mr. Clay, in defending the course taken by the President, said:—"The question presented by the riot is, whether our laws framed by our own government of white men, are to be yielded to a government of black men?"

The popular feeling in Boston is strongly against the Slave Bill. As an instance, it is stated in the *Salem Gazette* that, on the 16th of February, while the Reverend Theodore Parker was preaching in his church at Boston, he exclaimed, in reference to Shadrach, the rescued slave, "I thank God that the fugitive has escaped;" upon which the congregation gave three cheers.

In the midst of all this excitement Mr. George Thompson's anti-slavery mission to the United States is not suffered to proceed very quietly. At Springfield, where he had announced his intention to deliver a lecture, a very inflammatory placard was posted on the walls, in which he was accused of being the "paid emissary and spy of England." The "physical force" of the community was called upon to rally to a man, and "give the British emissary a reception that will teach a new lesson to English statesmen." On the Sunday previous to the lecture George Thompson and John Bull were hung in effigy from a large tree in the centre of the town. Nothing daunted, however, Mr. Thompson made his appearance, nor did any disturbance take place, thanks to the sheriff and his assistants, who preserved order. After the meeting, stones were thrown through Mr. Thompson's window at his hotel, and he was hooted and pelted when he left the town next morning.

The affair has led to some discussion in Congress. In the House of Representatives Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, asked leave to introduce a resolution that the President be requested to inform the House, if compatible with the public interests, whether Mr. Thompson, a subject of the British crown, and also a member of the British Parliament, has been recently grossly insulted in Springfield, and his personal liberty literally endangered by citizens of that state, in violation of certain treaty stipulations with the British Government. In the Senate, Mr. Cass and other members condemned the conduct of Mr. Thompson in very strong terms. Mr. Clay, in speaking of the Boston riot, said:—

"Not only are these negroes made the catspaw of miserable and designing men, to bring odium on the laws and violate justice and its officers, but there has been introduced a man named Thompson, who was said to be a member of Parliament, to disturb and agitate the people; and that police which could find time and the means to attend and protect this foreign emissary in his disunion addresses, could not give their aid to execute a law of the United States. He little supposed that any member of Congress would be tolerated a moment in England who would go to Birmingham and Manchester, and there denounce the law of primogeniture—the aristocracy, and the Crown itself. Such a man would be justly denounced by every loyal British subject, and he would be put out of the country; and here this Thompson is received with open arms, encouraged, by men professing to be Americans, in preaching sedition and disunion."

THE REAL GOLD COAST.

Another El Dorado has been discovered on the coast of the Pacific, which, if true, would throw all former Californian stories into the shade. This new golden region is situated near the mouth of the Kalamath river. The gold-bearing range of the interior juts out into the sea at that place, running down to a line of precipitous cliffs, from 100 to 600 feet high, which skirt the coast for nearly ten miles. These have been christened the Gold Bluffs, and here, according to the *Pacific News*, "Old Father Neptune carries on a gold washing operation on his own account, precisely on the principle of the miner's gold washing, but on a colossal scale. As the waves ebb and flow they wash out the Bluff, carrying back into the sea all the lighter sand, gravel, &c., and leaving behind on the beach the heavy black sand, containing the gold. Occasionally, after a storm, the black sand is buried under a sort of top dressing of grey sand thrown up by the sea, on removing which to a slight depth, the black, gold-bearing sand is shown as before. The very richest portion of this deposit is confined to a strip of about two miles long; although for about seven miles more the sand is all more or

less abounding in gold. We have been shown one sample, which we are assured has yielded upon analysis at the rate of six dollars to the pound, which we presume, of course, to be a very favourable specimen." Another account says, the gold is not so easily discovered, when the surf is high, but in the spring, "after a succession of calms, the entire beach is covered with bright and yellow gold."

A joint-stock company has already "come unto those yellow sands," and the secretary, who has measured a patch of the auriferous beach, estimates that, if it prove to be one-tenth as rich as it seems, it will yield to each shareholder the snug little sum of 43,000,000 dollars." General Wilson, who has been at the Gold Bluffs, says that thousands of men will not be able to exhaust the gold in thousands of years.

PROTESTANTISM AND POPERY.

The Ministerial allegation that the Roman Catholic laity are favourable to the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill has been signally refuted this week. A numerous meeting of the Catholics in London was held on Monday, at the Freemasons'-hall, for the purpose of petitioning against the bill. Mr. P. Howard, M.P., occupied the chair; Lord Dormer, the Honourable Mr. Stonor, Mr. Reynolds, M.P.; Mr. Moore, M.P.; Mr. Sergeant Shee, Mr. Amherst, and other Catholic gentlemen were on the platform. Letters were read from Lord Petre, Lord Vaux, of Harrowden, and the Honourable C. Langdale, expressing a resolution to support the Pope in his freedom of action on the Church in England, as well as to oppose every attempt at interference with the civil or religious freedom of the Roman Catholic community. Mr. Sergeant Shee, in proposing the first resolution, paid a tribute of gratitude to the honesty and courage of Sir Robert Peel. The name of the lamented statesman called forth a burst of cheering from the meeting. Sergeant Shee congratulated the Irish Members on their having saved the name of Russell the ignominy of passing a law, which would doubtless have been called "Lord John Russell's Act for the religious persecution of the Catholics of England and Ireland, and the confiscation of their property."

"It had been cut down from a bill for the confiscation of Roman Catholic charities to a bill for the degradation and humiliation of their archbishops and bishops, as far as an act of Parliament could effect it. The pretence put forward for legislation was, that it was necessary, forsooth, to protect them from their own bishops; but it was now seen by the whole empire to have been nothing but a false pretence. But because Lord John Russell had written a letter to the Bishop of Durham, which it was very desirable for the noble lord should not end in mere smoke, and because the Archbishop of Canterbury had thought proper to say that he did expect some legislation, and because the Bishop of London was of opinion that no ecclesiastical titles ought to be assumed by anybody, or permitted to anybody, except the Protestant bishops, of whom he was one, the Queen's Catholic subjects were to be vexed and harassed with new penal laws against their bishops and clergy, and the faith which was solemnly pledged to them in the year 1829 by the Crown and by Parliament was to be shamelessly broken."

He went on to show that the preamble of the bill was utterly false. It affirmed that the assumption of the title of Archbishop or Bishop of a province or diocese was illegal. But there were no grounds for that assertion. Had it been illegal, surely there would have been steps taken to prevent it. In conclusion, he argued that the new bill would make it impossible to carry out the provisions of the Charitable Bequests Act of 1844.

The following resolutions were passed:—

"That our obedience and reverence to his Holiness the Pope and to our bishops are purely spiritual, and in no wise interfere with our allegiance and duty to our Sovereign; and that whilst we yield to none in the sincerest loyalty to our Sovereign, we claim as an undoubted right the free exercise of our religion, including therein the free appointment of our ministers, and the regular constitution of our Church according to its laws and customs.

"That we consider any penal or other enactments calculated to interfere with the free exercise of our religion, in respect to the appointment of our ministers or otherwise, as unjust and oppressive, and that we pledge ourselves earnestly and respectfully to petition Parliament against the measure now before the House of Commons, and to oppose the same in every constitutional manner.

"That we return our grateful thanks to the Irish people, to the Irish clergy, to the Irish press, and to the Irish representatives in Parliament, who have so nobly identified themselves with us in resisting the measures of contemplated persecutions, and by whose aid alone we hope successfully to resist them.

"That the imputation which has been cast upon us, that we wish for any interference between our revered prelates and ourselves, and that we require any protection for our rights and property against them, and the powers conferred by the hierarchy, and that we regard the attempt made to represent a penal law against our bishops as a measure passed for our benefit, and at our request, to be an attack on our honour

"That we return our grateful thanks to those English and Scottish representatives, and that portion of the English and Scottish press which, amid such general intolerance and bigotry, have manfully stood forward to express their honest convictions and steadfast adherence to the principles of civil and religious liberty.

"That whilst we conscientiously resist enactments which we know to be injurious and unwarranted, we are at the same time perfectly willing to make large allowance for the adverse course of those who, either influenced by erroneous impressions, or suddenly excited by authoritative appeals, have unjustly assailed our sentiments, practices, and objects; and we anxiously trust, as we also ardently desire, that the mutual interchange of Christian charity, social confidence, and friendly neighbourhood, will be ere long reestablished between us and our Protestant fellow-subjects of all denominations, we solemnly pledging ourselves that no effort on our part shall be wanting to effect that happy consummation."

Whether Irish Roman Catholic opposition to the Ministerial measure will be weakened by its last dilution, may be judged from the following, taken from last Saturday's *Tablet*:—

"Sir George Grey, in postponing the second reading of the Penal Bill, announced his intention to strike out of it the second and third clauses, and to leave in it only the first, which subjects every bishop assuming episcopal titles to a penalty of £100. This swindling evasion will not do; and what remains of the bill cannot and must not be endured for a single moment. . . . Thank God, the Whigs, at last, are showing themselves to be what they are—bigoted, cowardly, persecutors, and swindlers all round, to all parties in turn. The constituencies that want to have their bishops fined and imprisoned will remain tranquil in the coming week. Those that desire to have their bishops free and unfined, will take measures, by public demonstration, to make known to their representatives their fixed resolution of resistance, before the middle of next week. We must just add that the fourth clause, compelling every bishop, on a bill of discovery, to make public all the particulars of every violation of the law he may have committed, is still, as we are yet informed, retained in the amended bill. Need we say more?"

A crowded meeting of the Roman Catholics of Liverpool was held in the Amphitheatre, on Tuesday, to protest against the Bill. Resolutions were passed by the meeting claiming freedom in spiritual matters, asserting attachment to the constitution, and denouncing the Ecclesiastical Titles Assumption Bill as an insult to the Roman Catholics of the kingdom.

The first public meeting against the mutilated Ecclesiastical Titles Bill was that of the parishioners of Whitechapel, who assembled on Tuesday evening to protest against Lord John Russell's desertion of the cause of Protestantism. The speakers were the Reverend W. W. Champneys, Rector of Whitechapel, the Reverend Mr. Lyon, of St. Mark's, the Reverend Hugh Allen, the Reverend C. Stovell, Baptist, and the Reverend Charles Gribble, all of whom thought it their duty to resist the progress of Popery to the utmost. The following resolutions were passed by the meeting, and it was resolved to petition Parliament against the removal of the effective clauses of the bill:—

"That the public events of the last few weeks unequivocally demonstrate the necessity of increased vigilance and renewed exertion on the part of the Protestants of this kingdom, to convince our opponents and those who are faltering in defence of the truth, that our zeal has not abated, and that our determination to maintain the dignity of the crown, the independence of Great Britain, and the character of Protestantism, remains unshaken.

"That the principles of the Papacy are not only opposed to the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, but also contain a deep laid conspiracy against the liberty, the property, and the lives of all who refuse to join her communion; the principle, therefore, of self-preservation, combined with a love of truth, constrains us to use every legitimate means to protect ourselves against the insidious encroachments of the Papal yoke of bondage."

A meeting of London clergymen was held in the great hall of Sion College on Thursday, to petition Parliament to adopt some effectual measure as speedily as possible "to resist Papal usurpation," by prohibiting Cardinals or Jesuits from residing in England. The Reverend Doctor M'Caul, one of the speakers, recommended that the Exhibition should be postponed till these measures were carried.

At a meeting of the Common Council held on Thursday, it was resolved by a large majority to petition Parliament to take measures "to suppress the use of territorial titles, and the exercise of territorial jurisdiction under delegation from any foreign prince or ecclesiastic, with such other provisions as shall be necessary to prevent any synodical action on the part of the Romish clergy."

The case of *Metairie v. Cardinal Wiseman* and others, of which we gave an outline, last week, from the opening speech of Mr. Bethell, and the affidavits read by him in support of the plaintiff's case, was continued in the Vice Chancellor's Court, during the whole of this week. Mr. Rolt, who appeared for Mr. Cooke, one of the defendants, complained of the way in which the case for the prosecution had been conducted. The plaintiffs had not confined themselves to the legal question upon the validity or invalidity of the gift, but had filed the bill and affidavits with charges of the most scandalous kind against the defendants. They had charged the defendants Cooke and Holdstock with conspiring to procure Carré to execute, despite of his own expressed wish upon the subject, instruments disposing of his property in favour of Roman Catholic charities, and with fraudulently representing to him, in furtherance of their object, that the papers he had executed were of a totally different

purport and character. They were charged with proposing to M. Carré to execute a will and a power of attorney to receive the dividends, and with substituting, by sleight of hand, one deed for another at the moment of execution. He then read from the plaintiff's affidavits several passages going to establish such a charge. Lord Cranworth said the acts charged were tantamount to a conspiracy, and such as might be made the subject of a criminal proceeding. If the charge were substantiated, it would become his duty to direct the affidavits to be laid before the Attorney-General. Mr. Rolt proceeded to show that the imputations against Mr. Holdstock and Mr. Cooke were of the most extravagant and incredible kind. To show also that these allegations had been got up for a purpose, he read a letter from Mr. Hamilton to a brother of M. Carré, in which he gave an account of the last illness of the latter, and also of the way in which he had disposed of his property, but did not say a word about any attempt having been made by any one to use undue influence on Carré in the drawing up of the will. Mr. Rolt's argument—in the course of which he went over the whole of the affidavits, pointing out their inconsistencies—lasted till Wednesday. He was followed by Mr. Bagshawe, who vindicated the character of the Roman Catholics, whether barristers, priests, or laymen, from the slanders thrown upon them. On behalf of himself and those gentlemen, he cheerfully adopted what Mr. Cooke had said to him, that "if one-tenth of the charges were true, both he and Mr. Holdstock deserved to be hanged." Mr. Bagshawe went on commenting upon the affidavits of Hamilton and Brown, describing the latter as the husband of a milliner in Bond-street, and the veritable Mantalini.

On Thursday, Mr. Stuart addressed the court on behalf of Mr. Holdstock, as did also Mr. Campbell. The latter called attention to the fact, that the parties knew of their rights in 1847, and yet had not filed a bill till January last. Mr. Malins, who appeared for the trustees, contended, that no case whatever had been made out to show that the fund was in the slightest danger. The trustees were most anxious to have the fund brought into court, but they did not wish to have the costs of the suit thrown upon it. The Vice-Chancellor said he hoped to finish the case yesterday.

A notable instance of the reckless way in which serious charges are brought against opponents by over zealous partisans is given by an Edinburgh paper. At the Free Church Commission in that town a Mr. George Lyon startled his Protestant audience with the following "Confessional-of-the-Black-Penitents"-looking paragraph:—

"Not many days ago," said Mr. Lyon, a little excited in manner, "a cab stopped at the nunnery out the way there with three gentlemen in it and a wretched young woman. Two ladies were passing at the time. She was forcibly taken out of the cab, with shrieks that pierced the ears of those two females who were passing. She clung to the spokes of the wheels of the cab, but she was dragged from them and immured in the nunnery; the gate was locked upon her, and the gentlemen, if gentlemen they could be called, were seen returning in the cab."

A thrill of horror ran through the reverend assembly at this statement. But one clergyman, more cool-headed than his brethren, immediately asked Mr. Lyon why he did go to the police-office, and apply for a warrant? "He hoped their friend had not bottled the fact for the commission." Mr. Lyon, rather taken aback at this common-sense way of viewing the question, said that "steps were in progress for procuring an investigation," and thus the matter ended, so far as the ministers were concerned. But the reporter of the *Edinburgh Mercury* was not so easily satisfied. He instantly went off to the office of the Procurator Fiscal to learn what steps had been taken, when he learned that no complaint had been made on the subject.

A PROTECTIONIST MEETING.

Fifteen hundred very silly individuals, including several members of Parliament, and a large number of country gentlemen and farmers, met in a barn at Newmarket on Tuesday, "to consider the evils resulting from free trade legislation." The Earl of Hardwicke and Mr. Busfield Ferrand were advertised to be present, but did not make their appearance. As a substitute for the northern Rabshekah, Mr. G. F. Young did his best to persuade the agriculturists that the only way to save themselves from ruin was by a return to protection. He spoke against the income tax, but told the farmers that they must not seek for relief from any removal of burdens. "The rise of 1s. a quarter in the price of wheat would benefit them two or three times the extent of the removal of the income tax." To prove the existence of agricultural distress he referred to the last poor law returns, from which it appeared that, taking three manufacturing counties, and thirteen agricultural counties, with an equal amount of population, the former had only 5 per cent. of paupers, while the latter had 74 per cent.

Resolutions were passed in favour of the repeal of the income tax, a removal and more equal distribution of local and general taxation, and an import duty on foreign corn, flour, and cattle.

THE RAGGED SCHOOL UNION.

Lord Ashley presided at the annual meeting of the Westminster Juvenile Refuge and School of Industry on Wednesday. The statements made regarding the good effected by the association were deeply interesting. There were no less than 170 candidates for admission last year, of whom 127 were admitted, the others having either declined to embrace the opportunity offered them, or been deemed ineligible. Many of those who entered the institution were so extremely destitute of friends and home as to render it absolutely necessary to provide for them lodging as well as food and instruction. In some cases the luxury of a bed had not been enjoyed for six or eight months prior to admission. Of the boys who had been apprenticed all were going on satisfactorily. During the past year fourteen boys and girls had emigrated. Lord Ashley read a letter from two of them, who had gone to the United States. They stated that they were in good employment, and receiving five dollars each per month, in addition to food and clothing. It was stated that the committee are in treaty for some spacious premises, with a view to form a Ragged School Emigrants' Home for children from all parts of the metropolis. This will depend, however, upon how the benevolent may act, as Lord Ashley stated that the institution stands greatly in need of funds, and that, "without increased pecuniary assistance, there is a probability of its doors being closed."

THE LONDON DOCK COMPANY.

The Board of Customs having put the London Dock Company upon its trial before the Court of Exchequer, the Company has put the Board upon its trial before the public, by a petition to the House of Commons, in which it complains of the unjust and vexatious treatment it has received from the Board of Customs. After describing the wholesale system of plunder which went on, previous to the formation of the London Dock Company, the petition goes on to state what advantages have accrued to the revenue, as well as to trade, from the establishment of the Company, and complains that, notwithstanding all these services, it has, ever since the commencement of last year, been exposed to a series of vexatious and litigious proceedings on the part of the Board of Customs, of the most harassing character, to the great interruption of its business, and the injury of its reputation both at home and abroad. As regards the legal proceedings which the board has instituted against the Dock Company, the petition complains that the course taken has been the most perplexing which could be devised. It appears that there are sixty-seven cases altogether pending against the company; that, out of these sixty-seven, the board gave fifty-three notices of trial on the 22nd of January last, for the 1st of February, and that, on the 29th of January, notices of countermand were given in all the cases except eleven.

Up to the morning the counsel and solicitors for the defence were not able to ascertain, though they had made every effort to do so, which information the law officers of the Crown would try first; and during the whole of the trial it was found impracticable to ascertain upon what specific ground of forfeiture the Crown relied. Indeed, the whole conduct of the proceedings appeared to have been done with the special object of giving the greatest conceivable amount of vexation, annoyance, and expense.

A summary of the principal facts which the late trial elicited, in justification of the Dock Company, is also given, and the petition prays for redress from Parliament, on the following grounds:—

"They submit that a great damage has been inflicted, not merely on the reputation of this company, but on the reputation of that commercial community of which the directors of this company form a considerable portion—they submit that this has been done without the slightest provocation on the part of this company—that the investigation of any charges which might have reached the Board of Customs against any person in the company's service might have been made without the least interruption of the good feeling which has hitherto prevailed between the said board and this company, and without public scandal.

"They submit that, so far from deserving such treatment at the hands of the Board of Customs, this company was entitled to be viewed as a most useful and efficient instrument in the protection of the revenue. They submit that the conduct of the Customs herein discloses the want no less of a practical knowledge of commercial affairs, than of a true perception of the real interests of the Crown committed to its care.

"They think it right, in conclusion, to state that they have omitted no opportunity of exposing to the Board of Customs the nature of the course it was pursuing. They proposed to the board, in the month of May last, that a personal conference should take place on these matters. The board stated that it did not consider that any benefit could arise therefrom. The company subsequently addressed a representation to the Board of Trade, in which it suggested that two or three members of the Board of Trade and of the Treasury should look into the whole of these matters, with the view of putting an end to this unprofitable contest, but the suggestion was not adopted."

THE CHICORY QUESTION.

Sir Charles Wood's sapient resolution, to let the coffee and chicory trade remain in its present unsatisfactory state, has been formally condemned by the public voice. For some time the complaints on the subject have been growing stronger and more numerous, till at last a public meeting on the subject was called. It was held at the London Tavern, on Monday, and was presided over by Mr. T. Baring, M.P. In introducing the subject, he said Ministers seldom knew so well all about the prosecution of any particular branch as those who were engaged in it, and therefore it was sometimes necessary for the parties interested to meet and state their grievances openly. He went on to say that he was engaged in the coffee trade, and felt interested in making it a fair trade—"in seeing that things should be sold under their proper denomination." If a substitute for coffee could be produced, more agreeable to the public than that beverage, then let that substitute be sold as cheaply as it could be afforded. But let them not have the substitute palmed off upon the consumer at a higher price than it could be afforded under the name of coffee. During the last few years a great decrease had taken place in the consumption of coffee. Now the mass of the people had been better off during the last two years than for some time previous. There had also been a great increase of temperance habits; so that the only conclusion he could come to was, that chicory and other substitutes had been sold under the name of coffee, to a much larger extent than was commonly believed. The object of the meeting was to urge upon the Minister the necessity of giving to coffee its fair chance as an article of commerce.

Mr. Moffatt, M.P., proposed the first resolution amidst much opposition from the retail dealers, who had mustered in great strength. He said the object of the resolution was to bring back things to the same state as they were previous to the Treasury minute of 1840. Before that the retail dealer was at liberty to sell chicory, but not to mix it with coffee. The effect of giving the grocers liberty to mix coffee and chicory had led to such a system of adulteration as to cause a very great falling off in the demand for coffee, the deliveries to the trade, in 1850, having been 6,245,313 lb. less than they were in 1847.

Mr. Frith, who seconded the resolution, could hardly obtain a hearing, owing to the interruption he experienced from the chicory dealers, who moved an amendment to the following effect:—

"That the renewed enforcement of the act 43rd George III. is not required by the present condition of the British growers and importers of coffee, the importation of colonial coffee having increased rapidly since the operation of the act was suspended by a Treasury order; that it would be highly injurious to the dealers by bringing upon them the vexatious surveillance of the excise; that it would be unjust to the public, especially to the poor, by preventing them obtaining at a cheap price a wholesome and nutritious beverage, such as coffee mixed with chicory is found to be; and that the public revenue as well as public morals would suffer by the extensive and costly system of inspection which would be required to prevent the evasion of the law, and to carry out a measure so opposed to the tastes and wishes of the community."

This amendment was seconded by Mr. Newsom, of Southwark, who said he had been compelled by the competition of his own neighbours to sell coffee mixed with chicory. His customers preferred it so, and if he had not given them chicory they would all have left him:—

"Notwithstanding the accusation that the grocers were dishonest men, he was bound to say that they were as desirous of acting honestly as any other traders in the kingdom. (*Cheers.*) What was the effect of the admixture of chicory with coffee? When he sold genuine coffee he obtained 2s. per lb. The bulk of his trade was 2s. coffee, and he gained no more profit, perhaps, than he did then. (*Loud laughter, and cries of 'Hear, hear.'*) The poor man could now get half-a-pound of coffee for 6d.

"An Individual: No, not coffee, but chicory, sawdust, and horse-beans. (*Laughter.*)"

"Mr. Newsom: What would be the effect if the Excise were to go into the premises of the grocers? Why, the poor man must give 1s. for half a pound of coffee. (*No, no, and 'Yes, yes.'*) It was notorious that chicory when mixed with coffee, added to its strength. (*Laughter and cheers.*) The poor man had a right to have his coffee mixed with chicory.

"An Individual: And he shall have it. (*Laughter.*)"

"Another: Let him mix it himself. (*Cheers.*)"

"Mr. Newsom: The poor man had no convenience for mixing it himself. If he had to go to the baker's shop for an ounce of chicory, it would be too much trouble. (*Laughter.*) He should be glad to know from some gentlemen what was the reason of the issuing of the Treasury order of 1840. Was it not that the Government found that when the grocer kept chicory on his premises it was impossible to prevent him from mixing it? (*Laughter, and cries of 'That's honest.'*)"

Mr. Deane, of Shoreditch, who supported the resolution, was on the point of making some revelation as to the vile substances which are mixed with coffee by virtue of the Treasury protection, but he could not be induced to name the substances he referred to.

"Last week an intelligent man came to his shop with an article composed of burnt peas, dry biscuit, and powdered earth, and another article which he would not de-

scribe, because it was too horrible. (*Cries of 'Name, name; let's have it.'*) There were four tons of it now ready for use. (*Great uproar.*) It was a substitute for chicory, and used for the adulteration of snuff. (*Laughter and cheers.*) [Mr. Deane here laid a small sample upon the table before the chairman.] He would ask them one plain question, how could an honest man stand the competition of men who were in the habit of grinding tons and tons of this rubbish every week. (*Cheers and great confusion.*) It was time to let the people know they were imposed upon by men of no principle—men who were selling articles which consigned people to an early grave. (*Cheers, and cries of 'Oh, oh!'*) The poor man was being poisoned. (*Cries of 'Name, name.'*) There were tons weight of this compound now ready for delivery. (*Give us the name.*) He had no doubt there were many canister men present. (*Great confusion.*) It was the bounden duty of the Government to interfere, and heads of families ought to see their children provided with proper food. (*'Oh, oh!' and cheers*)

The following are the resolutions which were passed by the meeting, although not by a very large majority. In almost every instance the show of hands was taken twice in order to ensure accuracy:—

"That the permission given by the Treasury minute, dated 4th of August, 1840, to adulterate coffee, is contrary to act of Parliament, and of serious injury to the grower, who is forced thereby into unfair competition with untaxed articles, and to the retailer of coffee, who is constrained, in very many cases, by the said Treasury minute, contrary to the principles of fair dealing, to sell spurious mixtures under the name of coffee, in order to compete with the less scrupulous and fraudulent dealer. Also that a very serious and unnecessary loss is thus caused to the revenue, the deliveries of coffee in the year 1850 having been 6,245,313 lb. less than in the year 1847, while the consumption of every other article of large and general use has materially increased.

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the lower class of consumers of coffee in this country pay a most exorbitant price for what is supplied to them under that name, and that they have not the power to protect themselves from imposition, the practice of adulterating coffee with various deleterious ingredients being too general in low neighbourhoods.

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, it is highly impolitic, as establishing a precedent fraught with serious evils, to legalize a system of adulteration, and to permit untaxed and low-priced substitutes to be mixed with and vended under the name of the genuine and tax-paying article; and that this is the only existing instance of adulteration being carried on under special Government sanction—prosecutions having been recently instituted by Government against several parties for adulterating pepper, which is prohibited alike by act of Parliament.

"That, viewing altogether the operations of the said Treasury minute, this meeting is strongly of opinion that it is a serious and unmixed evil, tending greatly to injure the honourable and honest dealer, the grower and importer, the revenue, and the consumer; the latter, for whose supposed benefit it was originally framed, being of all parties the most aggrieved.

"That the chairman of this meeting be empowered and solicited to seek an interview with the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, to fix a time when his lordship will be pleased to receive a deputation, who will wait upon him for the purpose of impressing upon his lordship the various and important facts connected with the subject on which the meeting has been held, and to urge upon Government the adoption of prompt and effective measures for the remedy of the grievance."

THE GERMAN REVOLUTION.

The Germans resident in London met at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Thursday, to celebrate by a banquet the anniversary of their country's revolution. The large hall was completely crowded, the company being well sprinkled with French and English visitors. An utter absence of decoration was observable in the room, the only distinctive mark of the occasion being a black cloth hung on the wall behind the chair, from which stood out in sanguinary characters the name of Robert Blum, the member of the Frankfort Parliament, shot under the walls of Vienna, in October, 1848, by sentence of an Austrian court-martial. During the banquet the orchestra played exhilarating tunes. The "Marseillaise" called forth an enthusiastic demonstration. The whole assembly joined in the chorus.

General Haug, who presided, was the first speaker. After pointing out the degradation brought upon Germany by its Kings, who had succumbed to the Muscovite, he predicted the fall of the house of Hapsburg and the rising of the young republic. The masculine German spirit, which had purified religion and effected the great reformation, would in like manner purge its political systems and annihilate the power of Russia in the West.

Dr. Tauscher called upon those present to express their sympathy with the German liberal movement of 1848, and their detestation of the tyranny of the House of Hapsburg, as exercised in Germany, Italy, and Hungary—(*cheers, and "Ejen Kossuth"*)—and their conviction that liberty was incompatible with the domination of that race. He referred to the King of Wurtemberg's recent letter. That document proved that the German princes were haunted by the spectre of the German revolution. Prince Schwarzenberg was playing a wily game, and seeking the imperial crown of Germany for his master. He had commenced a work which this generation would not

see finished. All that Schwarzenberg would finish was the national debt, for he was hurrying the country to bankruptcy. The stipulations of Olmütz proved that the Austrian Government was trembling for fear of the revolution. Hitherto it had counted on the different nationalities which it could pit against one another for its own purposes, but the millions who now suffered in common under Austrian despotism were becoming united in a common sympathy, the off-spring of oppression. When that feeling should have had time to become mature, the knell of the house of Hapsburg would resound through Europe.

M. Rohne, a Hungarian, concluded a fervent address with—"Vive Germany—Vive Italy—Vive Hungary—and Vive the noble country whose hospitable shores are never closed against the exiles of tyranny, from whatever land they may be driven." (*Ejen, bravo.*)

The St. Martin's Leseverein here sang a patriotic song.

Arnold Ruge and M. Struve spoke, and were succeeded by M. Mazzini. The appearance of the triumvir was the signal for a long-sustained demonstration of applause. When it had subsided M. Mazzini delivered a short address on the condition of the People of the principal European states.

Mr. G. H. Lewes subsequently addressed the meeting, urging that it was the interest and the duty of England to promote the cause of freedom in Germany.

Afterwards Dr. Franks, Rouge, Kinkel, who was received with great enthusiasm, Caussidière, and others addressed the meeting.

THE UCKFIELD BURGLARS.

Seven of the men concerned in the Uckfield burglary have been sentenced to transportation for life, and the woman who was charged with receiving the stolen goods to transportation for fourteen years. James Hamilton, one of the burglars, who had turned Queen's evidence, gave an account of the planning and execution of the affair. On the 31st of December the party met in a barn near Edenbridge, about thirty miles from Woking. A small burglary was accomplished that night, and next day the plunder of Miss Farncombe's house was decided upon.

"We all met again in Crowborough Forest, and we then all prepared masks, and it was stated that at night we were to go and rob a lady's house. When all the preparations had been made Isaacs, Carter, and myself were sent on to look about if the place was clear. Miss Farncombe's house is about eight miles from the forest, and it was arranged that when we saw all the lights out we were to go back and join the other men. We did so, and we all got to the house again between two and three o'clock in the morning. We went into a little ditch by the side of the plantation, and there we took off our coats, waistcoats, and shoes, and put on our masks, and James Smith went a little way along the road to see if all was quiet. When I got up to the house I found that the others had forced open the dairy window, and we then all went into the kitchen, where some of the men put on coats that they found there. I put on a coat and a woman's white apron, and Carter and Brooks each put on a female's bonnet which they found there. We all had our masks on. There were two pairs of stairs leading to the upper apartments. Isaacs, Brooks, John Smith, and me went up one of the staircases, and the other prisoners went up the second one. We immediately burst into one of the bedrooms, and I saw two ladies. I saw only one at first, but afterwards I saw two. We all had bludgeons in our hands. I do not know which of the party had the pistols. John Smith gave me a candle to hold, and he then asked one of the ladies to give him the keys of the drawers that were in the room, saying at the same time that he was come after money, and money he would have. The lady then handed him her keys, and he went to the drawers, and some he unlocked, and some he burst open; and I saw him take up a pocket-book, with a good many notes in it. The lady told him that the pocket-book contained bank-notes, and it was all the money she had in the house. The prisoner Isaacs then asked for her watch, and she pointed to the side of the room, and said it was there; and Isaacs said it was not, and she told him if it was not, some of his companions must have taken it. Isaacs then gave me the pocket-book, and he asked the lady were the silver plate was? She replied that it was in the pantry, and I was then left to guard the room while the others went down to get the plate. I soon afterwards heard another room burst open, and a lady scream out, 'Oh, dear! oh, dear! is that you, William?' I called out, 'Yes, marm, it is William, there is nothing the matter.' The moment I said this, Carter presented a pistol at me, and was about to fire, when I made myself known to them, and he desisted. I then heard the lady say in the room, 'There is £25 and a crooked sixpence.' The other men then continued to rummage about the house, and I heard the lady threatened with violence if she made any noise. We then left the house, taking with us some hams, cheese, wine, bread, and other articles of food, and also a great quantity of property. We had taken a gun and cutlass from the house, but we threw them both away when we had got a short distance. We all proceeded to a wood, near Crowhurst-common, and about a mile from the house of a man named Edwards, where we had left the woman Oliver, and we divided the booty in the wood. Before we did this, Isaacs, unknown to the others, asked me to give him the notes, and he said he would give me half what he got for them, and I gave him all of them except one, which I kept back for myself. We only divided £17s. 6d., but I

had another sovereign afterwards. We remained in the wood until between nine and ten in the morning of the 2nd of January, and then we separated, and the two Smiths and me went to Groombridge. We had a good deal of beer at this place, and I got tipsy, and dropped a sovereign, and John Smith took it up, and would not return it, and I gave him in charge for it; but the next day I would not press the charge. I was taken into custody soon afterwards, and a coat, my mask, some jewellery, and the £5 note were found in my possession."

When the sentence was pronounced on the prisoners, Carter exclaimed that he would murder the first man he came across when he got abroad; and Hillyer said it was a very good thing he was ordered to be transported, for he ought to have been transported long before.

"PUNCH" CONDEMNED.

For the first time during the long existence of *Punch*, Messrs. Bradbury and Evans, the publishers of that laughter-compelling periodical, have been found guilty of having published a malicious libel. The plaintiff was a young man of the Jewish persuasion, named Hart, who was taken into custody some months ago for inciting a young man named Newland, to rob his employers. After the trial *Punch* indulged in some remarks upon the conduct of Hart, of which he complained. They subsequently published an apology, but in the same number there was a humorous caricature representing a Jew old clothesman dealing with a little boy outside a pawnbroker's shop, and it was contended that *Punch* had made only an ironical apology, and published a malicious caricature, with the intention of still further injuring the maligned Hebrew.

The case was tried at Lewes. Mr. Chambers, who appeared on behalf of *Punch*, said this was the first time that the proprietors of that clever and witty publication had ever been charged with publishing a malicious libel. He contended that the caricature did not apply to the plaintiff, but to a Jew named Barnett, who had been found guilty of a similar offence. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, £10, in addition to £5 paid into court.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen and Prince Albert, with the rest of the royal family and their usual attendants, left Buckingham Palace for the Isle of Wight on Saturday, where they arrived safely. On Wednesday, the Duchess of Kent, accompanied by Lady Fanny Howard, left Frogmore, on a visit to Osborne House.

It is said that the Queen will visit Pembroke dockyard on the occasion of the launch of the Victoria, first-rate, which will take place very shortly. Should she do so, the Earl of Cawdor will place his seat, Stackpole-court, at the disposal of her Majesty.

The Queen has presented the sum of 250 guineas to the New Asylum for Infant Orphans, Stamford-hill, to secure the Prince of Wales the right of presentation to one bed for life.

As a proof of the deep interest which Prince Albert feels in the operations of the Society for Improving the Condition of the Working Classes, we may state that he has engaged to build, at his own expense, an exhibition model house, for four families, and to place the same in the stable-yard at the west end of the cavalry barracks, Hyde-park, immediately opposite the Exhibition building. The intended house is to be of hollow brick, with fire-proof floors and flat roof; showing the applicability of these important principles to houses of but very moderate dimensions.

Lord Howden has addressed a letter to a Madrid paper, in which he says, "Having seen in various journals the statement that the Duchess of Kent, mother of Queen Victoria, had been converted to the Catholic faith, I feel it incumbent on me, having the honour to belong to her household, to give the most formal contradiction to the above assertion."

The marriage of William Henry Parnell, brother and heir-presumptive of the present Lord Congleton, to Caroline Margaret Dawson, eldest daughter of Lady Elizabeth Dawson, and one of the maids of honour to her Majesty, was solemnized on Monday, by the Bishop of Ripon, brother-in-law of the bridegroom, in the presence of a very numerous circle of the relatives and friends of both noble families. Immediately after the ceremony, the newly-wedded pair left the church in a travelling carriage and four, for Cobham-hall, the seat of the Darnley family in Kent. Lady Elizabeth Dawson celebrated the event at her residence in Chapel-street, by a breakfast, at which all the parties present at the church attended immediately after the ceremony; and, in the evening, the bride's aunt, the Marchioness of Westmeath, gave a ball in honour of the occasion, at her mansion in Piccadilly. The bride's presents are said to have been extremely numerous, and include a souvenir of great value from the Queen.

The Hall of Meeting of the Prussian First Chamber at Berlin, was burnt to the ground on Monday. It was a temporary building, erected in 1849, and had only cost some £10,000.

The University of Dublin conferred the degree of D.C.L. on Lord Gough, at the spring commencement of Trinity College, on Shrove Tuesday.

The *Newry Telegraph* says that Lord Gough has become the purchaser of the Killymoon estate, county Tyrone, for which he is said to have paid nearly £100,000.

The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress received a party of sixty of their private friends at dinner at the Mansion-house. On Thursday his lordship gave a

dinner to about fifty members of the Court of Common Council, and on the 9th of April the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress will give a banquet in the Egyptian-hall to her Majesty's Ministers (whoever they may be on that day) and a number of peers and members of the House of Commons.

Sir Alexander Hood, the Protectionist member for West Somerset, died on Friday week at his town residence in Wigmore-street, aged 57. He was nephew of the late Admiral Hood, and only son of the late Captain Alexander Hood, R.N., who was slain on board the Mars, at the capture of L'Hercule, 1798.

The Emperor of Russia has sent to the King of Prussia the chain of the Order of St. Andrew, in diamonds. The value of it is upwards of 1,000,000 thalers (£150,000). Two diamonds in the middle of the chain to which is suspended the decoration are alone worth 200,000 thalers.

Mr. Thomas Russell, chairman of the bench of magistrates of the St. Pancras division, died very suddenly on Monday last. He was proceeding down Little George-street, Hampstead-road, about three o'clock, and on reaching a greengrocer's shop in Little George-street, a short distance from St. Pancras Female Charity School, he begged permission of the owner to go to the closet, which was granted, but as he remained there a considerable time the shopkeeper went to see what had become of him, and found him there apparently lifeless. Medical aid was procured, but life was pronounced extinct. The immediate cause of death is supposed to have been from a sudden attack of spasmodic diarrhoea or cholera.

A royal decree in the *Madrid Gazette* of the 4th relieves the Duke de Sotomayor from the post of Ambassador of the French Republic, "on account," it says, "of reasons touching the reorganization of the diplomatic career, submitted to the Queen by the Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs, in conformity with the advice of the Council of Ministers." The decree, however, declares in the usual form that the Queen "is perfectly satisfied with the zeal and intelligence with which the Duke de Sotomayor had fulfilled his mission; and that she proposes subsequently to utilize his services." The crime committed by the duke was his receiving General Narvaez at Paris with royal honours. The Marquis de Valdegamas, late private secretary to Queen Christina, is appointed in place of Sotomayor.

The Queen of Spain has signed the Concordat, and a functionary of the Foreign-office is about to proceed with it to Rome for the ratification of the Pope. He will likewise be the bearer of handsome presents from her Majesty to his Holiness.

The Queen of Spain and her husband have made up their quarrels, for the present. They are said to have taken the advice of Queen Christina and Senor Bravo Murillo, and made mutual concession, which has had the effect of increasing their regard for each other. A few days ago they took a carriage drive together in the Prado, an occurrence so unusual as to excite a considerable amount of gossip.

The Orleans family have determined upon quitting Claremont for the Continent during the period of the Exhibition. The ex-Queen is to go to Brussels; the Duke of Nemours will visit his father-in-law; the Prince of Joinville will take a trip in Portugal or Scotland; and the Duke of Aumale is bound for Naples.

Soulouque, Emperor of Hayti, has acknowledged the justice of the claim of three thousand dollars as indemnity for imprisoning the captain of the American brig Leander on an unfounded charge of smuggling, and has promised to pay it.

South American papers state that the city of Carthage is very healthy, and has become a favourite resort of invalids, especially those who have injured their health amid the exposures of California. Among the residents is General Santa Anna, with his family, who beguiles his leisure with the amusements of the cock-pit.

Letters from Charleville state that incendiary fires are very numerous in the department of the Ardennes.

The *Morning Post* of Wednesday contains a statement, copied from the *Standard*, to the effect that Baron Rothschild has embraced Christianity. This will appear to every one too absurd to require even a contradiction at our hands.—*Jewish Chronicle*.

There is a custom in Turkey which proves the high importance the Mussulman attaches to education. The first day that one of their children enters school is a day of great rejoicing; there is a family *fete*, at which all the friends of the house assist. There has been lately such a *fete* celebrated at the residence of Ali Pacha, Minister of Foreign Affairs. His eldest son, aged five years, has been sent to school, and on the occasion the Grand Vizir, all the Ministers and high functionaries, attended at the house of Ali Pacha, in order to participate in the family *fete*, and to express to the chief of the house the sympathies of which he is in every respect so worthy.—*Galvani*.

The Sultan has given strict orders that all his Christian Protestant subjects shall be allowed to conduct their secular and religious matters as they shall seem fit, without intrusion or interruption from any other sect whatever.

Accounts from the Levant, in the French papers, represent the differences between the Sultan and the Pacha of Egypt as far from being appeased. The latter has called on the powers who signed the treaty of July, 1840, for their interference; at the same time the Pacha is giving offence to France by dismissing the French who are employed in the public service, in defiance of formal engagements.

The anniversary of the birth of Washington was celebrated at New York, on February 22nd, with great pomp. All the public buildings were adorned with flags, and a procession, composed of all the militia forces and the officers of the benevolent institutions, accompanied by the great majority of the population, perambulated the city.

The second trial of General Henderson, at New

Orleans, for taking part in the invasion of Cuba, has terminated, like the first, in the non-agreement of the jury. General Quitman, having resigned the governorship of Mississippi, has repaired to New Orleans to await the decision of the court.

The magnificent bridge between Lewiston, in New York, and Queenstown, in Canada, near the Falls of Niagara, is so far completed that the engineer and a large number of people lately crossed to the American side, when, upon reaching *terra firma*, they were enthusiastically received by the spectators who had assembled. This bridge is the largest structure of its kind in America.

The labourers on the Great Western Railroad Canada having struck, and armed themselves to resist the authorities, the people of Hamilton have called a public meeting, with the view of demanding from the Government a military force to preserve order, and protect those labourers who are disposed to work.

Buckingham Palace is about to be revealed to the gaze of ordinary people. The last portion of the alterations and improvements, consisting of the ornamental railing extending round the entire frontage of the building, and intersected by a central and two side entrance gates, having been completed, the greater portion of the hoarding has been removed, and will be entirely taken away in the course of two or three days.

The meeting of the British Association, at Ipswich, is to commence on Wednesday, July the 2nd, and extend over seven or eight days. As there will be many savans in England from all parts of the world during the ensuing summer, in consequence of the Great Exhibition, it is expected that this will be the most brilliant meeting the association has ever had. The local secretaries have already received the names of several hundred intending visitors, amongst whom are Lucien Buonaparte, Prince of Canino; Sir R. Murchison, Sir H. de la Beche, Sir W. Jardine, Sir C. Lyell, Sir D. Brewster, Professors Daubeny, Silliman (of America), Owen, Ansted, and many other men of note.

A lecture by Mr. W. J. Fox, the Member for Oldham, on "The true spirit of Reform," was delivered at the second monthly soiree of the National Parliamentary and Financial Association, held at the London Tavern, on Monday. In alluding to the agitation for the Reform Bill he said:—

"The support which the working classes gave the middle classes on that occasion was an implied pledge that when the question of their rights came on for discussion the middle classes would give them their support. Shame to the middle classes that the pledge was not kept! (*Renewed cheering.*) He did not profess entire satisfaction with Mr. Hume's measure—it would leave unfranchised half a million who had a perfect right to the suffrage; but it would add 3,000,000 voters to the constituency, and what power could stand against that? He called on Reformers from one end of the country to the other, imitating the example which had been set by the Chartists of Manchester, to make an end of differences, and to unite in the common object of obtaining a wider representation."

The council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, having determined upon altering their original plan of holding their annual exhibition of live stock in Hyde Park, the inhabitants of Windsor have given them an invitation to that vicinity, and offered to guarantee £600 towards defraying the expenses.

A letter from Oxford in the *Standard* says, "The opinion of counsel on the university commission has been received. The counsel were Messrs. Turner, Bethell, Keating, and Kenyon; and I believe I am tolerably correct in saying that they give a very decided opinion 'that the commission is neither legal nor constitutional; that the university is not bound to yield obedience to it; and that it cannot be supported by the authority of the Crown, either as visitor, or under any prerogative or other right.'"

We understand that it is contemplated to form a Colonial Free Trade League, the object of which shall be to place our commercial intercourse with the colonies, in so far as the requirements of the Imperial revenue will admit, upon the footing of a home or coasting trade.—*Globe*.

Mr. Carter was elected Alderman of Cornhill ward, on Monday, in the place of the late Sir John Pirie.

It is rumoured that an intention exists, on the part of Government, of reuniting the civil government of Malta with the military command in the person of a general officer now in command of one of the districts.—*United Service Gazette*.

Orders were received at Southampton, on Monday, to get ready the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Singapore by Saturday (to-day), to convey a regiment of troops to the Cape of Good Hope. The Singapore is one of the fastest steamers afloat.

Lord Carlisle's bill to regulate the sale of arsenic, declares that the unrestricted sale of arsenic facilitates the commission of crime, and provides that on every sale particulars of the sale shall be entered by the seller in a book before the delivery of the arsenic, and that every such entry shall be signed by the person selling it. Any person selling arsenic, save as authorized by this bill, and every person giving false information to obtain arsenic, is to be summarily convicted before magistrates, and to be liable to a penalty not exceeding £20. The bill is not to prevent the sale of arsenic in medicine under a medical prescription.

The burgesses of Sheffield have declined to establish a public library and museum under Mr. Ewart's act. They were polled on the question, when out of 10,986 voters on the burgess roll, only 298 took the trouble to express an opinion. For the measure to be carried two thirds of the votes must be in its favour; that not being the case in this instance, the question is set at rest for a period of two years.

A union has been proposed of King's and Marischal Colleges, Aberdeen, into one university. The subject has been discussed in the council of that city, and referred to a committee, with instructions to confer with the professors upon it.

The lives of sixteen persons at Bishop-Sutton, Somersetshire, were placed in serious jeopardy on Shrove Tuesday, by their partaking of pancakes in which arsenic had been used by mistake instead of carbonate of soda. It happened luckily that the pancakes were not deemed so nice as usual, so that they were partaken of very sparingly. In about a quarter of an hour after eating of them, the whole of the persons who had tasted them were seized with violent pains in the stomach and bowels, accompanied by the other symptoms which attend arsenical poisoning. Prompt measures were taken, however, and the whole of the persons are so far recovered as to be considered out of danger.

Another steamboat collision took place on the Clyde last Sunday. About one o'clock in the morning the screw steamer European, on her passage for London, was run into by the schooner Castlehill, from Belfast, when off the Cloch Lighthouse. The schooner went down instantly; three of the men were rescued, and one drowned.

The husband of Harriet Sparing, who died from starvation at Bath, has been apprehended, and lodged in the Bath gaol, to await his trial at the ensuing assizes, on the charge of wilful murder.

A man, named Daniel Mundy, has been lodged in Gloucester gaol on the charge of having murdered his wife. She had been in very delicate health, and he had been in the habit of cruelly beating and kicking her, and keeping her on a miserably short allowance of food, and while he himself lived well, bread and water was the poor woman's principal diet.

The trial of Drory, at Chelmsford Assizes, for the murder of Jael Denny, was brought to a close on Saturday. The case for the defence was made to rest chiefly on the unreliableness of the surgical evidence—on the "excessive zeal" of the police in getting up the prosecution—on the absence of motive in the prisoner's mind, since the girl had acquitted him in writing of her seduction—and on his being employed about the farm and otherwise from six o'clock till past nine. Mr. John Thorpe, a surgeon of Maldon, and Mr. F. Pollock, a London practitioner, both of whom stated they had given much attention to cases of death by strangulation, declared that the appearances of violence were compatible with self-murder, although their statement was given rather doubtfully. The jury, after ten minutes' deliberation, returned a verdict of "Guilty." The judge, in pronouncing sentence of death, intimated his entire concurrence with the verdict. The prisoner did not seem in any way affected by the awful sentence. He was speedily removed from the dock, and on being taken to the carriage to convey him to the gaol he was received with yells and hootings by the assembled crowd. The hope which bore him up through the trial forsook him on reaching the gaol after his condemnation. He was so exhausted that he was obliged to be assisted to his cell by two of the officials, and on reaching it he flung himself upon his bed and lay sobbing for nearly an hour.

William Rowe, the son of a respectable farmer at Brixton, near Plymouth, has been apprehended on the double charge of having committed a brutal crime, and of murdering his father's servant-boy, named John Bunker, because the latter had declared his intention of appearing as a witness against him.

A meeting has been called for the 20th instant to make a last desperate effort to retain possession of Conciliation-hall, now abandoned by Mr. John O'Connell, that it may be used as a meeting place for some other association. It is stated that the rent and other debts accumulated up to the present do not quite amount to £100.

The sales under the Encumbered Estates Act appear to be rather flat lately. On Tuesday an estate in the county of Limerick, yielding a net profit rental of £264 per annum, had but one bidder, and the sum tendered being at about the rate of three-and-a-half years' purchase, the offer was declined. Subsequently the same person expressed his willingness to increase the bid by £500, but the solicitor having the carriage of the sale was inexorable, and stated that a less sum than £3500 would not be accepted. The residue of the estate of Mr. Lynch, of Roseberry, in the county of Galway, the sale of which stood adjourned from a previous day, was next set up in five lots. The competition was extremely languid, and it was with some difficulty that one lot realized £2200 on a rental estimated at £192 a year. At this stage of the proceedings the commissioner interposed, and said that the sale of the remaining lots must be adjourned, if better prices were not offered; and a new valuation might then be obtained, as with the present one the court was acting in the dark.

There appears to be a scarcity of hands in Belfast in some branches. The *Banner of Ulster* says, "We understand several of our new flax-spinning mills will be in active operation next month. Several of the millowners have raised their workers' wages, as many had signified their intention of leaving, and going to the new mills, where larger wages are offered to them; and we hear there is likely to be a scarcity of millworkers. Several families have gone to Manchester and Leeds, at a considerable advance of wages, and a few are still leaving for England."

A murderous attack was made last Friday upon Timothy Cloran, bailiff to Captain Richardson, an extensive land agent, at Rathbeg, in King's County, by two men named Patrick Morgan and Patrick Moylan. They were lying in ambush a few yards from Cloran's house, and Morgan fired at him when he came near, but fortunately without effect. Morgan then snatched a gun from his confederate, which he presented at Cloran, but it missed fire. He then struck Cloran with the butt end of his gun, upon which Cloran seized the ruffian by the breast, and called out "Murder! police!" This made Moylan run away, and brought Cloran's wife to the assistance of her husband. She took a large stone and wounded Morgan in the head so severely that he died that night. Moylan has been apprehended and committed for trial. Morgan was a tailor, and had been hired to shoot the bailiff.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it increases the difficulty of finding space for them. All letters for the Editor to be addressed 9, Crane-court, Fleet-street, London.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, March 15.

The Budget is postponed once more. Ministers are to be put on their trial on the 25th (Tuesday week) and therefore they have come to the conclusion that it will be as well not to trouble themselves putting a budget together for Monday evening when the vote of the following night may turn them out of Downing-street. Lord John Russell's explanation of the way in which "the Queen's Government" is to be carried on seems almost like a foregone conclusion. Mr. Plumptre having asked him whether he would go on with the estimates on Monday, or with the Papal Aggression Bill, supposing the debate to be adjourned, Lord John said:—

"I do not intend to go on with the estimates on Monday, if the debate to-night should be adjourned; but to go on then with the adjourned debate. (Hear, hear.) I may as well take this opportunity also of making a statement to the House with respect to the notice which I gave the other night, that on Friday next my right honourable friend, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, would state the alterations which he proposed in his financial arrangements. Since that time—on Tuesday last—the honourable member for Inverness-shire (Mr. Baillie) has given notice of a vote of censure upon the Government, with respect to the administration of affairs in Ceylon. I wished to ask a question of that honourable member with respect to the terms of his resolution, but I believe that he is out of town, and I shall therefore postpone the question till Monday. In the meantime I wish to state to the House, that, as there is a vote of censure against the Government now pending, I hope honourable members who have notices for the 25th—the night for which that resolution stands—will give way, in order that a question directly affecting the fate of the Government may be brought to an issue. (Hear, hear.) I must likewise say that I do not think it right, when a vote of censure is hanging over our heads, that we should propose our financial arrangements for the year—(Hear, and laughter);—and, therefore, I certainly will propose to wait until it is decided whether we or any future Government shall bring forward the financial arrangements of the year; and that I trust my noble friend the member for Bath, whose name stands first on the notices of motion for that night, and also the honourable member for Montrose, who also has a motion for the same occasion, will give way, and allow the motion of censure to come on. (Hear, hear.)"

Lord Ashley expressed his willingness to make the proposed arrangement, if other Members were willing. Sir Robert Inglis asked when the Jewish Disabilities Bill would be brought forward. Lord John said he expected to proceed with it on Tuesday. Failing that, he should certainly proceed with it as speedily as possible. Mr. Moore complained that Ministers were leaving the imperative questions—those of finance and taxation, and occupying the session with business of a much less urgent nature. He was not at all inclined to join in any factious opposition to Government "under reasonable circumstances." (Laughter.)

"But if the noble lord persevered in attempting to press measures respecting which, though people might feel anxious, they were by no means impatient, if the noble lord persevered in that there was no course, however factious, which (Mr. Moore) would not feel himself warranted in pursuing; and he thought he had a full right to do so when there was not a Government, but a provisional machine made for oppression. If the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill were proceeded with in any unfair or hurried manner he should certainly move adjournments."

Mr. W. Williams charged Government with great neglect for not having taken measures to make a House on Thursday evening. He could not help thinking that impediments were thrown in the way of forming a House and proceeding with the public business. He had had a motion on the paper of the greatest importance, involving an expenditure of £7,000,000 of the public taxes, which were expended in direct violation of what he considered to be constitutional principles. Sir Charles Wood had been quite as much disappointed as the honourable member for Lambeth. He had come down fully prepared for the discussion, with his box under his arm. Mr. T. Duncombe had always found that Ministers could easily make a House when they really wished to do so. Had they been in earnest about the Jewish Disabilities Bill, which stood for last evening, they would not have been so negligent:—

"At the time when the House adjourned last evening, none of the members of the Government nor any of their underlings were present with one exception, the Secretary of the Treasury; he was there alone in his glory. He might remind the noble lord of what Mr. Canning was accustomed to say with regard to a very ornamental, but not very useful portion of the Government—the

Lords of the Treasury. Mr. Canning held that their first duty was to make a House, their second to keep a House, and their third to cheer the Minister. (A laugh.) The noble lord ought to avail himself of that hint, and put up a notice in all the public offices to the effect, that the Lords of the Treasury were expected to perform those duties.

"Lord J. Russell said that he and the Secretary to the Treasury were as much disappointed as any one at there being no House, for the Government lost more by such an occurrence than any private member possibly could. The Secretary to the Treasury assured him that he used every exertion to make a House. (Hear, and a laugh.)"

"Mr. BARNARD rose to state, in confirmation of what the noble lord had said, that though he was not an underling of the Government, yet he had received a note from the Treasury requesting his attendance yesterday evening.

"Mr. HAYTER assured honourable gentlemen that he had used his best endeavours to secure a sufficient attendance of Members to make a House. He had taken all the measures that were usual, and he regretted to say that he was unsuccessful—he did not succeed in inducing Members to attend. (Hear, and laughter.)"

Altogether, the impression, from what took place in the House last evening, is that Ministers feel that they are doomed to fall at no distant period, and that their followers have lost all confidence in them. If Ministers used every effort to make a House and failed, what must we think of their power to carry on the business of the Session?

The debate on the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill was opened by the Earl of ARUNDEL and SURREY, who moved that it be read a second time that day six months. He contended that the creation of the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England had been required for the good of that Church, and denied that the Papal missive was either an insult or an invasion of international law. Mr. R. REYNOLDS, in seconding the amendment, said he rejoiced that Ireland had been included in the bill, because the Irish Catholics were strong, and could offer constitutional resistance to it. He went on to ridicule Lord John Russell's 5th of November letter—[Lord JOHN: The 4th of November]. Mr. Reynolds thanked him for the correction. At any rate it was a very appropriate epistle for Guy Fawkes Day. A great deal had been said about "the insolent aggression of the Bishop of Rome," but what had that contained which would compare with the offensive epithets used by the bishops and archbishops of the Church of England in speaking of the clergy of the Catholic Church?—

"An intelligent friend of civil and religious liberty, inquiring whether the Protestant or Catholic bishops had been most violent, extracted the following sentences from the replies of the Protestant bishops printed in the Times since October last: 'Popery offends and disgusts the understanding.'—London. 'Popery can only hope for acceptance on the ground of an uninquiring ignorance.'—London. 'It teaches the duty of worshipping the creature with the worship due only to the Creator.'—Ditto London. (A laugh.) This was the prelate who preached temperance of language. (Hear, hear.) 'Audacity of the pretensions of the Church of Rome.'—London. 'Base ingratitude of the Romish Church.'—London. For what was the Church of Rome to be grateful? Was it for what was taken from it in the remarkable reign of that virtuous Monarch Henry VIII., who took from it the temporalities that now amounted to £10,400,000 a-year? (Hear.) 'To submit to her is to peril our eternal salvation.'—London. 'The Popish system.'—Peterborough. 'The Romish schism, its unchanging character of evil.'—Bath and Wells. 'An antichristian power.'—Hereford. 'We are not so degenerate as to be beguiled into the snare which her ever wakeful ambition is plotting for our captivity and ruin.'—York. (A laugh.) 'That superstition.'—Gloucester and Bristol. 'Foreign bondage.'—Salisbury. 'Papal assumptions are all but blasphemous.'—Gloucester and Bristol. (A laugh.) 'An unholy thing.'—Gloucester and Bristol. 'The Church of Rome roars when necessary, but has the meekest and mildest blandishments when it suits her purpose.'—Oxford. (A laugh.) 'A subtle and determined enemy.'—Oxford. (A laugh.) 'Tyranny of the Church of Rome.'—Llandaff. 'Our common enemy.'—Llandaff. 'An erring and corrupt Church.'—London. 'Subtle and unclean.'—Oxford. (A laugh.) 'Apostate Church.'—Hereford. 'England defiled by her pollutions.'—Oxford. 'Her arrogant pretensions.'—Chichester. 'Her unchristian intolerance.'—Chichester. 'Her tyrannical attempts.'—Chichester. 'Her baseless, unscriptural authority.'—Chichester. 'Her arrogant and vain assumptions.'—Chichester. 'Her apostasy from the truth.'—Chichester. (Laughter.) 'That corrupt and domineering communion.'—Oxford. 'Her wilfully blind intolerance.'—St. David's. 'The curse of Popery.'—Oxford. (A laugh.) 'Poisons the minds of the people by false and insidious arguments.'—Rochester. 'That corrupt branch of the church.'—Bangor. 'An artful and implacable enemy.'—Rochester. 'The insidious encroachments of the Papacy.'—Bangor. 'The powers of darkness.'—London. (Laughter.) 'Her claims profane, blasphemous, and antichristian.'—Carlisle. 'Her selfish aggrandizement.'—Hereford. 'The great apostasy of Papal Rome.'—Hereford. 'The system of the Papacy a cunningly devised whole.'—Oxford. (Laughter.) The honourable gentleman, after quoting other expressions of a similar character, proceeded to say that he would ask the House on which side did it think was the balance of scolding? For his own part he did not believe that ever fishbag at Billingsgate used worse language in their abuse than had these most reverend and right reverend prelates in speaking of their

brother-Christians, in vilifying through all the moods and tenses of abuse, men who had not done them one particle of mischief."

He warned Lord John Russell that unless he retraced his steps, and attempted to govern Ireland, not by garrisons, but by justice, he would neither have Catholic votes in the House, nor Catholic support out of it:—

"It was tolerably clear that in the great struggle now going on between the two great parties in the House which was to have power and place, the Irish Roman Catholic members had no chance of either the one or the other themselves; but let this be understood by both parties, that between their nicely-balanced ranks the Irish Roman Catholic representatives had it in their power to turn the scale one way or the other, and to place which party they pleased on the Ministerial bench. (Hear, hear.) And hereupon he would make an offer; he was in the market—(a laugh)—he was to be bought, and he believed a few others who thought with him were to be bought in like manner—(hear, hear)—and this was his price, this the condition on which he was prepared to aid in transferring one party from, and the other to the Treasury bench; first, that this bill be entirely and totally withdrawn; secondly, that there be introduced measures calculated to save the millions in Ireland from dying, as they were at present dying, in the work-houses, for want of that food which is abundant, and at drug price—that they would introduce measures calculated to relieve the agricultural interest of Ireland—that they would do justice to the Irish distillers and spirit dealers by placing them upon an equal footing, at all events, with the importers of foreign rum and brandy, and that they would take into their consideration that Ireland was an integral portion of the British empire, not for purposes of oppression and aggression, but for the purpose of laying the foundation of her prosperity, and making her what God and nature intended her to be, the right arm of this mighty empire, and not the drag-chain upon her prosperity. (Hear.)"

Sir B. HALL, Sir ROBERT PEEL, Sir R. INGLIS, and Mr. PAGE WOOD supported the bill. Mr. R. PALMER opposed on the ground that such a measure is not required. He was more afraid of the injury which false and erroneous legislation would inflict upon civil and religious liberty than of any possible political danger from the aggression of the Church of Rome. He admitted that the act of the Pope seemed to be arrogant and presumptuous; but the most dignified and the wisest course was not to resent as an insult what had never been intended as such. Mr. M'CALLAGH protested against the bill as an invasion of the right of private judgment.

On the motion of Mr. MOORE the debate was adjourned till Monday.

Lord John Russell has deferred the bringing forward the budget in consequence of the threatening motion about Ceylon. We fear that the session is lost, even for the castigation of admitted abuses. At a meeting held by the Conservatives at Lord Stanley's, on Thursday, the Conservatives who voted with Lord Duncan were blamed for seeking to precipitate a premature crisis.—Daily News.

The case of Metairie v. Wiseman, after having fully occupied the Vice-Chancellor's Court for nearly nine days, has been postponed till next week, owing to the illness of Mr. Bethell, who was suffering from a severe cold, and was, therefore, unable to reply yesterday. After some conversation, it was agreed that the fund should be transferred into court in this cause, and also in the information which, as already stated, has been filed in the name of the Attorney-General, to establish and administer the charity founded by the endowment in question. The costs of the motion were agreed to be reserved; the fund to be transferred to the Accountant-General on or before the 15th of April, and the dividends received and accumulated until the hearing of the cause.

A rather alarming railway collision took place on the South-Eastern Railway yesterday morning. The 7-30 a.m. parliamentary down train left the London-bridge terminus within three minutes of the proper time for its departure, and proceeded safely past the Bricklayers' Arms Junction, at the usual rate of speed—about eighteen miles an hour. It had crossed the junction points, and, propelled by two locomotives, was rapidly passing on to the New-Cross Incline, when the first engine came suddenly into contact with the Brighton coal train, which, by some unaccountable negligence, was at the moment being shifted from the Surrey Canal "siding" on to the down line. The collision was a very severe one, and occasioned great alarm among the passengers, of whom there were a very large number. Both the engines of the passenger train were disabled—one of them was almost shattered to pieces—and four or five of the coal-trucks were destroyed. As soon as the shock occasioned by the collision had subsided, those passengers who had sustained the most serious injuries, two ladies and one gentleman, were removed from the train, and conveyed back to London. The names of the parties are, M. and Mademoiselle Vautini, the son and daughter of M. Vautini, presently proprietor of the Pavilion Hotel at Folkestone, and a Miss Wollaston, a friend of Mademoiselle Vautini. Miss Wollaston has a slight contused wound on the forehead, and Mademoiselle Vautini has sustained some injury on the upper lip.

Thomas Drozy, who was convicted at Cnelmsford Assizes of the murder of Jael Denny, has confessed his guilt. He says he had meditated committing the crime for some time, and had carried about the rope with him for that purpose. Mrs. Chesham, the poisoner, who was convicted at the same assizes, continues to assert her innocence. She admits having taken off several persons by arsenic, but says it was the doctor who poisoned her husband.

The Leader

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1851.

Public Affairs.

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

WHY CAN'T WE HAVE A GOOD BUDGET?

THE impotency of the Government is exposed in its defeats, but it is most immediately felt in its incapacity to make any progress with finance. We have a Government that cannot get so far as to produce a budget; and, what is worse, we have an Opposition that connives at that non-Government. Next Friday, Ministers are to try again with a new financial statement,—a new budget; but we are running no great risk in the way of prophecy, if we predict that they will not come up to the amateur budgets that are floating about.

Such as the one which has obtained considerable attention in Nottingham, and not without reason. We only wish that its author, "R.", were in Sir Charles Wood's place. R. proposes to repeal the advertisement duty, £160,000; the newspaper stamp duty, £200,000; and the window tax, £1,800,000. Also he would reduce the tea duty to one-half of its present amount; he would at once equalize and lighten the pressure of the income tax, by leaving £80 of every income untaxed, from whatever source. These changes would occasion a loss to the revenue of nearly £4,500,000, of which about £2,000,000 would be met by the existing surplus, leaving a deficit of £2,500,000. This he would supply by an increase of the property tax to 1s. per £1, and by certain reductions in the expenditure.

Very good; but we think that a Chancellor of Exchequer might do still better. He might get rid of the *Income* tax altogether; and in lieu of that he might resort to a tax of five per cent. on the annual value of all *property* in the United Kingdom. According to the best accounts that lie to our hand, this Property tax of five per cent. would yield £12,000,000. Add the present surplus, of £2,500,000, and you would have a sum of £14,500,000, or, deducting £5,000,000 for the existing Income tax, a nett £7,500,000, to work upon. Under cover of such a surplus he might relieve the trade and industry of the country from a vast portion of the burden which now presses it—striking off all the "knowledge taxes," and the window tax; with a mighty impulse to the progress of sanitary and social reform. There would still remain £4,500,000; and what is the best use to which that sum could be devoted? First of all, we should altogether abolish the duty on coffee—a boon equally to trade and "the consumer," that is, to everybody. Also, the duty of 5s. per cwt. on foreign cheese and 10s. on foreign butter, swept away outright. We should reduce the duties on tea, sugar, and tobacco to one half of what they are at present, with provision for their entire abolition in a few years. All this might be done, and yet reductions on *useless* or *mischievous* expenditure, such as the African squadron, might leave an ample surplus.

We have said nothing about the National Debt: that must be dealt with by itself; and *will* be dealt with.

Protectionists now shrink from the very name of a Property tax; yet they have had examples. In the session of 1833, when Lord Althorp was somewhat in Sir Charles Wood's predicament, Mr. G. F. Robinson brought forward a motion for the entire abolition of the Assessed Taxes, and the duties on malt, hops, tea, sugar, soap, candles, glass, bricks, with several lesser items; instead of which he would have imposed a Property tax that would yield about £15,000,000. Mr. Bankes, the Member for Dorsetshire, who had been chairman of the Finance Committee, further pointed the moral of this tale:—

"Government admit they cannot go further without a substitution of taxation. To that I think we must come if we want to relieve the burdens of the country. We ought to endeavour, as much as possible, to spare the poor, and place the burden on the opulent, so as to commute a large portion of taxes, and let the weight fall on

those who are best able to bear it. That can only be done by the imposition of a property tax; and, if it be necessary, the sooner it is done the better. It is said that an income tax or property tax would bear with peculiar pressure on landed property. This I believe to be an error: such a measure would operate greatly for the good of the poor, and the landed proprietor would receive his share of the general benefit."

What is the real difficulty in breaking from our miserable cramped nightmare of inaction, to enter upon a new lease of genuine public exertion for the good of the country? It is, that the classes who give the colour to our political system, the aristocracy and the middle class, have lost the full sense of *nationality*. They are suffering the function of Government to slip through their fingers. By neglecting its duties, property is losing its rights. Land used to bear the charge of military service, and that of the poor; now charged on local rates and on the general taxation. Taxation has been extended, but not representation. Every effort has been made to keep public administration and law-making in the hands of cliques and interests. Joint-stock companies of political traders have multiplied, and in their general rivalry they have grown strong enough to estop each other, until at last the universal resistance, coupled with indifferentism to national objects, ends in a perfect stand-still. Even now, limited as the constituency is, the great effort is *not* to "appeal to the country"; because the rivals expect that power will fly from their hands. They know that the time when they will be able to mismanage no longer is approaching; they know that the next election will be the occasion for the outburst of vast latent discontents; they dread a "confusion" which will disturb interests and unsettle clique arrangements. Therefore are they content to go on without real government—with a powerless Premier and a budgetless Finance Minister.

COURTING LA "BELLE FRANCE."

LOUIS NAPOLEON is canvassing: that the supreme executive power will continue in his hands, no matter under what title, beyond his lawful term, we have not the least shadow of doubt. How it is to be brought about in the teeth of the constitution, with the compact hostility of the Assembly, is somewhat puzzling; but what matters it? *Credimus quia impossibile*. Constitutions in France ever since the days of Sieyès are a *lucus à non lucendo*: so called from their instability—something to be speculated—operated upon. The Assembly are a body of men, set up to talk sense—if they can—only to give zest to the people's incorrigible waywardness and perverseness.

The French will keep Louis Napoleon for the same reason for which they had him at first,—to baffle the calculations of sober wisdom; to give their vote to the very candidate whose pretensions convulsed the knowing ones with laughter.

And truly, whatever might be thought of the *first* election, the French can hardly do better at present than to abide by the choice then made; and by another freak of their wilfulness, disappoint those mere bunglers in Royalism, those Chambordists and Orleanists, who have not even grace enough to wear their mask till their pitiful farce is played out.

The French do not understand freedom, we verily believe, and must rest satisfied with what they call "order." But let order, at least, be purchased at the lowest possible rate. Let us have no riots and bloodshed for a mere change of masters. Till France has learned to belong to herself—and how soon will that be?—there is nothing to gain but very much to lose in the substitution of a Bourbon for a Bonaparte. What is, is for the best; and restorations are the worst of revolutions. France must needs wring the neck of her poor Constitution. So be it: but a continuation of Louis Napoleon's Presidency can be effected by a mere shuffle in the Assembly—at the utmost, a *dix-huit Brumaire*. But the return of either Royal branch would cost years of civil and foreign war.

Meanwhile it is simply curious, since, as we think, Louis Napoleon has become a necessity for France, to see how he betakes himself to the task of inflicting himself upon the country. In the first place, he "reforms" the departments; a large batch of prefects and sub-prefects, bashaws with two and three tails, has been lately published in the *Moniteur*. The appointments have taken every man by surprise. They are obscure men, the creatures of the obscure members of the Cabinet. Even so: the President holds his Ministry in his pocket: the Ministers hold the prefects in theirs, and since time immemorial these latter have always carried a French election in their pockets.

Next, Louis Napoleon bids for the goodwill of the National Guards. He stands up for universal suffrage. He is the "chosen of December." The vote of all has made him. He has no finger in that sad mess of the electoral law of the 31st of May. It was not he that robbed the people of their birthright. It was that desperate set of Reactionnaires, of pseudo-Democrats, who have but too large a majority in the Assembly, and who conspire against him no less than against the liberties of the French. So far as in him lies, he can see no reason why the militia of the Seine should not elect their officers, down to the very corporals, on the good old plan of equal rights. But the Assembly will have it otherwise. The elections of the 25th of March must be put off. They are concocting a new law for the organization of the Guards in the Assembly. The same hand that disfranchised the people at large will equally defraud the citizen-soldiers. The President grieves, but can afford no help or redress.

Again: four regiments of the line are about to quit the capital, and the President will hold a review. Be it understood, however, no cry is to be allowed to the men under arms. Frenchmen are bidden to hold their tongues!

Good reason why. The President canters along the Boulevards on Sunday: the shouts of "Vive l'Empereur!" burst from the crowd. A few recreants set up the opposition cry, "Vive la République!" the zeal of the Imperialists breaks bonds, and the Democrats are silenced with fist-cuffs.

The four regiments are, therefore, requested to bottle up their enthusiasm. If there is among them a veteran that believes in the metempsychosis of an uncle into a nephew, who insists on associating Bonapartism with French glory, well, let him bide his master's time. 1852 has not yet dawned. The day is not far when the President will throw himself on French sympathies. He will then know how to bestow on the people, the army, and the National Guards a vote, ere he solicits it in his behalf.

PROGRESS OF ASSURANCE.

THE RAILWAY ASSURANCE COMPANY.

ASSURANCE is one of those practical applications of the principle of concert which are multiplying around us,—one of the most direct and most esteemed. It is the spreading of risk over a larger surface—quite against the doctrine of mere "competition"; and it curiously comes as an alleviator to that hurried haste with which competition sends us travelling about by the flying railway, "to buy in the cheapest and sell in the dearest." Our ancestors made their wills before leaving the wilds beyond Epsom or Harrow for London. In our own day, provident fathers find it a shorter and surer way to "insure" their lives. You may do it generally—investing your savings in the best of all forms, with the least trouble. A policy of insurance is a directer mode than any of laying by for your progeny. You may do it also specially, for a journey, lest the horrors of the rail cut short your saving opportunities. You may now do it for all railway journeys.

Everybody travels. The railway drags every man from his home. How few now die in the place of their birth; how many live in two places at once—for existence in one place, for business in another. The metropolis alone is daily entered by 20,000 persons, and daily do 20,000 leave it! The accidents are few. It is safer, says the philosopher, to go by rail to Birmingham than to walk—so many risks does the slow pedestrian undergo. But, if rare, the railway accident is terrible when it comes. As the coachman, the surviving old many-caped Tory of the whip, says, to show his horror at the innovation—"When a coach does go over, well—*there y' are*; but when there is a railway collision, *where are yer?*" Which is painfully true. Yet you *must* travel. After an old coach accident you might at least "save the pieces" of yourself: but *now!*—you are distributed on either side of an embankment, or amalgamated with a bridge, or sent into the next county. We well remember seeing a railway train after a slight accident. The mischief was over before alarm could be aroused, and a stone truck had only cut off one side of half the train. But that was a trifle compared to a real "smash." Yet you *must* travel.

The worst part of that modern monster, the "collision," is the reflection of what is done, not to you, but to those whom you are to leave behind. You can bear the agony of the crushed limb, but

not the recollection of the bereaved. You can face death, but not *their* after life.

Yet there is *Dalm* in Gilead, even for those worst of wounds. The insurance principle brings its alleviation, and provides for those whose sufferings you feel most. There is the "Railway Assurance Company" which grants assurances against loss of life or any personal injury arising from railway accidents. The advantages of such a mode of assurance it is impossible to magnify. Every traveller sees them at a blow. Nor can there be cause for one moment's delay on the score of expense. For the single payment of 5s. any railway traveller may be assured in the sum of £100 for the remainder of his life; £500 are secured by the payment of £1 5s.; £1000 for £2 2s.; £1500 for £3 3s.; £2000 for £4 4s. Assurers have the option of travelling in carriages of any class and on any railway in the United Kingdom. You may assure even against minor risks: personal injuries not terminating fatally are made the subject of proportionate compensation. This all looks very cheering to you who must travel; but will the promises hold good? That question is answered by the names of the men associated in the undertaking.

The value of the principle thus applied to railway risk is rapidly becoming recognized. We remember the effect produced, not long since, by the story of that thrifty tradesman who was invited to take out an insurance, and declined: he was killed in the very journey he was then beginning. But the plan of taking out an insurance by one premium removes the only objection that such men as he might feel—the hindrance, the trouble, the *bother* of renewing your assurance; especially when you have no intention to be killed "this time." You never have. But you know that the risk does stand over you; and here you see how, at a single stroke, you can secure a provision against it. It is one of the very best illustrations of the mode in which risk is neutralized by extending it over many; a risk unappreciable to the many, but destructive to the one,—unless he be protected.

THE PALACES OF THE POOR.

NOT very far beyond Whitechapel Church, to the left of the main road, is a narrow turning called Baker's-row. It leads you into a region of low houses, populous but not busy, with the dingy un-fresh closeness of town, the dull unbustling look of country. Traversing a few of these streets you arrive at a tall edifice towering above the cottages around. It is the Metropolitan Buildings erected by the Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Industrious Classes, and it combines in itself more than one striking "sign of the times."

It is the most recent experiment actually begun by an association which has had no small success in reconciling the spirit of trade with the spirit of philanthropy. It also reconciles the gathering together of people with healthfulness and comfort. By affording an investment of money which must ultimately prove profitable to the investor, while it rescues the poor from their squalid abodes, it shows us how the interest of the capitalist can be reconciled with that of the working man.

The last annual report of the Association contained an account of its progress up to the end of March, 1850. By the Charter of Incorporation granted in October, 1845, the Association is authorized to raise £100,000 in shares of £25, and it appears that in March last year, no less than £50,075 had been subscribed. With a portion of that sum the Association first of all erected a set of model houses in the Old Pancras-road, between King's-cross and Camden-town, containing accommodation for 110 families, in sets of two and three rooms each, with separate sculleries, an ample supply of water, and other conveniences seldom met with in ordinary houses, at rents varying from 3s. to 3s. 6d. a-week. The next undertaking was a model lodging house for single men. This is situated in the eastern outskirts of Spitalfields, and contains excellent accommodation for 234 men, who for 3s. a-week are provided, not only with a good bed and a convenient partition in a well-ventilated dormitory, but have the use of a large coffee-room, a reading-room, library, baths, and other conveniences. On the same spot stands a lodging-house, capable of accommodating sixty families; and the Association has taken measures for extending its usefulness in Southwark, Ransgate, and other places, aided by branch societies. Meanwhile, it is gratifying to find the affairs of the Association conducted in a business-like manner. The chief promoters of the scheme are well aware that, unless successful in a

pecuniary point of view, their example will not readily be followed, and the object they have at heart frustrated. Their endeavour is so to manage their affairs as to obtain an interest not exceeding five per cent. on the capital invested; and we hear that there is every probability of their speedily doing so. In proportion to the extension of its operations, the working expenses of the Association will be gradually reduced; and as the working classes are beginning to appreciate more fully the advantages placed within their reach, the income from rental will be large enough to afford a good dividend; so that, even in the present stage of its progress, the scheme may be fairly considered as one of the safest and most useful ways of investing capital.

When you enter into the tangible details, the results are even more striking than they appear in statistical comparisons. Compare the row of cottages on one side, just bought up by the association as the site for a new wing of the Spitalfields building, with the wing already erected on the other side. The row of cottages gives room for eleven families—the wing for more than sixty. As you enter one of the cottages you find it low, cramped, dark, fetid; a squalid, comfortless, tumbledown place. The idea of living in it revolts the feelings with a sense of wretchedness and degradation. Cross the courtyard to the wing on the other side. It is what in Scotland would be called a land, that is, a tall and extensive range of buildings, with several entries; each entry opens to a public staircase, on each side of which, on every floor, are two "houses," like the separate "chambers" of our inns of court. Here all is compact but roomy, admirably ventilated, cheerful, convenient, decent, and, in short, of such kind that no one could reasonably object to take up his abode there. By the courtesy of one of the tenants we were admitted to a house in actual occupation. The tenant is a working saddler—one of the rooms being used as his workshop. He is a man of great intelligence and natural taste, and is suitably mated, circumstances which will account for much of the refinement which pervaded their household; but the substantial and gratifying fact was the total absence of obstruction to this refinement—the facilities afforded in every respect for its amplest development. To sum up the comparison in a word, the tenant of one of the old cottages can scarcely struggle with the squalid circumstances which make his abode the hovel of a beggar; the tenant of the association can make his abode the house of a gentleman; and yet the beggar pays more rent for his hovel than the gentleman does for his house—the beggar is paying seven or eight shillings or more, the gentleman five or six.

The lodging-house for single men is a similar escape from the squalidities to which the class has hitherto been consigned. Not one of our readers could object to pass the night in the sleeping wards; the coffee-room, the reading-room, the kitchen, the cookshop, place a totally new range of comforts within the reach of the humblest working man. The arrangements for ventilation and drainage are so complete, that not a trace of impurity can remain, or does remain, where they are but too often obtruded even in comparatively high-rented private houses.

The benefits effected by the Association extend even beyond their own buildings. By drawing off such of the working classes as can best appreciate the improved dwellings, they will leave more room for the poorest in the old cottages, and check the disposition to extract exorbitant rents for miserable abodes. Their tenants set a wholesale example of improved economy. More refined habits are introduced bodily among the least cultivated of the working classes. Above all, the Association exemplifies the good which may be done in reconciling the interests of various classes directly and promptly, by extending the great principle of concert.

GRIEVANCES OF THE SAILOR.

THE sailors of London, who have been memorializing the Board of Trade, find that they cannot obtain attention from the Government. They are told, as a child is when he is whipped, that the Mercantile Marine Act is all for their own good. They are subjected to a poll-tax in the shape of a muster-roll, and are allowed no voice in the administration of the tax. They are made to take out tickets of character, like the "livrets" of the French workmen, under a system which works so tyrannically in that office-governed country. They are taxed for the support of the Shipping-office, but no heed is paid to their suggestions as to the ar-

rangement of the office. They are taxed for contributions to the Merchant Seamen's Fund, and now they are vainly demanding an account of that fund.

The feelings of the sailors at the London meeting on Monday are well expressed by J. Kavanagh:—

"The British seaman was the most oppressed in the country, and he had been told by many that if they could not get justice and something like protection on their native soil, they would fly to America, where they would get better treatment. (*Cheering, and cries of 'So we will.'*) But they could not all do that; they could not break up their homes, and leave those most dear to them. (*Hear.*) As the Board of Trade had declined to relieve their grievances they must act with energy and petition both Houses of Parliament for justice. If they failed, they must memorialize the Queen; and if then they should not succeed in obtaining their rights, their only alternative would be to fly to a country where they would meet with a proper acknowledgment for their labour."

Yes, but there is another alternative, one which would *not* oblige the British seaman to abandon his country, but which would enable him to remain and serve it at the same time that he was working out his own emancipation. It would be, to join his case with that of the other working classes—to throw his grievances into the common stock—to unite his claim for redress with theirs—above all, to unite in the demand for the enfranchisement of the whole People: which would give to him, in common with all the working classes, a share in making the Legislature, and thus in making the laws that govern him. There is no essential distinction in the case of the different working people, and if all the working classes were united, each section might protect itself against its special grievances.

ADULTERATIONS OF BEER.

THE JOINT-STOCK BREWERY COMPANY.

ONE of the greatest among the many evils of the competitive system is the fraudulent practices which it engenders. Honesty and honour stand powerless against it. To sell "below prime cost" is ruinous to the uninitiated, but may be the road to fortune. The coffee-dealer, for instance, can sell "below the prime cost" of coffee, when the thing sold is horse-beans and rubbish, just as the tea-dealer can sell the best birchbroom and sloe leaves below the prime cost of hyson or bohea. The "beer doctor" has an excellent facility in making money—at the expense of his own fraud and other men's health. "Beer," says Mr. John Mitchell, the surgeon, in his excellent work on *The Falsification of Food*:—"Beer is, perhaps, one of the fluids in most general use, and is, unfortunately, the one most adulterated."

"How could it be wondered at," said Mr. Henry Drummond, in the House of Commons, last session, "that people should discontinue drinking beer when a brewer had actually published an account of the way in which the beer was made, declaring that it was no longer beer that the people drank? He gave a proper receipt, as he called it. There was a certain quantity of malt and hops, then there was treacle, liquorice, tobacco, colouring, colchicum, salts of tartar, dye, linseed, and cinnamon; and for giving the beer strength an article was used which must surprise most men: it was a compound half alum and half vitriol, not green, but *blue*."

The operations of the "Beer Doctor" are also graphically described in *Chambers's Journal*:—

"It is by the aid of the doctor that the weakest wash of the brewer is transformed at times into treble X. Under his talismanic charm simple porter becomes double stout, and fetches more than double price. . . . Though the contents of a cask of beer cannot be doubled with any probability of finding a thoroughfare through the popular throat, yet they may, with cautious management, be increased some twenty or thirty per cent. Quassia, liquorice, cocculus Indicus, and certain other cheap ingredients will carry a profitable quantity of water, and yet impart a flavour to the beer which, so far from being repulsive to the palate of the London sot, long trained by the publicans to the tolerance of such poisons, is rather agreeable than otherwise. But the chief aim of the doctor with regard to beer is to render it provocative of thirst, so that the fatigued workman who comes in for a glass to refresh himself, may find, upon drinking it, that a quart more at least is necessary to quench the thirst it has excited. By this means drunkards are manufactured by degrees, and thus men sit the livelong evenings through, drinking eight or ten pints consecutively, and wondering the while at their own capacities for imbibition."

A return made to the House of Commons, on the motion of Mr. Ormsby Gore, also shows that in one year twenty-seven brewers were convicted and heavily fined for using deleterious articles in making beer, on whose premises the following pernicious articles were seized: grains of paradise, tobacco, cocculus Indicus, orange peas, coriander seeds, turmeric, logwood, copperas, capsicum, and quassia. In another return it is shown that, in the course of one year, one hundred and forty-six licensed victuallers and brewers were convicted of similar

offences. And this hideous compound, after undergoing all the adulteration on which the brewer can venture, is again subjected to the "doctoring" of the retailer before it reaches the consumer!

From the Government, the People have no hope for protection. Competition is the panacea and talisman of the Government for all ills and dangers. But fraud, adulterations, and deceptions are inseparable from competition. The public, therefore, must seek redress elsewhere. The first blow in the right direction has been struck by the "Metropolitan and Provincial Joint-Stock Brewery Company." With a capital of £200,000, afterwards to be increased, if necessary, to £1,000,000, that company proposes to establish breweries, not only in the metropolis but also in the provinces, for the supply of unadulterated beer and porter at prices below those at present charged by the trade for an inferior article.

We know of nothing which bears a higher promise of entire success than this enterprise. The beer supply is doubtless the very worst in every domestic household; and thousands will join with alacrity in an undertaking which will give them a wholesome beverage in addition to an excellent investment of capital. The prospectus states that, "At present prices every quarter of malt will yield upon an average a net profit of seventy per cent., to be divided between the company and the public; and the company is pledged to supply every description of ale and porter made from malt and hops only."

The thriving state of various coöperative associations in which the proprietors are also consumers, has been frequently referred to in the *Leader*; and we are not surprised to hear that the applications for shares in this company have been both numerous and from precisely the class of People most likely to appreciate the benefits of the plan. The success of the People's mill at Leeds is conclusive on all the points aimed at in this undertaking. The subscribers to that mill have flour at its real price, not raised by the competition of the market, or the many hands through which it passes in other channels. The flour is the best in England. It is as unadulterated as a household truth. In like manner it is quite possible to have beer as cheap, as sound, as good, as the best of the real old "home brewed."

POLITICAL INTERESTS OF THE SOLDIER.

OPPORTUNITY was never so lavishly wasted as it is by our ruling classes. They are not only alienating the affections of other classes, but, although their power rests wholly on existing prestige and the possession of the Army, they are breaking down the prestige as fast as they can, and they are neglecting to retain the attachment of the Army to the existing state of things. We mentioned last week how General Sir Charles Napier denounced favouritism in the Army, or as Sir Erskine Perry called it, "the cold shade of the Aristocracy," under which the merits of the working soldier, officer or private, languish without reward or hope: we leave our military readers to draw their own inferences of the opportunities afforded by more stirring times, as they are indicated by the Tory historian Hume. In his fifty-seventh chapter they will find these expressions:—

"Citizens and country gentlemen soon became excellent officers; and the Generals of greatest fame and capacity HAPPENED, all of them, to spring up on the side of Parliament: the courtiers and the great nobility on the other hand, checked the growth of any extraordinary genius among the subordinate officers; and every man, as in a regular established government, was confined to the station in which his birth had placed him."

GRIEVANCES OF THE FARMER.

MR. JOHN ELLMAN is the first to speak out, in a course which will be forced upon farmers. In a letter "to the tenant farmers of the empire," he makes a suggestion which we may call No. I. :—

"Ministers could not deny the distress of the tenant farmers; and their main reason given for refusing you relief is, that your labourers are well off; in other words, that as long as from kind feelings you refuse to screw down your labourers in wages, and employ them sooner than send them to the Union house, so long will they refuse to do anything to save you from ruin."

"Let every one of you explain the whole case to your respective labourers. Tell them that it is solely against your will to reduce them to the same miserable diet as the serfs in Poland, or even the agricultural labourers in France, or to send them into the Union house, but that her Majesty's present Ministers openly avow that all this be done all relief to you shall be refused."

The *Times* has made a dead set at Mr. Ellman, and brings to bear upon him the whole weight of its satirical powers; but he is only giving voice to a feeling which is very general among farmers. Let the *Times* ask them for their real opinion in Shropshire, Lincolnshire, or Buckinghamshire. But the Leading Journal knows well enough where the truth lies; only it is thought expedient to silence Mr. Ellman—if possible. The difficulty may be deferred for a time; but the day is coming when the farmers will be forced to make their appeal to the public; and then—

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*.

THERE is a vigorous aristocracy in our Republic of Letters; and that aristocracy is very much disquieted by the importance which the agitation for the *Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge* is gaining. Naturally enough those who flourish under the present system have little sympathy with those who demand a change; with *Candide* they declare all is for the best in this best of worlds, and are liberal in prophecies of the evils which must attend a change. Among these evils great prominence is given to the ruin of "respectability in the press." Throw open the field, break down monopoly, and from that moment "Carthage is fallen;" Respectability will no longer pride itself on its "Long-acre springs," the gig will be displaced by the coster's barrow, the pen of the literary man may be burnt as useless!

If ever transparent fallacy imposed upon thinking men, this surely is one! That price regulates respectability is very good shopkeeper's philosophy, but will not bear examination. Without appealing to the high character of various low-priced publications in this country, let us answer those who throw certain American newspapers in our teeth, by referring them to France. When EMILE GIRARDIN boldly took the initiative of cheap newspapers, and started *La Presse* at forty francs a-year (a fraction more than a penny a-day) the same arguments were used against him. The Press was to be ruined; journalism was about to expire. Events have not confirmed those prophecies. *La Presse* has had many imitators. Has the tone of the press become lower? Do not the most popular, and some of the most distinguished, men in France still exercise the office of journalist?

The conclusion to be drawn from the facts respecting cheap newspapers and periodicals is that, in respect of tone, whether dear or cheap, the press will be the echo of the nation, the reflex of its habits, the voice of its spirit: high, chivalrous, and hopeful, or low, scurrilous, and vindictive, cultivated or coarse, elegant or energetic, precisely according to the average mind of the section it appeals to.

We have on several occasions spoken of the astonishing advance in liberty of opinion during the last few years, and this advance is vividly brought before the mind by HOLYOAKE'S little work, just issued, wherein he gives the whole history of his Trial and Six Months' Imprisonment—a graphic and touching narrative to make the cheek burn with indignation, and the eyes moisten with sympathy; but especially curious as illustrating the intolerance which then (1842) paraded itself as a virtue, and the very different state of feeling which now exists.

MACREADY has had honours showered upon him enough to sweeten the pain of leave-taking; among them, this dedication of GEORGE SAND'S latest publication, *Le Château des Désertes*, which is now appearing in *La Revue des Deux Mondes*:—

"To W. C. Macready.

"This little work, attempting to set forth certain ideas on Dramatic Art, I place under the protection of a great name, and of an honourable friendship.

George Sand.

"Nohant, April 30, 1847."

MOSES keeps a Poet. WARREN also had the reputation of having employed men of Letters to compose his puffs. We know not how true this report may be, for the writers have shrunk from publicity; none have been inmodest enough to wear the livery in the open streets. The son of DUMAS—Alexander the Younger—has no such scruples. "Getting a living by one's pen," he interprets in the fullest sense. Pay, and he will write! If puffs are as lucrative as novels, why not write them, since one is as conscientious a piece of

literature as the other! The gigantic speculation which placards and puffs itself through France at this moment—the great Lottery of the Lingots of Gold—has employed the facile and unscrupulous pen of DUMAS fils, whose long puff, signed by himself, forms a curiosity of literature. There is no false pretence about it. As an advertisement-puff it appears, and that without disguise. Its composition reveals more audacity than skill; but the speculators care little so that their puff be read, and the name of DUMAS will secure it a reading. Some passages are very amusing. With perfect gravity he tells us, "Lotteries are of great antiquity: a trustworthy tradition affirms that the sons of Noah, before quitting the Ark, played at *mourre*, a species of lottery still in use among the *lazzaroni* of Naples." We shall respect *morra* the more now we have learnt its antiquity! DUMAS adds, "We find in the history of the Heraclidæ an anecdote of marvellous interest which proves that the lottery is very ancient." After Noah and the Heraclidæ, who can hesitate? If antiquity has no authority with you, DUMAS the younger has an argument in reserve: "Is not everything in the world a lottery? Life is a perpetual lottery for the profit of death; love the lottery of the heart; ambition the lottery of the brain; the future the lottery of all." After that one is silenced: there is no alternative but to take a ticket!

Among German novelties we may mention that KUEHNE has published some clever sketches under the title of *Deutsche Männer und Frauen*; and that the Countess HAHN HAHN is to issue a new and cheap edition of her writings; but we suspect the "rage" for her works is over, certainly in England.

We have reserved a *bonne bouche* for the last. Is there a man in England who has not repeatedly seen the terror-bearing name of JELLACHICH, the Ban of Croatia, upon whose sword the destinies of nations seemed to hang? The fact now escapes that the terrible Ban is a poet! Why not? ACHILLES soothed his leisure with the sounding lyre, when not listening to the "many-sounding sea;" ALEXANDER always travelled with HOMER in his casket; CÆSAR has left us fragments of verse, and the GREAT FREDERICK wrote reams of poetry. If HORACE ran away (which he had a perfect right to do!) ÆSCHYLUS redeems the poetic reputation, for the hand which wrote the *Prometheus* did terrible execution on the dark-haired Persians at Marathon! We have great curiosity to see JELLACHICH'S poems. The imperial printing press of Vienna is doing its utmost to give them due magnificence; and it is said a copy is to be sent to the Great Exhibition!

SPENCER'S SOCIAL STATICS.

Social Statics; or, the Conditions essential to Human Happiness specified, and the first of them developed. By Herbert Spencer. John Chapman.

WE have already, in a brief sentence, recorded our emphatic admiration of this remarkable treatise, the title of which has led some persons to suppose it to be a work on Socialism. *Social Statics* is an attempt to define and circumscribe the primary conditions of society—those abstract principles of equity which must receive their application in morals and politics; and the logical precision with which this is done is as admirable as the luminous illustrations with which the abstract principles are brought home to the reader's understanding. A work at once so scientific in spirit and method, and so popular in execution, we shall look in vain for through libraries of political philosophy.

Beautiful it is to see how, by the aid of two principles, he evolves the whole argumentative basis of his work; and these two are:—

I. *That every man has freedom to do all that he wills, provided he infringes not the equal freedom of other men.*

II. *All social imperfection results from the non-adaptation of man to social conditions; which non-adaptation is continually being diminished by the changes of constitution socially induced, and must finally disappear.*

This second principle will not at once be so readily conceded as the first. Mr. Spencer has

illustrated it throughout his work in a full and ingenious manner; and is, we believe, the first who has given it the due importance. We will hear him on the point:—

"All evil results from the non-adaptation of constitution to conditions. This is true of everything that lives. Does a shrub dwindle in poor soil, or become sickly when deprived of light, or die outright if removed to a cold climate? It is because the harmony between its organization and its circumstances have been destroyed. Those experiences of the farm-yard and the menagerie which show that pain, disease, and death are entailed upon animals by certain kinds of treatment, may all be generalized under the same law. Every suffering incident to the human body, from a headache up to a fatal illness—from a burn or a sprain to accidental loss of life, is similarly traceable to the having placed that body in a situation for which its powers did not fit it. Nor is the expression confined in its application to physical evil; it comprehends moral evil also. Is the kind-hearted man distressed by the sight of misery? Is the bachelor unhappy because his means will not permit him to marry? Does the mother mourn over her lost child? Does the emigrant lament leaving his fatherland? Are some made uncomfortable by having to pass their lives in distasteful occupations, and others from having no occupation at all? The explanation is still the same. No matter what the special nature of the evil, it is invariably referable to the one generic cause—want of congruity between the faculties and their spheres of action.

"Equally true is it that the evil perpetually tends to disappear. In virtue of an essential principle of life, this non-adaptation of an organism to its conditions is ever being rectified; and modification of one or both continues until the adaptation is complete. Whatever possesses vitality, from the elementary cell up to man himself, inclusive, obeys this law. We see it illustrated in the acclimatization of plants, in the altered habits of domesticated animals, in the varying characteristics of our own race.

"Man exhibits just the same adaptability. He alters in colour according to temperature—lives here upon rice, and there upon whale oil—gets larger digestive organs if he habitually eats innutritious food—acquires the power of long fasting if his mode of life is irregular, and loses it when the supply of food is certain—becomes fleet and agile in the wilderness and inert in the city—attains acute vision, hearing, and scent, when his habits of life call for them, and gets these senses blunted when they are less needful. That such changes are towards fitness for surrounding circumstances no one can question. When he sees that a dweller in marshes lives in an atmosphere which is certain death to a stranger—when he sees that the Hindoo can lie down and sleep under a tropical sun, whilst his white master with closed blinds, and water sprinklings, and punkah can hardly get a doze—when he sees the Greenlander and the Neapolitan subsist comfortably on their respective foods—blubber and macaroni, but would be made miserable by an interchange of them—when he sees that in other cases there is still this fitness to diet, to climate, and to modes of life, even the most sceptical must admit that some law of adaptation is at work. Nay, indeed, if he interprets facts aright, he will find that the action of such a law is traceable down to the minutest ramifications of individual experience. In the drunkard who needs an increasing quantity of spirits to intoxicate him, and in the opium eater, who has to keep taking a larger dose to produce the usual effect, he may mark how the system gradually acquires power to resist what is noxious. Those who smoke, who take snuff, or who habitually use medicines, can furnish like illustrations. Nor, in fact, is there any permanent change of bodily state or capability, which is not to be accounted for on the same principle.

"This universal law of physical modification is the law of mental modification also. The multitudinous differences of capacity and disposition that have in course of time grown up between the Indian, African, Mongolian, and Caucasian races, and between the various subdivisions of them, must all be ascribed to the acquirement in each case of fitness for surrounding circumstances. Those strong contrasts between the character of nations and of times admit of no other conceivable explanation. Why all this divergence from the one common original type? If adaptation of constitution to conditions is not the cause, what is the cause? . . .

"Keeping in mind, then, the two facts, that all evil results from the non-adaptation of constitution to conditions; and that where this non-adaptation exists it is continually being diminished by the changing of constitution to suit conditions, we shall be prepared for comprehending the present position of the human race.

"By the increase of population the state of existence we call social has been necessitated. Men living in this state suffer under numerous evils. By the hypothesis it follows that their characters are not completely adapted to such a state.

"In what respect are they not so adapted? What is the special qualification which the social state requires?

"It requires that each individual shall have such desires only as may be fully satisfied without trenching upon the ability of other individuals to obtain like satisfaction. If the desires of each are not thus limited, then either all must have certain of their designs ungratified, or some must get gratification for them at the corresponding expense of others. Both of which alternatives necessitating pain, imply non-adaptation.

"But why is not man adapted to the social state?

"Simply because he yet partially retains the characteristics that adapted him for an antecedent state. The respects in which he is not fitted to society are the respects in which he is fitted for his original predatory life. His primitive circumstances required that he should sacrifice the welfare of other beings to his own; his present circumstances require that he should not do so; and in as far as his old attribute still clings to him, in so far

is he unfit for the social state. All sins of men against each other, from the cannibalism of the Carrib to the crimes and venalities that we see around us; the felonies that fill our prisons, the trickeries of trade, the quarrellings of nation with nation, and of class with class, the corruptness of institutions, the jealousies of caste, and the scandal of drawing-rooms have their causes comprehended under this generalization.

"Concerning the present position of the human race, we must therefore say, that man needed one moral constitution to fit him for his original state; that he needs another to fit him for his present state; and that he has been, is, and will long continue to be, in process of adaptation. By the term civilization we signify the adaptation that has already taken place. The changes that constitute progress are the successive steps of the transition. And the belief in human perfectibility, merely amounts to the belief that, in virtue of this process, man will eventually become completely suited to his mode of life."

With this law of Progress and the static law of Equality Mr. Spencer is not only able to evolve all the leading principles of social ethics, but brings Democracy to a Q. E. D. The following remarks, with which he sums up a discursive passage indicating the almost universal utterance of the sentiment of equality, will be acceptable to our readers:—

"Not without meaning is the continued life and growth of this conviction. He must, indeed, have a strange way of interpreting social phenomena, who can believe that the reappearance of it, with ever-increasing frequency, in laws, books, agitations, revolutions, means nothing. If we analyze them, we shall find all beliefs to be in some way dependent upon mental conformation—temporary ones upon temporary characteristics of our nature—permanent ones upon its permanent characteristics. And when we find that a belief like this in the equal freedom of all men, is not only permanent, but daily gaining ground, we have good reason to conclude that it corresponds to some essential element of our moral constitution: more especially since we find that its existence is in harmony with that chief pre-requisite to greatest happiness lately dwelt upon; and that its growth is in harmony with that law of adaptation by which this greatest happiness is being wrought out.

"Such, at least, is the hypothesis here adopted. From the above accumulation of evidence it is inferred that there exists in man what may be termed an instinct of personal rights—a feeling that leads him to claim as great a share of natural privilege as is claimed by others—a feeling that leads him to repel anything like an encroachment upon what he thinks his sphere of original freedom."

Upon these two laws, especially that of equal freedom, Mr. Spencer dwells at great length, and with propriety; for upon the soundness of this first principle the whole book depends. Having once secured your assent, he has gained you for almost all his conclusions. Indeed, when—as on some few occasions—we find ourselves at variance with Mr. Spencer, it is never because we see a flaw in his logic, but because we do not accept his definitions. The case of Government is an example. Accept his definition of the true function of Government—viz., that it is merely the protection of person and property—and all his arguments respecting state interference are unanswerable; but if you think, as we think, the function of Government is larger, and that it is needed to govern society as well as protect it, then you may reasonably dissent.

With the distaste for abstract speculation now general, we cannot hope for much attention to the earlier chapters of this work, unless the reader be forewarned of their importance. Mr. Spencer has done wonders in making them attractive. His clear epigrammatic style, his affluence of illustration, and his careful avoidance of all philosophic pedantry will make the transit easy, even to the least patient reader. Once passed, these chapters lead to subjects of great and immediate interest, such as "practical politicians" have for ever in their thoughts. We will touch on these.

Chapter IX. is on the "Right to the Use of the Earth." A terrible chapter! The ruthless logic of Mr. Spencer makes sad havoc with the pretensions of landlords. He thus states the bearing of the law of Equity on the matter:—

"Given a race of beings having like claims to pursue the objects of their desires—given a world adapted to the gratification of those desires—a world into which such beings are similarly born, and it unavoidably follows that they have equal rights to the use of this world. For if each of them 'has freedom to do all that he wills provided he infringes not the equal freedom of any other,' then each of them is free to use the earth for the satisfaction of his wants, provided he allows all others the same liberty. And, conversely, it is manifest that no one, or part of them, may use the earth in such a way as to prevent the rest from similarly using it; seeing that to do this is to assume greater freedom than the rest, and, consequently, to break the law."

Equity, therefore, sternly and distinctly says, "there can be no property in land":—

"Passing from the consideration of the possible to

that of the actual, we find yet further reason to deny the rectitude of property in land. It can never be pretended that the existing titles to such property are legitimate. Should any one think so, let him look in the chronicles. Violence, fraud, the prerogative of force, the claims of superior cunning—these are the sources to which those titles may be traced. The original deeds were written with the sword rather than with the pen: not lawyers, but soldiers were the conveyancers: blows were the current coin given in payment; and for seals, blood was used in preference to wax. Could valid claims be thus constituted? Hardly. And if not, what becomes of the pretensions of all subsequent holders of estates so obtained? Does sale or bequest generate a right where it did not previously exist? Would the original claimants be nonsuited at the bar of reason, because the thing stolen from them had changed hands? Certainly not. And if one act of transfer can give no title, can many? No: though nothing be multiplied for ever, it will not produce one. Even the law recognizes this principle. An existing holder must, if called upon, substantiate the claims of those from whom he purchased or inherited his property; and any flaw in the original parchment, even though the property should have had a score of intermediate owners, quashes his right.

"But Time," say some, "is a great legalizer. Immortal possession must be taken to constitute a legitimate claim. That which has been held from age to age as private property, and has been bought and sold as such, must now be considered as irrevocably belonging to individuals." To which proposition a willing assent shall be given when its propounders can assign it a definite meaning. To do this, however, they must find satisfactory answers to such questions as—How long does it take for what was originally a wrong to grow into a right? At what rate per annum do invalid claims become valid? If a title gets perfect in a thousand years, how much more than perfect will it be in two thousand years?—and so forth. For the solution of which they will require a new calculus.

"Whether it may be expedient to admit claims of a certain standing, is not the point. We have here nothing to do with considerations of conventional privilege or legislative convenience. We have simply to inquire what is the verdict given by pure equity in the matter. And this verdict enjoins a protest against every existing pretension to the individual possession of the soil; and dictates the assertion, that the right of mankind at large to the earth's surface is still valid; all deeds, customs, and laws, notwithstanding."

The common argument is that, when a man reclaims land, expends his labour on it, making it by his improvements valuable, arable, from mere marsh or waste that it was before, his labour has erected a property which no other man can dispute. This Mr. Spencer thus answers:—

"You say truly, when you say that 'whilst they were unreclaimed these lands belonged to all men.' And it is my duty to tell you that they belong to all men still; and that your 'improvements,' as you call them, cannot vitiate the claim of all men. You may plough and harrow, and sow and reap; you may turn over the soil as often as you like; but all your manipulations will fail to make that soil yours, which was not yours to begin with. Let me put a case. Suppose now that in the course of your wanderings you come upon an empty house, which in spite of its dilapidated state takes your fancy; suppose that with the intention of making it your abode you expend much time and trouble in repairing it—that you paint, and paper, and whitewash, and at considerable cost bring it into a habitable state. Suppose further, that on some fatal day a stranger is announced, who turns out to be the heir to whom this house has been bequeathed; and that this professed heir is prepared with all the necessary proofs of his identity; what becomes of your improvements? Do they give you a valid title to the house? Do they quash the title of the original claimant?"

"No.

"Neither, then, do your pioneering operations give you a valid title to this land. Neither do they quash the title of its original claimants—the human race. The world is God's bequest to mankind. All men are joint heirs to it; you amongst the number. And because you have taken up your residence on a certain part of it, and have subdued, cultivated, beautified that part—improved it as you say, you are not, therefore, warranted in appropriating it as entirely private property. At least if you do so, you may at any moment be justly expelled by the lawful owner—Society."

Again:—

"After all, nobody does implicitly believe in land-lordism. We hear of estates being held under the king, that is, the State; or of their being kept in trust for the public benefit; and not that they are the inalienable possessions of their nominal owners. Moreover, we daily deny land-lordism by our legislation. Is a canal, a railway, or a turnpike road to be made? We do not scruple to seize just as many acres as may be requisite; allowing the holders compensation for the capital invested. We do not wait for consent. An act of Parliament supersedes the authority of title deeds, and serves proprietors with notices to quit, whether they will or not. Either this is equitable, or it is not. Either the public are free to resume as much of the earth's surface as they think fit, or the titles of the landowners must be considered absolute, and all national works must be postponed until lords and squires please to part with the requisite slices of their estates. If we decide that the claims of individual ownership must give way, then we imply that the right of the nation at large to the soil is supreme—that the right of private possession only exists by general consent—that general consent being withdrawn, it ceases—or, in other words, that it is no right at all.

"But to what does this doctrine, that men are equally entitled to the use of the earth, lead? Must we return to the times of uninclosed wilds, and subsist on roots, berries, and game? Or are we to be left to the management of Messrs. Fourrier, Owen, Louis Blanc, and Co.?"

"Neither. Such a doctrine is consistent with the highest state of civilization; may be carried out without involving a community of goods; and need cause no very serious revolution in existing arrangements. The change required would simply be a change of lands. Separate ownerships would merge into the joint-stock ownership of the public. Instead of being in the possession of individuals, the country would be held by the great corporate body—Society. Instead of leasing his acres from an isolated proprietor, the farmer would lease them from the nation. Instead of paying his rent to the agent of Sir John or his Grace, he would pay it to an agent or deputy-agent of the community. Stewards would be public officials instead of private ones; and tenancy the only land tenure.

"A state of things so ordered would be in perfect harmony with the moral law. Under it all men would be equally landlords; all men would be alike free to become tenants A, B, C, and the rest, might compete for a vacant farm as now, and one of them might take that farm, without in any way violating the principles of pure equity. All would be equally free to bid; all would be equally free to refrain. And when the farm had been let to A, B, or C, all parties would have done that which they willed—the one in choosing to pay a given sum to his fellow-men for the use of certain lands—the others in refusing to pay that sum. Clearly, therefore, on such a system, the earth might be inclosed, occupied, and cultivated, in entire subordination to the law of equal freedom."

Did we not say this was a terrible chapter! It places landlords in an unhappy predicament; but, as Mr. Spencer wisely remarks, "We shall do well to recollect that there are others besides the landed class to be considered. In our tender regard for the vested interests of the few, let us not forget that the rights of the many are in abeyance, and must remain so, as long as the earth is monopolized by individuals. . . . It may by and bye be perceived that Equity utters dictates to which we have not yet listened, and men may then learn that, to deprive others of their rights to the use of the earth, is to commit a crime inferior only in wickedness to the crime of taking away their lives or personal liberties."

We must break off here; but will return to the book for one or two more articles.

ROSE DOUGLAS.

Rose Douglas: or Sketches of a Country Parish: being the Autobiography of a Scotch Minister's Daughter. By S. R. W. Smith, Elder, and Co. In two volumes.

THOSE who are not too young to remember the days of coach travelling will vividly recal the peculiar sensations which stole over them as the four snorting horses suddenly pulled up at some village posting-house. The outsiders hastily get down to stretch their legs. All is still, sequestered, innocent; the very dogs that lounge about the indoor seem of a primitive turn of mind; the ducks that waddle under the horses' legs are not more unenlightened than the women and children come out to stare at the coach. Scarcely a sound is heard; the crowing of a cock or the sudden bark of a dog is an incident. The effect of this stillness upon your mind is quite peculiar. After the noise, the eddy and the tumult of great towns through which you have just clattered, after the sharp and incessant rattling of the coach which you have endured for some hours, the pastoral stillness of this little village suffuses its serenity over your mind, and you murmur fragments of Virgil or Theocritus (if reasonable sums have been spent on your "liberal education"), or Shakspeare, or Thomson's Seasons, or any other poet whose lines may live in your memory—that is, supposing always your literary tendency to be adequate to the occasion; if you are a cheesemonger (in soul as in trade) your thoughts will take a less discursive sweep. Be you what you may, the contrast of this rural stillness with the noise to which you have so long been accustomed will be very grateful to your mind; and while we write we are certain that the reader is realizing this picture, drawing from the recesses of memory some quiet scenes of exquisite delight.

We need some such image to convey the expression of our enjoyment of *Rose Douglas*. It is a perfectly charming book, carrying us from the tumult of town life into the sequestered quiet of a Scotch village, where we are introduced into the homes of primitive out-of-the-way people, and made to contemplate the panorama of life as it moves before them. It is not a novel. A slender thread of autobiography connects the sketches together; but the strength of the writer is less shown in the construction of a plot and the accumulation of incidents, than in descriptions of character and

domestic scenes. A feminine delicacy of observation aiding an artistic power of selection makes the pictures full of detail, yet not overcrowded. Everything lives and moves in these pages; everything stands out as distinct as if in sunlight. We seem to be settled down in Auchtermuir, as residents at the manse, and to be the personal acquaintances of all its inhabitants. Such truthfulness is extremely rare, and it makes this book unusually delightful.

It reads very like a real autobiography; so much so as to make us regret even the present small intimation of its being a fiction. We think if it had been given frankly as an autobiography some disappointment would have been avoided, and greater interest excited in its pictures. Rose Douglas, who tells her own story, is the daughter of a Scotch minister in a remote village, every corner of which she has made us know. Sketches of her daily life and of her neighbours fill up the early portions. Then her father dies, and she resides with a rich aunt in Glasgow, and has to undergo the tortures of a "poor relation," from which she escapes into the situation of governess to a weak indolent woman, and finally marries a young minister and returns to her native village. That is the thread. On it are strung a variety of sketches of character, custom, and forms of society not familiar to the public, but most vividly represented. We can afford room but for three samples, which we do not select as the best, but as the most easily detached:—

A FAMILY OF OLD MAIDS.

"Such a family of old maids! The youngest mistress was forty, and the two servants were somewhat older. They had each their pets too, except I think the eldest, who was the clearest-headed of the family. The servants had the same Christian name, which was rather perplexing, as neither would consent to be called by her surname. How their mistresses managed to distinguish them I do not recollect; but the country people settled it easily amongst themselves by early naming them according to their different heights, 'lang Jenny,' and 'little Jenny.' They were characters in their way as well as their mistresses. They had served them for upwards of twenty years, and knew every secret of the family, being as regularly consulted as any of the members of it. They regulated the expenses too much as they liked, which was in a very frugal economical manner. The two Jennies had not much relished their removal to the country, and still often sighed with regret for the gossipings they once enjoyed in the Castlegate of Lanark. But they could not bear to part from the family; so they now boomed at their wheels or mended the household linen in the damp dull kitchen of Burnside, instead of performing the same work in their old cosy, comfortable one in the burgh town, and tried to indemnify themselves for their privations by establishing a kind of patronizing familiarity with various of the cottagers' wives.

"Miss Jess and Miss Jean were the names of the younger ladies. There was that species of resemblance among all the sisters, both mental and personal, which is often to be observed in members of the same family. Menie, the eldest sister, was, however, much superior to the others in force of character, but her mind had not been cultivated by reading. Jess, the second, was a large coarse-looking woman, with a masculine voice, and tastes decidedly so. An excellent wright or smith she would have made, if unfortunately she had not been born a gentlewoman. She had a habit of wandering about the grounds with a small hammer and nails in her huge pocket, examining the fences and mending them if necessary. She could pick a lock too, when needed, with great neatness and despatch. I rather think she could repair one also. I have still in my possession a small box of her making, which, for execution and durability, I will match against the performance of any rival amateur of the opposite sex. In spite, however, of such freaks, and as if to make amends for them, Miss Jess possessed one of the softest and most impressionable hearts which ever fell to the lot of a mature maiden of forty-five. She had suffered from no less than six different attachments during her life (she made me her confidante), and most unfortunately they had never been to the right individual, for they were not returned. But poor Miss Jess cherished no malice; she freely forgave them their insensibility. Indeed, she had not the heart to kill a fly. Every beggar imposed on her, and her sisters were obliged for her own sake to restrain her charities. Her dress, like her pursuits, had always a certain masculine air about it. She wore large rough boots, coarse gloves, and a kind of man's cravat constantly twisted about her neck when out of doors. In short, she was one of those persons one cannot help liking yet laughing at. Jean, the youngest sister, had been a beauty in her time, and she still laid claim to the distinction resulting from it. It was a pity, considering the susceptibility of her second sister, that her charms had not been shared by her. Jean was coquettish, and affected a somewhat youthful manner and style of dress, which contrasted ill with her time of life. But the rest of the family, in which of course I include the servants, evidently considered her a young thoughtless thing for whom much allowance must be made."

At a minister's dinner—wonderfully described—we have a glimpse of a very common nuisance, and it shall be quoted as a warning to those whose philoprogenitiveness is larger than their benevolence and conscientiousness:—

"After the cloth was removed a large punch-bowl of Indian china with glasses was placed on the table. I

forgot to remark that during the whole time of dinner there had been an unusual bustle, and a movement of feet in the passage, a scrambling it seemed for the spoils of the dinner, for the servants' voices were often heard in expostulation. All the notice Mrs. Purdie took of this (for her husband did not interfere) was to desire that the door should be kept closed; but when the glasses were placed upon the table, she whispered audibly to the servant to 'tell the bairns they might come in now.'

"Accordingly, after the delay of a few minutes, which were employed, I suppose, in composing their dress by old Janet, the door was thrown open, and the children made their appearance. They advanced according to their ages, 'wee Johnny' bringing up the rear. The girls were dressed in white muslin frocks and red sashes, with necklaces of blue beads. The eldest looked half inclined to be bashful, half to be forward,—the others only looked eagerly to the table in search of the biscuits.

"There was a sudden pause in the conversation as they entered, and then a forced alacrity to welcome and make room for them. Children are considered by almost every one except their parents a dreadful nuisance on such occasions, while civility requires the guests to pay them some attention. They should really never be intruded upon large mixed parties. A damp seemed to fall upon the company, conversation was interrupted, and more than one discussion postponed to a more convenient season, the parents and children only appearing satisfied and at their ease. Some formal remarks on the children's growth and ages were made at the head of the table, and Mrs. Symington and our hostess compared notes on the height, temper, and inclinations of their different offspring, each secretly claiming the superiority for her own. A look of invitation from me brought Phemie timidly to my side,—Johnny had stolen to his usual place beside his mother, and the others were disposed of among the company. A glass of currant wine was then given to each of them, and by desire of their smiling parents they were in turn compelled to drink the company's good health, naming every individual present, and assisted by Mr. or Mrs. Purdie when their recollection failed them.

"How old is Johnny?" inquired Mrs. Symington, with an appearance of great interest.

"Three years auld last November," answered the mother.

"Mrs. Symington was quite astonished. 'Dear me! he's very big of his age.'

"He's a very forward laddie of his years,' stroking down the hair of her favourite. 'But ye have such fine bairns, Mrs. Symington, yoursell'. You can repeat 'The Lord's my shepherd,' and 'How doth the little busy bee,' already,—canna ye, Johnny?"

"Johnny took no notice of this question, his attention being wholly engrossed by the contents of the sugar canister which stood near. 'Me some sugar, mama,' he asked, or rather demanded.

"Repeat the 'little busy bee' to Mrs. Symington, and you'll get it," said the proud mother.

"Come, Johnny," said that lady in a coaxing tone.

"How doth the little," began Johnny, but stopping suddenly, he whispered loud enough to be heard, 'Mama, Tam's getting sweeties from the gentleman.'

"Whisht—and ye'll may be getting sweeties too," said Mrs. Purdie.

"But Tam's gettin' them a,' whimpered Johnny, who, with finger in mouth, sat looking discontentedly at his brother's luck.

"Tam," said his mother coaxingly, anxious to please her favourite, 'there's a good callant, gie Johnny some o' your peppermint draps.'

"I've just got twa three," answered Tam, who was crunching them as fast as he was able, 'and I hae nae to gie to Johnny.'

"I am very sorry," said the gentleman, feeling again in his pockets; 'but I fear'—The search was without effect.

"Here we were all startled by a howl from Johnny occasioned by his disappointment.

"Whisht, whisht, laddie," said his mother, something ashamed of this exhibition, and endeavouring to quiet him. 'Whisht, like a gude bairn, and ye'll get a penny the morn to buy peppermint draps.' But Johnny was deaf to her expostulations and promises (perhaps he had experienced the deceptive nature of the latter); the noise of course put a stop to all conversation, and drew every one's attention to himself.

"Johnny, Johnny," said his father, knitting his brows and looking up the table.

"For ony sake, Tam," said his mother beseechingly, 'gie him the sweeties. Ye bad laddie, are ye no ashamed roaring that way? What will the company think of ye. Hold your tongue this minute, or you'll be sent out o' the room.' All was of no avail—the disturbance continued.

"What's this, Johnny?" at length inquired the Reverend Doctor Dryscreed, who sat at the hostess' right hand, holding up a halfpenny as he spoke. 'What is it?' again asked the Doctor.

"It's a bawbee," murmured Johnny, while smiles returned to his countenance.

"And will ye greet ony mair if ye get it?"

"Johnny promised; and immediately clutched the halfpenny, which he held up in triumph to Tom.

"Doctor Dryscreed's owre kind to you," said the pleased mother, 'and you ought to beg the company's pardon.' To this Johnny turned a deaf ear while contemplating his treasure.

"It's a fine thing to greet," said Tam spitefully, who was in part to blame for the disturbance, and who had now finished his peppermints. But he was silenced by his mother."

We must also give the close of this party:—

"On our return to the parlour we were entertained by an exhibition of the children's accomplishments. Miss Purdie was desired by the complacent mother (who

doubted not but her guests were as delighted as herself) to produce for inspection the 'braw new shirt she had just finished for her papa, made without help, except the stitching of the collar and wristbands, and the whipping up and sewing on of the frills.' This having received the proper meed of praise, was succeeded by some other performance: then Bella was made to dance the Highland fling, which she had learnt from one of the servants—a Highland girl—consisting of various turnings and twistings, and perpendicular leaps in the air; so that we had plenty of amusement, such as it was. The exhibition was closed by the recital of 'The Lord's my shepherd,' and 'How doth the little busy bee,' by Johnny, aided by his mother in those parts in which his memory was defective, which upon an average was once in every second line.

"Thus the evening wore on. The two matrons got into close communication. The children romped, quarrelled, were rebuked by their mother, and at last, as they got sleepy, were despatched to bed, not, however, without much crying and resistance. Miss Cochran and I each occupied a corner of the sofa, and occasionally exchanged a word, or yawned and looked at the fire. She was impatient, I suppose, for the reappearance of the gentlemen, and I was anxious for my father's, that we might get home.

"Joyful was the sound of the breaking up of the revels in the dining-room, whose distant echoes had all along been in our ears, and at length in came the reverend Presbytery by two or threes at a time, most of them very red in the face, and each rubbing his hands, as if he felt the night very cold.

"'Here we are at last, gudewife,' said Mr. Purdie, who seemed in a high state of glee, advancing to where his spouse was seated by Mrs. Symington, 'come to get a cup o' your tea, to do awa the ill effects o' the toddy.'

"'Deed, minister, we were just thinking ye seemed owre fond o' the toddy bowl to quit it the night. But ye've get your tea,—it's been masket an hour since, and we're a' weyering for it; and rising from her seat, she bustled to the tea-table, where the tea-things had been displayed, as she said, for more than an hour.

"The room was small,—the party filled it to overflowing. A perfect Babel of tongues arose in it, for almost every one talked, and few seemed inclined to listen,—the effects of the toddy were apparent. The old gentleman, my dinner companion, as if to make amends for his former shortness, sat down by me, and endeavoured to entertain me by a disquisition on church-law, in reference to a case then under the consideration of the Presbytery. He went by the nickname of 'Slow John,'—and prosy enough he was to be sure. I was beginning sadly to weary for our departure, vainly endeavouring to catch my father's eye, who was quietly conversing in a corner with Mr. Patterson, when happily the servant opened the door, and announced with a titter that 'Mr. Douglas's servant had said he wad wait nae langer.'

"'Rose, are you ready?' said my father. I rose immediately, too glad to go, to mind the message which excited some mirth. I bade the company good night, resisting Mr. and Mrs. Purdie's pressing invitation to wait 'just another hour,' and was soon seated in the cart by my father. John was very discontented at being made to wait so long, and scarcely spoke as he helped us in. How glad I was to hear the branches of the trees rustling on the top of the cart, as it moved along to the gate. We turned out of the entrance; the long road was before us, and the fresh air blew into the cart—it was so sweet after the fumes of the toddy! The change from the din and confusion we had left, to the quiet and solitude of the road, was most refreshing. There was no moon, but there was no starlight; and the horse, conscious he was returning to his own stable, moved briskly on."

MAYO'S PHILOSOPHY OF LIVING.

The Philosophy of Living. By Herbert Mayo, M.D. The Third Edition, revised. J. W. Parker.

THE preëxcellence of this work consists in the sound physiological knowledge underlying its popular style. Not only are the principles laid down clear, definite, and simple, but they are based upon a thorough mastery of all that Science has established with respect to this intricate and important subject. A careful study of its pages will furnish the reader with such general guides as must greatly assist him in the preservation of his health. Indeed, except the truly admirable works of Dr. Combe we know nothing to be compared with this *Philosophy of Living*. A liberal and comprehensive spirit animates its pages, rendering it agreeable to read as well as profitable to study. It is a series of Essays on Diversities of Constitution—Diet—Exercise—Sleep—Bathing—Clothing—Air and Climate—and Health of Mind—brief yet full of detail, so clear that a child may understand them, so important that a philosopher may meditate on them. Under the head of Constitution he treats of Temperaments, of Habit, and of Diathesis; under the head of Diet he treats of Digestion, of Food, of quantities of Food, of intervals between meals, of conditions which strengthen or weaken the digestive powers, of Food at different Ages, and of social relations of Food—nothing can be more satisfactory and convincing than this essay. Upon Exercise he has also most judicious remarks:—

PHYSICAL EDUCATION OF GIRLS.

"There is but one disease to which female children are liable, and that is Education; as soon as the age arrives at which they are to be artificially trained to feminineness of mind, and manners, and accomplishment, their

strength and health are endangered. While boys are encouraged to pursue sports of increasing exertion, their sisters, whose bodily strength not keeping pace with theirs, nevertheless requires exercise equal in proportion for its maintenance, are forbidden all that they need. The consequence is, that they are liable to become fragile and delicate. How their health is progressively impaired, this is not the place to teach. It is my present object only to point out in what its alterations originate, and how they may be prevented. But there is one alteration which follows so immediately and mechanically from neglect of exercise, and which tends so completely to counteract the objects for which the system of artificial culture is pursued, that I may not pass it unnoticed. This is weakness of the back, followed by curvature of the spine.

"I enter, indeed, upon this subject the more readily that it has not been adequately explained, even by the latest writers. Every one is, indeed, aware that general weakness of the entire structure of the back is the consequence of the neglect of exercise; but how it happens that that weakness produces lateral curvature, I think, has not as yet been shown. All, again, are aware that vertical pressure is insufficient to produce the effect observed; this might cause the bones to become broader and flatter, but could not bend the back laterally. The difficulty has been to get at the origin of lateral curvature; or to bring the back into that kind of sinuous flexure in which common pressure would cause the weakened column to become serpentine.

"The first feature in the inquiry which presents itself is the almost uniform elevation and fulness of the right shoulder, and right side of the chest, which accompanies curvature of the spine. Why this feature is not universal will be subsequently explained. But for the present let us attend to the fact of its remarkable frequency.

"The principle to which this will be traced is thus expressed by Donald Walker:—'The one-sidedness with which almost all the acts of life are performed is the general cause of the greatest and most universal deformity, and its prevention requires an equal and similar use of the other side.' Hitherto, however, the connection between the general fact and the common feature of spinal curvature has not been shown. . . .

"The steps by which the spine ordinarily gives way are these. The child kept at its music-stool, or books, or drawing, has a weakened or aching back. The muscles of the spine have not been invigorated by the sportive exertions, and the various changes of attitude, which nature dictates. Wearing by its task, the next change is to stand listlessly beside its governess or in a drawing-room. What is the posture which it assumes? It is, of course, that which gives greatest ease to the languid muscles. The child stands with its weight supported on one leg, the body swayed to that side, the knee of the other side bent, and the hip lowered. The limb which it uses on this occasion for support is almost always the right limb; for this simple reason, that it is the strongest. And the child assumes the position at all times, because it is one of change from its former more rigid position, and because, in addition, the fascial structure of the limb takes off, in that posture, some of the strain from the muscles.

"Let me, in passing, observe that what has been already said sufficiently indicates the source of one minor kind of displacement that is not unfrequent. The right ankle constantly rested on grows inwards—that is to say, the joint gives inwards, its ligaments being elongated by the perpetual strain. In like manner, or from the same cause, the knee will give inwards—one limb becoming in-kneed.

"The child, thus weakened by its habitual in exertion, and tired by the discipline of the morning, is standing supported on its right leg. To judge of what is happening to its back at the same time, place before you a healthy child, and, having instructed it to rest its weight alternately on both its legs, and, as in the position supposed, upon one only, observe its back when the alteration to the latter takes place. You may distinctly see that the straight line of its back becomes, in the second case, a serpentine flexure—the ordinary flexure of curvature. The mechanical elements of the change are equally obvious. At the time that the weight of the frame is transferred to the right limb, the left side of the pelvis is seen to sink; but the spinal column is attached at right angles to the middle of the pelvis; if the whole length of the column continued vertical to its base, the child would have fallen towards the unsupported side; the column, to avoid this consequence, is instinctively bent at the upper part of the loins to the right, to throw the weight well over to the right side; but the degree of flexion required for this purpose would carry the neck considerably out of the perpendicular; another contrary bend is therefore requisite, which begins in the middle of the back, and terminates at the root of the neck. These are the elements of the simultaneous changes which ensue—the inclination of the pelvis to the left, the flexure of the lower part of the spine to the right, of the upper part towards the left. They may be thus experimentally produced in the flexuous spine of the healthiest child, as quickly redressed, and the spine restored to straightness. They are thus likewise inseparable, not successive, but simultaneous parts of one action.

"Let us now apply the preceding observations to children with backs weakened in bone, sinew, muscle. This position of rest, this standing-at-ease, to which they are more prone than other children, and which becomes habitual, brings the spinal column into the following relation to the weight of the body, arms, and head. It is no longer a straight pillar of support; but, so long as the posture is maintained, a flexuous one. That would matter little, if all the elements of the column were strong and rigid. But they are weak, debilitated, disposed to yield, and they give accordingly; and the flexures become, not the temporary yieldings of elastic joints, but permanent givings and yieldings of weakened textures. Once begun, the change can but progress, and the greater

the obliquity at each part, the greater the mechanical inability of the spine to resist the growing evil."

To counteract this tendency to curvature Dr. Mayo proposes these rules:—

"1. In the first place, a child should be broken of the habit of standing on one leg in preference to the other. It should be made to stand on both alternately. Mr. Jenkins, whose ingenious instructions have been of so much use to the youth of the last five-and-twenty years, observed to me that there was one sure receipt for producing crookedness: 'For this purpose,' he remarked, 'a child should bolt his food and habitually stand on one leg'—the evils proceeding from the mischievous combination of bad digestion with faulty habits of posture are well conveyed in this apophthegm.

"2. All other postures are to be avoided which tend to give predominance to one side, or to incline it always to the same side.

"3. Exercises which promote the strength of the back should be systematically employed; exercises, however, in which the limbs are not weighted, but which consist in the assumption of a succession of attitudes. Much natural grace, and ease of posture and gesture, are collaterally obtained by such practices, when judiciously selected.

"4. The dress of a girl should not bind her chest, but should be, in fact, as light and incompressive as that of a boy, and as much indulgence in play and sportive amusement allowed as may be consistent with the habits it is right to encourage.

"5. In sitting, when already tired, the child should rest well back on her chair, the spine resting against the back of the chair, thoroughly supported by it, and the seat of the chair reaching to the bend of the knees. Her feet should be equally supported.

"Such are the precautions necessary to be observed against spinal curvature; and they are sufficient to prevent it. To remove it entirely, when it exists to any great extent, is impossible; to remedy it in part during growth, always practicable; to obliterate it at its commencement, not less so. The partial introduction, however, of other principles of treatment becomes necessary when curvature has begun.

"In a note to an excellent article on physical education by Dr. Barlow, of Bath, in the *Cyclopædia of Practical Medicine*, Dr. Forbes adds, of his own observation, that in a school which he had inspected not one female child that had resided there two years had a straight spine!—a serious comment on the text—not to exclude from the education of girls that enjoyment of air and exercise which nature claims for them."

Well worthy of attention is this inference drawn from an ascertained condition:—

"It is not equally easy to prove, but on reflection it appears no less certain, that the nervous power of the brain is lowered in sleep; that the depression of the cerebral circulation is accompanied by depression of cerebral energy. But how else are we to account for the slowness or suspension of digestion during sleep, the feebleness of the heart's action, the susceptibility of cold. 'The steam has been turned off,' and the body is relaxed; its functions (a fact best perhaps shown in hibernating animals) are half at a stand-still; that which imparts force and activity to every function is no longer generated in adequate power and quantity; the brain, the main source of nervous energy, is in repose.

"The bearing of these conclusions, if just, upon cerebral disease, is of great importance. Brain attacks generally come on during the night, and during sleep. That is to say, they mostly supervene at the time when the power of the brain is lowered. They are then, in some degree, connected with depression of the cerebral forces. They are favoured by weakness and exhaustion of the brain.

"The attacks to which I refer are epilepsy, apoplexy, palsy, the common impression respecting which is, that they proceed from determination of blood to the brain, or from some kind of force or pressure operating actively to disturb the functions of the organ. I believe, on the contrary, that in the majority of cases, especially in advanced life, these seizures, taken as a class, result from cerebral failure, from weakness, depression of power, temporary or permanent, of some part or the whole of the brain.

"It does not contravene the preceding conclusion, that these complaints are liable to be primarily induced by action in the head;—that where they do not result from alteration of structure they often may be traced to habits of full living and strong excitement, which have frequently thrown the blood in hurried and violent circulation through the brain—and that besides, in many instances, a loaded and laboured circulation goes with, and gives increased danger to such attacks—and that nothing is more likely to benefit the latter class of cases than diminution, by means of cupping, of the quantity of blood in the vessels. But grouping together all cerebral seizures that take the form of fits, I believe that the cases in which cerebral congestion is a feature are the exceptions; and that it is most important the practice grounded on this principle should be recognized, that diminishing the quantity of blood is not the appropriate remedy for cerebral seizures. The majority of such cases are sudden failure of the powers of the brain, which lowering the circulation will but additionally depress. I might make this remark in its practical bearing more general. It is certain that in many acute attacks and cases of insidious congestion life is saved by bleeding. But how many are there not, in which the chance of life is lessened by the same means."

One does not look for etymologies in works like the present, but Dr. Mayo relaxes from the severity of science now and then into classical quotation and allusion. Mentioning the glow of health and

brilliance of complexion which a gallop produces on a lady's cheek, he adds this note:—

"I have looked in vain for the etymology of the word gallop, and conjecture it to be *αλλοπος*, the Homeric epithet of Iris."

Bravo, Doctor! "storm-footed" our mare shall be from this day forward.

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

Familiar Things; a Cyclopædia of Entertaining Knowledge. Being Useful Information popularly arranged. Illustrated with wood engravings. Arthur Hall, Virtue, and Co.

No. 3 of a monthly periodical, which promises to be an entertaining work of useful information; but not having seen the two first numbers we are somewhat in the dark as to its arrangement, whether it proceeds alphabetically or scientifically. This number contains the conclusion of a paper on the Bouquet, papers on Lucifers, Carpets, and Soap Bubbles.

The Dramatic Works of W. Shakspeare. From the text of Johnson, Steevens, and Reed. Edited by W. Hazlitt. In 4 vols. (Popular Library.) Vol. I. G. Routledge.

We presume this to be the cheapest edition of Shakspeare yet published. Four shillings for the four volumes will meet every bookbuyer's purse. The text is that of Johnson, Steevens, and Reed. The notes are very judiciously confined to simple glossarial explanation of meanings of words, and placed at the bottom of the pages where the difficulties occur. A Life is promised. As yet only the first volume has appeared: it contains *Merry Wives of Windsor, Twelfth Night, The Tempest, Two Gentlemen of Verona, and Measure for Measure.*

The Poetical Works of Oliver Goldsmith. With Thirty Illustrations by John Absolon, Birket Foster, James Goodwin, and Harrison Weir. Cundall and Addey.

This is the first volume of an elegant and useful series of Illustrated English Classics. The volume is very tasteful, and yet not too pretty for use. It may lie upon the drawing-room table, but it may be put in the pocket without fear, for it is only a half-crown volume—not too dainty to be handled. We insist on this as an obvious advantage over those illustrated books which cease to be books in becoming mere ornaments. The illustrations are fair, but not remarkable.

Masters and Workmen. A Tale illustrative of the Social and Moral Condition of the People. By Lord B—. In 3 vols. T. C. Newby.

This is an average novel: neither better nor worse than the ordinary works which every season brings to light and every season carries back once more to utter obscurity. Our disappointment was perhaps greater than it would otherwise have been had not the title raised expectations the work never attempts to fulfil. Call it *The Fraudulent Banker, or The Innocent Convict*, and the novel is, as we said, like other novels. But call it *Masters and Workmen*, a tale of social life illustrating the condition of the people, and expectation instantly leaps at another *Mary Barton* or *Alton Locke*, when in truth there is scarcely anything about masters and workmen in the book more than is to be found in hundreds of other novels, and the moral and social condition of the people gains no sort of illustration from Lord B—.

The Girlhood of Shakspeare's Heroines. Tale IV. Desdemona: the Maguifico's Child. By Mary Cowden Clarke. W. H. Smith.

As specimens of ingenuity in preparing the heroines for their introduction on the dramatic stage—in throwing us back upon what *might* have been the history of their early lives, these tales are entitled to more credit than their somewhat unsatisfactory nature can secure for them. The want of climax is only one among the drawbacks to their interest. All along it is less the imagination or the emotions these tales appeal to, than the critical faculty which is excited in detecting how dexterously the threads are woven; and this we believe is against their interest as tales, and suggests that if the same ingenuity were employed in a more obviously critical and conjectural style—substituting essays for stories—a better result would be obtained.

The Dreamer and the Worker. A Story of the Present Time. By R. H. Horne. 2 vols. H. Colburn.

Man; Natural and Spiritual. By Banks Farrand. C. Gilpin.

Childhood Hours. By Mrs. Barwell. Chapman and Hall.

Knight's Pictorial Shakspeare. (Merchant of Venice.) Part 10. C. Knight.

Half Hours with the Best Authors. Part 12. C. Knight.

Pictorial Half Hours. Part 10. C. Knight.

Knight's Cyclopædia of London. Part 4. C. Knight.

Knight's Cyclopædia of Industry. Part 4. C. Knight.

Knight's Excursion Companion. Part 2. C. Knight.

The Romish Inquisition as adopted by the Wesleyan Conference; being a Narrative of Events, a Collection of Documents, and a View of the Arguments connected with that Subject. By James Bromley. J. Kaye and Co.

Christian Socialism and its Opponents. A Lecture delivered at the Office of the Society for Promoting Working Men's Associations. By J. M'Ludlow, Esq. J. W. Parker.

Letter to the Reverend John Cumming, D. D., on the subject of his Lecture entitled God in Science. H. Baillière.

The Signs of the Times; or, the Popery of Protestantism. H. J. Gibbs.

English Principle over-ridden by Mitred Priestcraft. A Tale of Persecution and Oppression. Dedicated (without permission) to the Lord Bishop of London. W. and T. Piper.

The Mire and the Woolpack; or, the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Lord Chancellors Truro and Cottenham. H. J. Gibbs.

Andrew Claiborne. A Tale of Encumbered Estates. By Celticus. H. J. Gibbs.

The Wesleyan Review and Evangelical Review. No. 3. J. Kaye and Co.

The Wesleyan Reformer. No. 3. J. Kaye and Co.

The Mirror of the Time.

The Wesleyan Juvenile Penny Magazine. No. 1.

Portfolia.

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

SKETCHES FROM LIFE.

BY HARRIET MARTINEAU.

VIII. THE CONVICT.

Reuben's father was a farmer. The farm was a small one; but there was more work to be done than the father and son could easily get through. When Reuben was a child he had worked by his father's side; and as diligently as he could, because he was told that his two elder brothers must go away, and work for themselves when they became men; and he must qualify himself to supply the place of one of them. The brothers did go away; and the two sisters married; so that Reuben and his father were the only ones left in the old house. The remembrance of the dead wife and mother seemed to revive then, and become very painful; for the lad saw how his father's spirits drooped. The sighs that came from him in the evenings, and the disheartening words that he dropped, made the poor lad's heart very heavy; and at times he wondered how it was all to end, or whether their home was to be like this for ever.

The end showed itself at last. The intimation came one day in the field that their home was no longer to be like this. His father was going to marry the widow Robertson. Reuben did not know whether to be glad or sorry. His father's happiness would be taken out of his charge: and this, as he had found his insufficiency to make his father happy, was a relief; but, then, he did not like the widow Robertson, and his father was aware that he did not. None of the family had known much of her, but they did not admire her face, and report said that she was very "near" about money matters. When his father read a joke in the newspaper one day, about a woman in America who had such a sour countenance, that she made a profit of it, and hired herself out by the day to make pickles by looking at cucumbers, Reuben and one of his sisters had exclaimed, at the same moment, "Widow Robertson!" and Reuben now feared that his father had not forgotten this. However she was thoroughly respectable, neat, housewifely, and said to be clever. In a comfortable home she might prove more amiable than she looked. Reuben made many resolutions that she should have no reason to complain of him; and he told his father, in all sincerity, that he would do all in his power towards the happiness of the household.

Nobody, however, could make any happiness there after the new wife crossed the threshold. The state of things was worse than anybody had anticipated. Reuben was the chief victim of the woman's tongue and temper, and of her virtues, such as they were. She could not bear to see dirty shoes; she could not bear the smell of the stable; she could not bear to see his clothes wear out, as clothes will wear out under field labour. She was perpetually vaunting her making and mending, and cleaning, and complaining that she saw no end to her toils. Sometimes her husband protected Reuben, even to the point of silencing her, but then she sulked; and for so long a time together that the poor man became discouraged, and let her have her own way. Then Reuben began to give way, in spite of all resolutions. When in the field, he could not help thinking of the sharp replies, true enough, that he might make to her insufferable speeches: he thought them over, again and again, till they were at his tongue's end so that they would come out when the taunts were repeated. She shamed him before the neighbours; she scolded him till in the summer evenings he burst out of the house, and in the winter evenings he plunged into bed, and muffled his ears in the bed-clothes. "The voice of scolding was even as the voice of a waterfall." But we will not dwell on an affliction which is at once one of the commonest, and one of the most unendurable of human troubles.

It went on for two years, by which time Reuben was eighteen. One afternoon, his father, who had been absent all day at market, came home, and found Reuben at the gate of the farm-yard looking for him impatiently.

"Good bye, father," said he, "I have milked the cows; and Jackson will look to them in the morning, and till you can find somebody to do my work; and . . ."

"My boy, what do you mean?" said his father. "Come in and tell me all about it."

No,—Reuben never would enter the house again while his stepmother was in it; and when his father heard how she had been insulting him, he did not wonder, and indeed could hardly ask him to remain. Reuben declared that he knew of a place, in a somewhat distant county, where it was probable that he should find work. Seeing him bent upon this, and having really nothing better to propose at the moment, his father told him he might take the old grey mare and the old saddle; and went into the house to see how much money he could spare.

It was very little;—so little that the father's heart sank; but the son's did not. He was confident he should do very well; gave his father a hearty grasp of the hand, and rode off.

The grey mare was terribly old. She stumbled and jogged along over the rough moorland roads till her rider was almost as much tired as herself; and it was late before he, having walked a great part of the way, got to a place where he could obtain food and a resting-place for both. The next morning she was so lame that the boys in the road laughed as Reuben led her away. It was a weary day. After alternate walking, riding, and resting, he found himself, late at night, in a wild moorland country, under a lowering sky, miles from any known resting-place, and the mare utterly unable to proceed. Unhappily, a temptation too strong for his virtue presented itself at the moment of his deepest depression. No one who had ever looked in Reuben's open face, and known his simple habits, could have supposed him capable of being a thief. But he now became one; and by a single act ruined his life. Through the gathering darkness he saw, within a rude enclosure, a considerable number of horses—this being a season when they ranged the fells in the day-time, and were brought together at night. Reuben led in the poor mare among them, put her saddle on the back of one of the best horses he could find, and rode off, striking fire on the stony road for miles.

Before he was out of the county he was caught. His surname was a common one, and he had been christened John as well as Reuben; and he was tried under the name of John. He afterwards said that he would not have been tried under a false name; he had done badly enough in stealing a horse, and he was not going to add a lie to the mischief. For the same reason he withstood all arguments about his plea, and chose to plead "guilty." He was anxious to the last degree that his father should not hear of this terrible failure at the outset of his scheme of life; and not a word could be got out of him as to where he came from, or anything about his former life. The police of the district knew nothing of him, of course. He was put into prison (no matter where) for a long term.

No matter where: but it matters much that it was a good prison. The officers were good, and the system worked well for Reuben at least. He was kept separate from all other prisoners; and so effectually that no one of his unhappy comrades knew of his existence; and he had no knowledge of any one within the walls but the officers and the chaplain. They were kind to him, and he saw them often; but he said little to them. The chaplain lent him books; but he did not care to read them; he was provided, at his own request, with work—shoemaking, in which he was properly instructed; but he worked listlessly at first. The person to whom he opened his heart at last was a lady, to whom the prisoners had occasionally the opportunity of speaking, if they liked, or being silent, if they chose. To this lady he never told his father's residence; but he soon became perfectly open about everything which could not involve disclosures about his family.

At first there was a painful listlessness, showing deep heart-sickness. He made only three shoes a week: he did not know why he did not make more. Soon it was evident that there was some great idea in his mind, which annihilated his interest in everything else; and in a little while, out came this idea. With his head drooped on his breast, and his face red and pale by turns, he whispered his question whether the lady thought he should get out soon. At first she did not understand; but she found that poor Reuben had not the remotest notion what law was, and what punishment was for. He knew that people "got punished" for offences; but he thought it was all hap-hazard whether they went to prison or over the seas, or whether they got off, at

any day or hour, or remained under punishment for their lives, or for terms. Nobody had ever told him what society was,—what law was,—nor, of course, his duty to society and under the law. He owned that he could not sleep at night, nor settle his mind in the daytime, for listening for the footsteps of some one coming to let him out. It was at once clear what was the best mercy in such a case. The lady had a long conversation with him; and, by the time it was done, he was convinced that as he was guilty, by his own admission, and actually undergoing the punishment to which he was sentenced, there was not the slightest ground for expecting any change before the expiration of his term. She put the question plainly to him whether he did not see this; and, pale as was his face, and quivering as were his lips, he manfully answered "Yes." He wished her to understand, however, that, while he admitted the act, and that he knew it to be wrong, in a vague sort of way, he had not seen it in a serious light at the time. Here were so many horses, probably belonging to well-to-do people, and he was so very much in want of one, that he had not thought the exchange a great sin. He believed, too, that he had had some idea of returning the stolen horse, some day. Still he certainly knew he was wrong, because he would not have done it if anybody had been within sight. He had felt very uncomfortable, too,—unlike anything he had ever felt before. He had turned twice, before he rode away; but the old mare was lying down,—much as if she would never get up again; so he made off.

"And this was the first time," said the lady; "your first serious offence, you say. I wonder what you think now of being driven to it in such a way."

Reuben looked up.

"Some of the quarrels at home," said the lady, "seem to have come from your insisting that you were a man, and would be treated like one, while your stepmother would have it that you were a child. You are nineteen, are not you?"

"Nineteen last Candlemas."

"You insist on being a man at home, and then you let a woman's tongue drive you to do wrong. Is that so very manly?"

Reuben's head sank as suddenly as if he had been shot.

Here were two new ideas for him to ponder—enough for one time. As for the lady, she had to ponder the strangeness of their being new. So they parted.

The next time she entered the cell Reuben started up eagerly, for he was full of things to say. He looked wonderfully better. He now slept well, and could settle his mind to his business in the day. When the lady asked him how he got on now he answered that he made seven shoes a-week, and it was not a bad measure of his welfare. He had some very odd questions to ask about law and punishment, and society, and a very striking observation to make on his own case. He was glad that he was caught when he was, for it really was so very easy to take that horse that he thought that, if pressed by difficulty at any time it was more likely that he would have gone to the same place for another good horse than for the old grey mare; and then he should have gone "deeper in." Another idea was that he had better go home, when free, and stay by his father. He did not think he could ever let him know what had happened; and he would not venture to say that he could bear with his stepmother: but perhaps she would not think him a boy by that time. He would be sorry to bring disgrace on his father; but, if nobody knew what had happened, and if he went to be safe from temptation, perhaps The lady filled up the pause of doubt. She thought he had better go home,—hoped he might lift up his head again there, in time—but strongly advised his telling his father everything. This was the one thing which he felt certain he never could do.

The third time the lady went, Reuben was in a soft, and serious, and gentle mood—for which there was abundant reason. The chaplain had told him, two days before, what nobody else but the lady was to know, that the anxious father had privately traced his son, and found out the whole matter, of which neither neighbours, brothers and sisters, not step-mother knew a word. The father had written to the chaplain (not venturing to come, for fear of observation), and had implored him to tell Reuben that he did not believe him wicked, though he had done a wicked

thing; that he knew he had been hard-driven at home; that he begged him to bear his punishment patiently, and when it was over to come straight home; that he should never hear a word of reproach from him, and should be protected from ill-treatment by any body else; and he might make a good and happy life of it yet.

"Well, what do you mean to do?" inquired the lady.

"Go straight home," he answered, with sparkling eyes. "I'll see if I can stand a woman's tongue, and . . . But I said so once before," he continued, in a saddened tone; "and I couldn't stand it. And then, there's another thing—I shall have a heavy secret all my life. I'm glad father knows it; but, for his sake, nobody else ever must. I never carried a secret before, and this will be a heavy one."

The lady thought that it might be useful as a warning, and, if taken cheerfully in that way, and as a thing that could not be helped, it would not be very burdensome. But now, and in subsequent interviews, Reuben's conclusion, from every point of view of his own affairs, was—"First thing, when I get out, I'll go straight home." And the lady's doctrine, which won its way into his mind by degrees, was that his safety was to be sought, not in place and circumstances, but in a renewed mind.

THE PLAINS OF LOMBARDY.

Heavily hang the purple grapes
By fair Lake Garda's waveless side;
Above, in slow ethereal march,
Battalion'd clouds in order ride.
Oh, Italy, dear Italy!
Did thy sun but light thee free,
What earth, what sky, were so divine,
So full of majesty as thine!

Fading away to formless mist,
In grand long aisles thy mountains stand;
The flame-lit trails of broad-leav'd vine
Cling round their poles on either hand,
Or, over stones of warm grey wall,
Droopingly hang like maids forlorn;
A foreground rich with white church-towers,
And feather'd spires of Indian corn.

Oh, Italy, dear Italy!
Often we dreamt of thee unknown,—
A far-off home, a painter's heaven,
A heritage the poet's own.
How have thy saints more holy seem'd
Since we beheld the earth they trod!
Where Leonard work'd and Dante dream'd,
And Raphael's thoughts were sent of God.

The day is dying; midst the blue
A molten sun sinks slowly down;
The earth is black, the purple hills
Like shadows of the heaven are thrown.
Blind with the glory, mute we stand;
The glorious plains now lost in light,
And shortly twilight's tender veil
Is lifted by the silver night.

When we afar shall think of this,
How glorious will the memory be!
A golden dream for northern nights,
A daily prayer that thou wert free!—
A vision of beauty cheering us,
Who labour under paler skies;
May God be with thee in the day
When thou and all thy sons arise.

B.

The Arts.

LOVE IN A MAZE.

Madame de Staël's restless vanity once prompted her to ask Talleyrand whether he thought Napoleon had more *esprit* than she had. The diplomatic wit replied, "*Madame, l'Empereur a autant d'esprit que vous, mais vous êtes plus intrépide.*" The Emperor is perhaps, as clever as you, but you have greater *intrépidité!*" The *mot* is perfect. I thought of it the other night when listening to *Love in a Maze*. Mr. Bourcicault, if not the first of comic writers, is assuredly one of the most intrepid. He carries a comedy as Danton carried a revolutionary measure, *avec dell'audace*. Relying on the stupidity of the public, and on its known preference for "old familiar faces," he dispenses with the labour of invention, takes his characters, like his dresses, from the theatrical repertory, reproduces scenes and situations that have become heirlooms, and does not disdain to borrow

jokes from such wellknown books as Bacon's *Essays*. And he succeeds, the lucky dog! the intrepid genius! *Palmam qui meruit ferat*, let him succeed who deserves! He succeeds by sheer intrepidity. *London Assurance* is one of the most successful comedies of modern times. Yet every character, every incident in that comedy is unmistakeably traceable to some other play or plays. All Mr. Bourcicault's share in it is smart dialogue, and the intrepidity which can thus dexterously seize hold of stereotyped materials and boldly offer them again as new.

The same qualities of liveliness (wit and animal spirits) and intrepidity cause the success of *Love in a Maze*. Give him good actors, and he will keep the house in a state of merriment at the smallest possible expenditure of invention. He does so in this instance. It would be idle to tell him that a widow making a "dead set" at a reluctant bachelor whom she formerly jilted, and now once more enchained, is a somewhat stale contrivance. Stale! what of that? Am I to be cudgelling my brains for novelties when the old succeed as well? Stale! so little do I care for that objection that I will employ this situation *twice* in the same piece, and the audience shall applaud me! And he *does* it! And the audience does applaud! None but the brave deserve success! He knows that if Mrs. Winstanley, as a gay laughing widow, sets her cap at the amorous but recalcitrant Keeley, the audience which delighted in Lady Gay Spanker will be sure to applaud. He knows also that it is as "safe as the bank" to place Mrs. Keeley and Harley on the stage together, as pert soubrette and lugubrious serving-man, she coaxing and wheedling him so pleased to be coaxed and wheedled. With four such characters the "comedy" is complete. All I have now to consider is a little "serious interest" which will employ the Keans, and the piece is done! Let me see, the Keans—oh! man and wife in a state of misunderstanding: loving each other to distraction, but believing in each other's indifference; yes! that's it to a "t!" A Fop may be thrown in for Wigan, and a stage fop is to be had any day without much invention, stap my vitals!

Observe that these characters, chosen with such wise intrepidity by our dramatist, are not only the common property of the stage, but are by him left as he found them. He has added nothing. Why add to what has already been found successful? Why gild refined gold, paint the lily, and add humanity to a lay figure? It is believed indeed by pedantic old *quidnuncs* who look upon the drama as literature, and imagine that the comic writer has a serious and laborious, no less than a noble task, that *observation of life*—the life which moves upon the world's stage—portraiture of character—invention and profound art are all required to produce a comedy. But the *quidnuncs*, who regards *them*? What do we care about Life, when we have the Stage: what, after all, is the World compared with Inchbald's *British Theatre*? Invention? A grand thing, no doubt, but so rare! Observation? Good again; but so difficult, requiring first the experience, and then the faculty! Character? Difficult, difficult! Art? Truth? Nature? Really such demands are exorbitant! Robert Macaire, in one of Philippon's admirable caricatures, is represented as a speculator to whom some unhappy shareholder is mildly suggesting that he should like "to see the accounts." "Accounts," replies Robert Macaire, "Monsieur, you *must* comprehend that from the moment you demand accounts commerce becomes *impossible!*" Alas, yes! *le commerce devient impossible* under such conditions, and I feel that comedies are in this respect like commerce: I must not make impertinent demands! Art, Truth, Nature, Invention are accounts which no shareholder must call for!

Besides, what does it matter to me if the public like such pieces as *Love in a Maze*—and I am bound to say that I was there on the third night and found a full house really applauding it—is not that enough? No popular writer should be severely handled for his faults, because the fault really lies in the people who encourage him. Martial boldly taxes the Roman public with his popularity: "You, oh, reader! are the cause of my success; if Rome delights in my not very proper verses, it is because you Romans read and quote them":—

"Seria cum possim, quod delectantia malim
Scribere; tu causa es, lector amice, mihi
Qui legis, et tota cantas mea carmina Roma."

Mr. Bourcicault may say the same to his public; but perhaps he prefers being silent. The fact is, however, that only dull dogs like myself who have imbibed foolish prejudices about the drama, and who fancy that invention, observation, &c., are requisite in comedies, raise a word of protest against *Love in a Maze*: the pit is pleased, and after that criticism is a mere luxury.

But, leaving the *quidnuncs* and their exorbitant demands, I would suggest to Mr. Bourcicault that even from his own point of view *Love in a Maze* is very deficient in substance and action. Dull it seldom is, but it is rarely interesting. The story is too thin and meagre, especially as one feels throughout a sense of its untruth. Rupert and Lucy could not have suffered that misunderstanding to continue

five minutes—what then are we to say to five acts of it?

Let me state the positions. Rupert and Lucy are cousins, destined for each other from their infancy, and loving each other heartily. Their uncle to try them sends both into the world: Rupert into the army, Lucy to London. Lucy becomes a woman of fashion, and counts Lord Miniver among her adorers, nay, among her favorites, for she is somewhat dazzled by the coronet. The period fixed for the marriage arrives. No sooner is the ceremony over than Lord Miniver calls away the bridegroom, and insists on fighting him upon some frivolous pretext or other. The bride thus deserted at the very church door, returns home alone, indignant, convinced her husband does not love her!!! Rupert slightly wounds Miniver, and then brings him home to the hall in his own carriage. Miniver thus housed with his mistress plays upon her feelings, encourages her indignation, and suggests to both husband and wife that they should obtain a divorce, to which they, believing each other indifferent, consent.

Now, I beg to ask: Did the author mean us to suppose that Lucy was, or was not, corrupted by town influences, so as to prefer Miniver to Rupert? Because, if she was—and a very proper and dramatic collision might have been wrought out of this—the episode of the duel and its consequences is perfectly idle; if she was *not* corrupted, if her heart really were given to her husband, she never could suppose he did not love her because he was forced to leave her at such a moment to fight a duel. Annoyed she might have been; but a word would have explained all, and that word *must* have escaped her husband. It only escapes him at the end of the fifth act, and then it suffices! I cannot bring myself to believe that the sympathy of any audience can be excited by such unnatural stories. A dramatic basis should be broad, solid; this is a mere pin's point.

Although I have a great objection to *Love in a Maze* being considered as a comedy, or as a literary work of pretensions, although it did not interest me during its performance, although it contains none of those scenes or touches which revisit the memory and induce one to see it again, I should be belying the very nature of my office were this article to go forth without an emphatic addition of praise for the cleverness with which old materials are worked up, and the animation of the dialogue which sparkles pleasantly and without effort. My office is twofold: first that of Taster to the Public, intimating what dishes are piquant, pleasant, stimulating, or nauseous and unwholesome; secondly that of Critic, intimating what is good and what is bad in respect of Art. If in my second capacity I condemn this comedy, in my first I am bound to recommend it, for the audience certainly relished it; and it has a hearty, healthy tone which did it more service even than its vivacity: Rupert, Tony, and Lucy have the proper feelings of human beings, and the expression always commanded the applause of the audience.

The piece is delightfully acted. I have no space to enter upon details, but would especially commend Charles Kean for his acting in the scene where he discovers Lord Miniver on his knees to his wife, as the bearing of a dignified gentlemanly sorrow far more touching than any "explosion"; and I would also whisper to Mrs. Winstanley that she is somewhat loud and over emphatic. The rest will excuse my passing at once to

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who made his debut at the Haymarket last Saturday, and who, as the son of Henry Wallack and nephew of James Wallack, was sure of a favourable hearing from an English public. I was not present at the debut, but went on Monday, when the house presented a dreary aspect of empty boxes and scanty pit, enough to try the courage of any actor.

My sympathies are so excited by every debutant that I should like to have nothing but cheers to give. It is so affecting to see a young man standing on the threshold of the great temple claiming to be admitted—to see youth and energy full of courage, of hope, of ambition, of conscious power with "soul in arms and eager for the fray"—to see a man starting on a long and arduous career, forced to fight every inch of the way, and to be told at last that he does not fight like those who fought before him! If ever cheers should be given unstintingly, it is then. If ever criticism should be in abeyance to good wishes, it is then. If ever an ounce of merit should outweigh five of demerit, it is then.

Well, Mr. J. W. Wallack gained his welcome: he has now to earn it. As Goethe finely says, it is easier to weave laurel crowns than to find a head worthy to be crowned:—

"Ein Kranz ist gar viel leichter binden
Als ihm ein würdig Haupt zu finden."

The public has woven a crown; but I must see Mr. J. W. Wallack in other parts, before I admit his right to wear it. His Othello showed that he had a tall commanding figure, handsome face, and familiarity with stage business; but I defer criticism on his interpretation of Othello, and on his style generally.

VIVIAN.

Progress of the People.

LETTERS TO CHARTISTS.

VI. FEARGUS O'CONNOR AND NEW ASPECTS OF CHARTISM.

Mr. Edward O'Connor, better known by his political prefix of "Feargus," is an anti-unique leader, presenting points of great curiosity, but not less of public instruction. Certainly no politician among us ever traded upon so small an argumentative capital. Paine put noble thoughts into everlasting sentences; Cartwright often taught us national principle; even Carlyle wrote things we do not profit by forgetting; Cobbett, the loquacious and untiring Cobbett, the giant of details, put a new power of advocacy into the hands and heads of his countrymen; O'Connell, in his best days, moved Europe by an impassioned eloquence, and was at all times a fund of divertisement. Not to cite others who crowd to be named, what shall we say of O'Connor, who, without anybody's talent, has, by an art of his own, in face of numerous able men, contrived to monopolize a popular movement—to keep it, and to extinguish it at discretion. If any doubt the homoeopathic amount of literary capital upon which the Chartist chieftain does public business, nobody will doubt the extraordinary nature of the material of which that capital is composed, nor of the original manner in which it is employed.

The honourable member for Nottingham lays Europe and poetry under contribution for a select stock of phrases, which from time immemorial he has relentlessly kept on weekly duty. From Napoleon he borrowed his "Old Guards;" and from the Iron Duke that interesting adjuration, "Up and at 'em;" from Alderman Brooks he borrowed that profound observation, beginning, "Lord, love ye, we are all for ourselves in this world;" and from himself, Mr. O'Connor obtained the loan of that graceful simile, "The whole hog, bristles and all;" varied with the "Charter, pure and simple," to which Mr. Ernest Jones has added, "No surrender." When we are dazzled by this sublime prose, Mr. O'Connor considerably relieves us by that scarce distich:—

"United you stand,
Divided you fall;"

followed by that tremendous defiance (repeated most frequently when nobody is visible):—

"Come one, come all, this rock shall fly,
From its firm base as soon as I!"

These phrases, Mr. O'Connor must have had "kyanized," or done into gutta-percha, seeing their durability, elasticity, and toughness. Whole dictionaries of political sobriquets have been worn out since the founder of the Land Plan introduced those we have cited—yet *his* stock is as fresh as ever, and seems likely to be worn for evermore. Judging from the mode of their use, the ingenious captain of the "unshorn chins" is no less a rhetorician than a politician. Thrown into the hat of the Commander of the "Imperial Chartists," these phrases "when taken," seem to be "well shaken," and they arrange themselves according to the laws, not of Quinetilian, but of specific gravity. The poetry, being most aerial, floats at the top, and is commonly found at the head of the honourable member's weekly letter to his "dear children." The "sacrifices" of the writer, being the next lightest material, follow in order; then the dinners he has *not* eaten at the people's expense. Midway Alderman Brooks comes tumbling down the column, and the "whole hog," having most ponderosity, makes his way to the bottom. This is a tolerably "full, true, and correct account" of the art, quality, and capacity displayed in those weekly effusions from the immortal pen of him who delights to call himself the Bailiff of Snigg's-end.

Mr. O'Connor is not the man to object to a laugh at all this: he must laugh at it himself. But how comes it about that working men of England, who would not tolerate such wordy incoherence, even in a tap-room, many weeks together, have been able to live on such political rhapsodizing for so many years? The answer is not without its moral. Determined to take some part in political redress they have taken the only part they could, and have listened to the only advocacy vigorously vouchsafed to them. Whatever demerits some may find in Mr. O'Connor, he at least has the great virtue of incessant activity. He *does* work, after his fashion. Nothing drives him out of the path. His influence may die by his own hand, but he will no doubt perish in the Chartist rut. And for this he is to be accredited. All attempts to annul his potency by personal attack have failed, because he had more energy than all his opponents put together. Outraged, disappointed, or wearied, they retired. Mr. O'Connor never retires. He has come to represent the working classes of England, because he is always in the way; and whoever looks in his direction are sure to see him. If any think him an impediment they can only remove him by putting in a resolute and pertinacious appearance themselves—by occupying public attention in his stead—by putting into a minority all who represent his unsleeping antagonism—his unconscious mendacity.

Now the day of reaction has come, and working men are beginning to ask whether they are to be represented for ever in Parliament and Europe, and judged through the spectacles of a politician who does not exercise the slightest influence on his Parliamentary colleagues, or on any educated compeer. Now this query is raised, he, the great Denouncer, is being denounced in his turn. I who differ from him explicitly, and never hesitate to tell him the whole truth, will not do him an injustice—will not take any part in the unmeasured reproaches hurled at him—will not, indeed, conceal that he has many excellent qualities besides activity. No one can know him, and not be sensible of his genial and generous nature. The delicious unction in which some of his most pernicious speeches are delivered, make you forgive his political errors. Even that which in O'Connell men called mendacity, is in O'Connor as in O'Connell an affair of blood. In all O'Connor's quarrels with his coadjutors, and the name is Legion, he always appeared to advantage, his measureless blusterings seldom had bad nature in them. Attacked by invectives, he always comes off victor, because he has no rival in the art of political Billingsgate. If those who differ from him would leave him alone in these respects, and simply confine themselves to examining the intellectual value of his teachings—to matching O'Connor against O'Connor—avoiding all imputation, keeping close to the single query, What is the political wisdom of what he says?—the result would be inevitable. Mr. O'Connor could not object to this. No man who cannot bear this test can maintain influence, or ought to enjoy any. If he is extinguished by the process the fault is his own, if he comes out victor so much the better for the public.

The sort of comedy Mr. O'Connor has so long played in the name of politics is certainly used up; intellectual working men in every part of the country say so. The way to put an end to it all is easy enough. Unimputative speeches and cool heads are all that are wanting. In that high arena, where statesmen contest for the common weal, Mr. O'Connor is a political baby, and they treat him as such; but on the excited platform, in the angry roar of a Chartist meeting, where tribune-compeers compete for popularity or empty leadership, Mr. O'Connor is a Triton—he is the grandest of them all. But poke the Chartist Hippopotamus with the sharp point of an argument: without anger, or bluster, or hate, harpoon the Democratic whale with a syllogism, and you soon elicit the well-known blubber of the grampus. Mr. O'Connor is a political Achilles, with this difference, that his vulnerable part is not in the heel but in the head.

Some change must take place if Mr. O'Connor's influence is to last. At present any working class member of a Mechanics' Institution could conduct a better expository, having a closer relation to public taste and public needs, than that which the honourable member for Nottingham conducts, and the whole truth, for the sake of working men, ought to be told. Tyranny could not purchase, the whole wit of the Crown could not invent a man who could so cover the cause of the people with public contempt as Mr. O'Connor has for many years done. That his intentions are patriotic, there is no manner of doubt, but the failure of his efforts ought to be known to him, that they may not be continued till those whom he seeks to serve, irreparably suffer from them; yet it would be to conduct a political advocacy devoid of generous spirit, not to cordially and even gratefully acknowledge the inexplicable good Mr. O'Connor has lately done indirectly. His own late Manchester Conference passed resolutions of a most salutary nature, the very opposite of the principles of his whole political life; and he has put the *Northern Star*, which so long misdirected and misrepresented the working class mind of Britain, under the editorship of a gentleman whose advocacy seems calculated to redeem and reestablish Chartism. This cannot be done without Mr. O'Connor's consent; and he at least deserves the credit of affording to others the opportunity of that wiser advocacy which we must all be glad to recognize.

Every day brings us new traits of progress; old causes put on new faces, and the fresh aspects are hopeful; and of hopeful aspects, the new one of Chartism, in the pages of the *Star*, deserves special particularization.

ION.

The executive committee of the National Charter Association met on Wednesday evening last—present, Messrs. Arnott, Holyoake, Hunt, Milne, and Reynolds. Messrs. Grassby, Harney, Jones, and O'Connor were absent through unavoidable engagements. John Milne was called to the chair. Correspondence was read from Barnsley, Chepstow, Darlington, Edinburgh, Limehouse, Torquay, and Worcester, remitting money; from Holmfirth, disapproving, and from Huddersfield, approving, of the Convention Fund; also from Arnold, Devonport, and Glasgow, announcing the formation of four new localities; and from Clitheroe and Landport, on general business. It was unanimously agreed:—"That a sub-committee, consisting of Messrs. Arnott, Harney, Holyoake, Hunt, and Jones, be appointed to prepare the necessary plans to be submitted to the Conference in furtherance

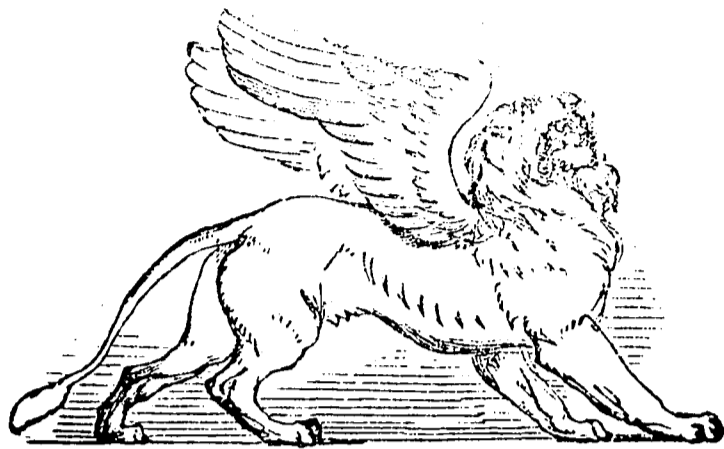
of the objects as proposed in the programme of business." On the motion of Messrs. Holyoake and Arnott, the following was unanimously adopted:—The executive committee, in recommending that the expenses of the delegates to the National Convention be paid from a general Convention Fund, considered that mode the most democratic; but several districts having dissented therefrom, and the expressed opinions of the people being paramount on all questions of this character, we advise that all delegates to the said Convention be paid by their constituents; at the same time we entreat that no delegates be elected unless those who elect them are determined to support them. Those friends who may not be able to take part in the elections may render pecuniary aid to defray the incidental expenses which may be incurred through such delegation, and forthwith forward their subscriptions to the general secretary." Messrs. Holyoake, Jones, and Reynolds were appointed to attend the public meeting at John-street on Tuesday evening next.

REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—Moneys received for the week ending March 10th:—Leeds, £1 5s. 2d.; Montrose, R. Fulton, 3s 6d.; Bagley, 1s. 5d.; Newcastle, J. H., 1s. Communal Building Fund:—Montrose, R. Fulton, 3s.; Leeds, 3s.

COVENTRY SOIREE OF THE REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—On Tuesday last a large party, to the number of about five hundred young persons of both sexes, assembled at St. Mary's-hall, under the management of a committee connected with the Leeds Redemption Society. After tea, Mr. May was called on to preside. Mr. J. Farn called attention to the principles and objects of the Communists' Redemption Society, observing that it was the common error of the people of this country to neglect their own affairs, and then to complain that their interests were not properly attended to. The Redemption Society originated at Leeds; its purpose was to improve the moral, social, and physical condition of the people. Its plan was, in the first instance, to procure land; and ultimately, as funds accumulated, to erect buildings, and locate its members thereon, whose employment would comprise both agricultural and manufacturing operations. Its great principle was that of co-operation—co-operation not merely for the accumulation of wealth, but for its equitable distribution; thus rescuing the labourer from that position which, under the present competitive system, left him to be the slave of wages, and rendered him liable at any moment to be placed on the verge of pauperism, or thrust into the vortex of crime. The Reverend E. R. Larken, M. A., rector of Burton-by-Lincoln, next rose to address the meeting. He spoke of the society being the promotion of happiness and concord amongst mankind, and, therefore, it was one in which every Christian man might unite; and it had been his pleasure to attend on other platforms, where he had met the ministers of almost every religious denomination all agreed in promoting this undertaking. The Leeds Society had particularly satisfied themselves of the success which followed the undertakings of the Rappites and the Shakers in the United States of America, where they were the possessors of large estates, ample stock, and a considerable amount of cash. Their business was prosperous, and likely to continue so, inasmuch as their produce was sought for in the markets, and taken in preference to the produce of many other states. By this practical evidence of success, the Leeds Society, formed in 1846, took encouragement in their project to redeem the working classes from the evils under which they at present suffered. The smallness of the contributions of members would require some time to accumulate any great amount of funds; but it was satisfactory to know that there were some large and liberal contributions. It was a rule of the society not to incur any expense which they had not the means of paying; nor to run into debts which they could not at any time discharge. Among the best benefactors to the society was a Mr. Williams, of Gorse, in Wales, who, satisfied with the soundness of their principles, had given them an estate of 165 acres of land in Wales, subject to the life interest of his father and mother, and which estate had already been conveyed to himself (Mr. Larken), and two other trustees. A quantity of 85 acres, however, the society had already entered upon, at a rent of £53 per year. The manufacture of shoes was going on successfully on the estate, under the management of Mr. Bentley, of Leeds, who had been sent there; and it was found that the shoes made on the society's estate could be sold at Leeds cheaper than those manufactured in the town; in fact, the public found that the society's shoes offered them such advantages both as to price and quality, that they had more orders than they could execute, and it had, therefore, been found necessary to elect and send out a number more shoemakers to the estate. The reverend gentleman said he was aware of the impatience of the meeting to proceed to the festive part of their entertainment; but on some future occasion, he would be happy to meet all friendly to the principles of co-operation, of which he appeared as the advocate, and go into more ample details. He hoped, however, that what had been now advanced would operate as a stimulus to inquiry and investigation on this important subject. Votes of thanks having been given to Mr. Larken for his attendance at the present meeting, and also to the chairman for his kindness in presiding, the company proceeded to the agreeable amusement of dancing, which was kept up till about midnight.

BINGLEY.—On Monday, March 10, Mr. L. M. Kydd, of London, delivered a lecture in the new Odd Fellows-hall, Bingley (subject—The Probable Future of the Working Classes, showing the Evil Effects Individualism had upon Society, and the Probable Results of Co-operation.) After an address of an hour-and-a-half Mr. Kydd sat down, amid loud applause. A gentleman among the audience asked the following question—Providing indi-

vidualism was annihilated, it was many people's opinion that invention would cease. Mr. Kydd replied that men in all ages had progressed. Men who had been confined in felons' cells for years had made wonderful progress. He believed that man was naturally a progressive being. The answer appeared satisfactory. Mr. Alderson, of Maningham, who had presided as chairman, stated he (being a tailor) and a number of others had opened a cooperative shop in Bradford, for the purpose of selling their own produce, and having the profits themselves. We are also glad to state that our cooperative provision store in Bingley is doing exceedingly well. Members increase every week, and they are extending their business with drapery goods.—W. WILKINSON.



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.

THE POLISH-HUNGARIAN EXILES IN LIVERPOOL.

10, Melton-street, Euston-square, March 12, 1851.

SIR,—The daily London press inserted a letter written by a Mr. Divsny, calling himself Kossuth's secretary, asserting that Chartists went on board the ship Arpia, with the view of persuading the Poles not to go to America; that previously to this visit the refugees were all willing to proceed to America; that a Major Wallinowski had declared himself to be ready to proceed to America, but since the arrival of the refugees in Liverpool, they had refused to submit to his authority; finally, that they left Constantinople with the intention of proceeding to the United States.

Now, Sir, these assertions are certainly incorrect. It is untrue that Chartists went on board of the ship; it is likewise untrue that before that pretended visit the refugees were willing to proceed to America, for their unwillingness to proceed thither dates from Shumla; not less untrue is it that Major Wallinowski, whose real name is Wolynski, declared himself ready to go to America, and that the refugees refused to submit to his authority, for there was no occasion for submission, as the said major neither is nor ever was their chief, but is as he was heretofore, one of the members of their committee, and continues, as previously, to be generally beloved and respected by his fellow-exiles. Finally, it is not true that these exiles, before leaving Constantinople, manifested the intention of proceeding to the United States; therefore no compact was entered into by them at Constantinople, or anywhere else, rendering it obligatory on them to proceed thither *nolens volens*.

Should an investigation in this direction be instituted, the said refugees are in possession of documents corroborative of my denials, and strong enough to confound all contradiction.

I cannot help adding that, whilst it is natural enough that the British Government, from mere financial motives perhaps, should endeavour to get rid of the exiles, we cannot understand what business a foreigner in this country, a Hungarian, can have to exert himself with the view of attaining the same object, unless he is in the agency of Austria or Prussia, or at least accidentally doing the work of these two despotic powers.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
Captain M. DOMAGALSKI.

DUTY OF THE PEOPLE TO BE POLITICIANS.

Lower-place, near Rochdale, March 11, 1851.

SIR,—No newspaper, on the whole, has been so entertaining, so instructive, and so hopeful to me as the *Leader*. One thing, however, has often and rather forcibly occurred to me, which is, that the majority of its writers do not feel, and probably never have felt, what it was to be poor. This is an important matter, and is one reason why it does not circulate so widely as could be wished amongst the labouring class.

That one of poverty's own may have his say in your Open Council I send you the subjoined. It is the concluding part of the last of two lectures on

"Morality," which I gave some time ago in the neighbourhood of Rochdale.

Yours, very respectfully,
ROBIN HOOD.*

"It is our duty to be politicians. If we want good laws, if we want good acts of Parliament, if we want a good and cheap Legislature, if we want a pure and equitable administration of public affairs, we must see to our political duties. As well and as reasonably might we expect grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles, as public blessings without attending to public duties. It has long, and with truth, been said that God helps those only who help themselves; but it is due to modern science that he helps them only in the way in which they help themselves. Prayer is impotent to procure political reform. Throughout all English history there is not a single instance, that I am aware of, of a political measure being obtained through the agency of prayer. Eight years of peaceful, moral agitation has done more towards cheapening the bread of the people of this country by a thousand times than twenty years of previous prayer.

"Government is a power, and as such is instrumental for good or for evil. I know of no other power (except that of the people) that has done more towards keeping the people ignorant and vicious than the Government. It is undeniable that every human being possesses certain faculties, and that in proportion as those faculties are properly or improperly developed by example and by precept, in that proportion will they be intelligent and virtuous, or ignorant and vicious.

"Our Government has done a good deal, it has spent an incredible sum of money—eight hundred millions, in what? in properly training and educating the people? in teaching the rising generation the way it should go? in seconding a virtuous parent's wishes by surrounding his children with kindly, lovely influences? in striving to mitigate those evils to which all mankind are subject, and which all true philosophers seek to lessen rather than increase? No! But in killing their own kind, in murdering their own species, in developing the worst faculties and passions of which the human mind is capable, in spreading a network of vice throughout the length and breadth of the land, in being a source of poverty and heart sickness to hundreds and thousands of our brothers and sisters. And how are these things to be remedied? I answer, by attending to our political duties. If a man wishes to become a clever accountant, he must study arithmetic; if he would excel as a penman, he must practise his hand and fingers to the graceful movements of an adept in penmanship; and if we desire success in any private or public affair, we must devote ourselves to the particular means by which it is to be accomplished. According to the experience of mankind, on no other condition, or conditions, will God grant our request. If ever that saying 'he that gathereth not with us scattereth, he that is not for us is against us,' was true, it is true in a political sense. Never, I think, was it more so. If, for example, a number of good men and true are agreed on a question of importance,—a question, the agitation of which they are thoroughly convinced will be of great service to the nation, they immediately commence a series of lectures and public meetings throughout the country; they discharge their own duties, and do all they can to influence others to the performance of theirs; but instead of meeting with that encouragement and support which their philanthropic views led them to expect, they meet with lukewarmness, apathy, and even contempt. Every one has not the fortitude to fight continually against the ignorant blindness and indifferent coldness of professed liberals, and insensibility to one's rights is not the best thing for calling it forth—so their zeal cools, their courage is discouraged, their good intentions are more than ever likely to remain so—they are ready to give up. Previous, however, to doing so, they wish to try what can be done in the 'Commons' House,' but there they are told that the country is contented and happy, that it desires not the change they seek—that though every means has been tried to disturb the people, they would neither attend their meetings, nor encourage their proceedings.

"Thus while our apathy discourages our best friends, it puts into the hands of our enemies one of the strongest weapons wherewith to beat them. He, then, politically, who gathereth not with us, scattereth; he that is not for us is against us. Would these things be if the people were alive to their public duties? Would they not rather rise up and speak as one man? When a truth was enunciated in the south, would it not be echoed in the north? When a good measure was proposed in Birmingham, would it not be seconded in Glasgow? When London spoke, would not all the provinces respond? Certainly they would; and, as surely as we live, as much good would then be done in one week as now in twelve months."

EXISTENCE OF A DEITY.

London, March 9, 1851.

"Atheism leaves a man to sense, to philosophy, to natural piety, to laws, to reputation; all which may guide to moral virtue, though religion were not."—LORD BACON.

SIR,—In all ages, in every clime, the desire for a continual existence has prevailed; and fear and ignorance have never failed to produce their gods, alike destructive of morality and happiness—

"Fear made her devils, and weak hope her gods:
Gods partial, changeful, passionate, unjust,
Whose attributes were rage, revenge, or lust;
Such as the soul of cowards might conceive,
And formed like tyrants, tyrants would believe."

As nothing is more sacred than truth, we should proceed to its discovery by the most direct and natural means, wheresoever it may lead us.

* Want of space compels us to give only a portion of what our correspondent has favoured us with.—ED.

You have logically admitted that it is not possible to prove the existence of a God—then wherefore the love of that which can neither be proved nor defined. You are thankful for its consciousness; conscious of what? Your own existence and that of the universe; beyond this all is dark, an unfathomable mystery. You have much mistaken the character of those who entertain these views, when you suppose that it is "hurtful to their happiness, expunging the highest motives of doing good"; on the contrary, it is great relief, and grateful to their moral and mental feelings, inspiring them with moral courage, and the highest principles of doing good.

To dogmatize is to maintain an exclusive and positive opinion in opposition to established truth.

To assert broad and unanswerable truths have always called forth remarks—similar to those of your correspondent W. D. S. It is always more easy to repudiate than to refute.

I maintain that the prevailing idea of God is not only low and debasing, but derogatory to the supreme power of omnipotence.

The negation I have applied will be understood only to refer to the gods propounded by the different religions existing in the world. The hypothesis of a pervading spirit, coeternal with the universe, remains unshaken.

With much respect and admiration, I am, Sir, yours truly,
H. B.

HARRIET MARTINEAU AND H. G. ATKINSON.

London, March 10, 1851.

SIR,—In treating of the recent work by Miss Martineau and Mr. Atkinson you have omitted to advert to a circumstance of no small social importance. By the law of England no person (except Quakers, and the members of one or two other sects named in a statute of exceptions) can be admitted to bear evidence in a court of law or equity, except on taking an oath acknowledging the existence of a God and of a future state of reward and punishment. By publishing their disbelief in a God and in a future state, these two individuals have incapacitated themselves from giving evidence. A set of burglars may, therefore, with perfect safety, rob Miss Martineau's cottage before her eyes, and she may know them all by name and surname, and be able to identify them; but her testimony cannot convict them. Unless other evidence could be procured, they would be perfectly safe. Or a highway robbery may be committed in broad daylight on any of her Majesty's subjects, in presence of Miss Martineau and Mr. Atkinson, and, if there were no other evidence, the robber could not be convicted.

In repeated sessions a bill has been introduced into Parliament to repeal this barbarous and dangerous law, and to accept of an affirmation from every person who declined, on grounds of conscience, to take an oath; the reason for declining to be declared and registered in a County-court six months before the benefit of the exemption could be claimed; but the bill has constantly been defeated by the spirit of bigotry which pervades certain members of both Houses of Parliament.—I am, &c.,

No DISCIPLE OF MISS MARTINEAU.

MACREADY'S FAREWELL.

March 6, 1851.

SIR,—We may speak well of the dead, now that the player has fretted his hour on the stage, and his brief candle is out. I do not think justice has been rendered to Macready, nor did he do himself justice in his last dying speech and confession. The peculiar merit of Macready has been that, in his own person, he brought out more new plays than have lived than any other contemporary tragedian. *Virginia*, &c. &c.; and the triumphs of Sheridan Knowles owed their origin, their subsequent success and stability on the stage to Mr. Macready. The literature of Walter Scott, which stamped an era in novel reading, was wanting to the stage, till Macready made an enduring character in *Rob Roy*. The next great novelist of our age, Bulwer, to give proper due to the actor, owes his success as a dramatist to Macready in the *Lady of Lyons*. But, above all, the poet who coveted the applause of the theatre, and did not live to receive the incense of its admiration, in his death found a representative on the stage in Macready. The *Werner* of Byron is admitted to be the greatest creation of Macready. The dramatic critic and the lawyer descended on the stage when Macready was there to impersonate his poetry, as a great orator and future statesman had done before him, when the youthful Macready had his share in giving a passing vitality to Sheil's tragedies.

I was surprised that whilst one of the above sat before him in the stalls, and living and present was the representative of those dead or absent, Macready did not pay tribute to authorship, and in so doing claim his own merit. His personation of Shakspeare's characters were always open to comparisons between himself and others in the same line.

It is the time of forgiveness of injuries when stretched on one's own deathbed and bidding farewell to the world. He might have gracefully avoided

notice of rival managers and players, who had committed sins against the drama, the stage, and the theatre, which he had omitted; whilst he might have acquitted himself of an obligation in the mention of those who had seconded and followed him in the promotion of the same objects. It is too much to claim a reputation, on the ground of purifying the audience, for illustrating Shakspeare, when it is an open question whether the poet does not lose by scenic embellishments, and thereby yield the palm to melodramatic exhibitions. But, in as far as he thought he was assisted in his intention by painting to the eye instead of subjecting action to the sight, and the utterance of poetry to the imagination and the feelings, the credit should have been in part assigned to Stansfield, at the head of artists who shared the stage with him, and the authors of plays.

The point of adherence to the text of Shakspeare may be contested as not carried out by Macready, and it was a bold prophecy to make, that henceforward correct editions of his plays would be the rule on the stage. It may be said that Shakspeare is not more immutable than other poets; and two centuries must produce changes in manners and in understanding the language of the past. Shakspeare has his imperfections to balance his extraordinary perfections. It is with him, indeed, as with other men, else he would be a god; and as he himself says, somewhere, a man might be proud of his virtues, if he were not made humble by his faults. We should wish to have observed a parting reminiscence to his fellow-labourers, the players. He addressed the audience before him, and spoke of himself relatively to them; but he left unnoticed behind him his brother actors and sister actresses, who worked with him and showed to the last regard for him.

Bulwer's speech at the dinner, as coming from an author, gave to the authors what we think would have better come in the first instance from Macready. Macready recollected one actor and manager, whom he did not mention by name, but whom we suppose to be Phelps. I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
W. J. B.

THE WOOD PAVEMENT.

March 3, 1851.

SIR,—An advertisement appeared in your paper, headed *The Shittah Wood Pavement*, emanating from Messrs. Cole and Scott, solicitors, 12, Furnival's-inn, in which allusion is made to a "very telling letter" in reference to the evils of the wood pavement, "by Mr. Gallaway, of No. 7, John-street, New-road, and published in the *Morning Advertiser*, of the 21st December, 1850, and which ought to be reprinted in every newspaper hearty in the cause." Now as I feel fully persuaded that the subject is one of considerable importance, and that independent of the facts therein recorded, my recommendations and suggestions are perfectly practicable, for the sake of humanity, and with the view of endeavouring to mitigate the sufferings and toil of the noble horse—man's indispensable and faithful helpmate, I will, with your kind permission, transcribe it again into your valuable pages:—

"ACCIDENTS ON THE WOOD PAVEMENT.

"Yesterday opening with a sharpish frost, Oxford-street presented a sad appearance, the result of this dangerous kind of roadway, from eight in the morning till eleven, the space between Wells street and Regent's-circus was literally stopped with omnibuses, cabs, and carts, the horses drawing which had slipped down. In respect of one or two omnibuses in particular, taking some time to get the poor animals up, all the passengers took themselves away, of course to the manifest loss of their fares to the proprietors. The same thing was observed with some of the cabs. At Blenheim-steps there were three carts down at one time, one laden with mould, one with timber, and one a brewer's dray; in the two latter instances the shafts were broken, besides doing other damage to the vehicles and harness. Now in the case of the omnibuses and cabs losing their fares, together with the injury occasioned generally to the vehicles, more or less, who is to bear the loss, the innocent or the guilty parties? What is to prevent all parties combining to bring an action against the authorities of the parish or parishes wherein these accidents occurred, for laying down a dangerous pavement in a public highway? It was truly painful to witness the poor horses plunging and repeatedly falling, whilst endeavouring to regain their footing. And here again is another loss that might reasonably be charged to the account of the notable vestries, who, in the plenitude of their wisdom, have thought proper to inflict the metropolis with so huge a nuisance. The horse, for instance, which left its master's stable in the morning in health and in value (say £50) brought home at night lame and deteriorated to the tune of £10, if not forthwith speedily destined for the knacker's yard. The poor creatures, ever doomed to perpetual toil, have needless cruelty heaped upon them. What is the Society for the Suppression of Cruelty to Animals about? Could that body not make out a case against these petty Parliaments? It is true, the vestries may say, they acted to the best of their judgment, and plead that they have contracted with the wood companies, and cannot, consequently, help themselves for at least some years to come. Now, suppose an action were sustained against a given parish for loss occasioned through these wood pavements, would not such vestries have a good cause against the company? If they have contracted, from a laudable motive, for an im-

proved system of paving, but which, upon trial, is proved to be detrimental to the interest and life of the public, can it be possible that the law would compel them to abide by the terms of such contract? If, in fact, themselves convicted by a court of law for having occasioned loss and injury to the public, can they be held, through a previous engagement, to continue the nuisance?

"The space in which these accidents occurred, which were more than twenty in number, was not much above 400 yards. The weather changed about eleven o'clock. Now, what may have taken place in the miles of wood pavement which stretch through the town may never be ascertained, and to what an extent they might have been increased, had the weather maintained its severity throughout the day, it is impossible to calculate. It was, however, distressing to witness the 'fear and trembling' with which the noble beasts touched the dreaded roadway, whilst it was gratifying in the extreme to witness the discretion, as well as humanity, of some carmen, who drove their teams into the by stone-paved streets to avoid the fearful death entailing, hateful wooden roadway."

Now, not only does the advertisement above alluded to, as well as some others that appeared in the various newspapers during the week, fully bear out the purport of my letter, but there was a still more remarkable coincidence of opinion displayed in the proceedings of the Saint Marylebone Vestry, last Saturday, as recorded in the *Observer*, and *Morning Advertiser* of Monday; for there, not only does Mr. Hume, M.P., state that "he has been denied the pleasure of horse riding in his own parish" since the wood pavement came up (would that it were all up!); and Mr. Field, the eminent veterinary surgeon, declared that, although at first he approved of it, he has long since changed his opinion; "that he had, since it has been in use, had no less than sixty valuable horses brought to his establishment in consequence;"—but Sir Peter Laurie and Mr. Greaves, Q.C., both express it to be their opinion that the vestry are liable to make good the losses sustained thereby.

As so much honourable notice has been taken of my humble letter, which was the spontaneous act of a pure feeling of humanity, regardless of any interest it might affect, I will venture to suggest that, as the accidents that occurred on the said 20th of December last, to every description of vehicle, to many ladies and gentlemen, as well as servants, cannot but be remembered, that they would be pleased to forward me an account of the same, with the view of ascertaining whether or not recompense cannot be obtained—at all events the list, for it would assuredly be a long and sad one, would go a great way towards effecting the abolition of the wood pavement nuisance. Who knows, if these wholesale experiments upon the life, limbs, and property of the public are not checked in this crystal age, but we may next hear of crystal blocks for London's streets.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM GALLAWAY.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)

The return for the week ending last Saturday exhibits an unfavourable state of health amongst the population of the metropolitan districts. It was formerly shown that the mortality rose in the third week of February to 1213 deaths, and slightly declined in the subsequent week, when the number was 1148; but it is found that the deaths registered last week amount to 1247. Taking the ten corresponding weeks of 1841-50 for comparison, no example occurs in the series of so great a mortality; the highest return (in the tenth week of 1845) having been 1141, whilst the average did not 1001 deaths. This average, with a correction for the assumed rate of increase of population, is 1092; on which the 1247 deaths returned for last week show an excess of 155. Smallpox and measles are now more fatal than usual. With reference to 26 cases, in which smallpox proved fatal, it is recorded only in three—those of females aged respectively 7 months, 12 years, and 24 years—that vaccination had been performed at some previous time. On the 2nd of March, at 2, Hemingford terrace, Islington, a gentleman died of bronchitis and natural decay, who is stated to have arrived at the extraordinary age of 106 years, and to have enjoyed possession of his faculties till the last. The births of 1680 children (of whom 795 were boys and 785 girls) were registered in the week. The average of six corresponding weeks in 1845-50 was 1412.

	Ten Weeks of 1841-50.	Week of 1851.
Zymotic Diseases	1807	231
Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of uncertain or variable seat	553	50
Tubercular Diseases	1811	208
Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow, Nerves, and Senses	1262	125
Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels	302	70
Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Organs of Respiration	1924	321
Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other Organs of Digestion	576	72
Diseases of the Kidneys, &c.	112	7
Childbirth, diseases of the Uterus, &c.	112	3
Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints, &c.	68	8
Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c.	13	1
Malformations	30	6
Premature Birth and Debility	220	36
Atrophy	143	20
Age	623	45
Sudden	139	11
Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance	272	8
Total (including unspecified causes)	10010	1247

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

SATURDAY.

The dealings in the English Funds this week have been very limited. Speculation seems to have deserted that department altogether, seeing that a Ministerial crisis, and the alarm of our being on the eve of a general election, were not able to produce a variation of more than an eighth in almost any kind of stock.

The fluctuations in the Stock Market since Monday have been:—Consols, 96 3/4 to 96 1/2; Bank Stock 215 to 216; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 98 1/2 to 99 1/2; Exchequer Bills, 50s. to 56s. premium.

Business in the Foreign Market has been rather more active than usual. There were a considerable number of sales yesterday at the following prices:—Brazilian Old Five per Cent. Bonds, 93, 93 1/4; Buenos Ayres Six per Cent. for account, March 28, 55 1/4, 56; Danish Three per Cent., 78; Mexican Bonds, 33 1/4, 3; Ditto for account, March 28, 33 1/4; Peruvian Bonds, Four-and-a-Half per Cent., 84 1/2, 85, 85 1/2; Ditto for account, March 28, 85 1/2, 85; Ditto Deferred, 38 1/2, 39, 38 1/2; Portuguese Four per Cents., 33 1/4; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 97 1/2. Spanish Actives, Five per Cent., 20, 19 1/2; Ditto Passives, 4 1/4, 3. Spanish Three per Cents., for account 28th March, 38. Venezuela Two-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 31 1/2; Ditto Deferred, 12 1/2, 1. Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 58 1/2, 3, 4; Ditto Four per Cent. Certificates, 92, 91 1/2.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, March 14.

Excepting several cargoes of Mediterranean and Black Sea Wheat brought up to London to discharge, not sold floating, supplies since Monday are moderate. Polish Odessa Wheat held for higher prices, and a fair amount of business done. Wheat on the spot firm, at former rates, but demand slow. Barley, less plentiful, at an advance of 6d. per quarter. Oats moderate, the principal being from Ireland, dealers are unable to purchase at the very low rates recently current, and refrain from large transactions, buying no more than for immediate wants. At country markets supplies of Wheat short, prices tending upwards.

Arrivals from March 10 to 14:—

Table with 4 columns: Wheat, Barley, Oats, Flour. Rows show quantities in English, Irish, and Foreign units.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 8th of March, 1851.

Table with columns for Issued Department and Banking Department, listing various financial figures and notes.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

Table with columns for Saturday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, listing prices for Bank Stock, Consols, and other funds.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Table with columns for various foreign funds like Austrian, Mexican, Neapolitan, Peruvian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, and French.

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR.

The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed from the returns made in the week ending the 11th day of March, 1851, is 27s. 6 1/4d. per cwt.

SHARES.

Last Official Quotation for the Week ending Friday Evening.

Table listing various railway and bank shares such as Aberdeen, Bristol and Exeter, Caledonian, etc.

GRAIN, Mark-lane, March 14.

Table listing grain prices for Wheat, Barley, Oats, Peas, etc.

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

Table showing Imperial General Weekly Average and Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks for various grains.

FLOUR.

Table listing prices for Town-made, Seconds, Essex and Suffolk, Norfolk and Stockton, American, Canadian, and Wheat Bread flour.

BUTCHERS' MEAT.

Table listing prices for Beef, Mutton, Veal, and Pork.

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

Table listing prices for Beasts, Sheep, Calves, and Pigs.

PROVISIONS.

Table listing prices for Butter, Bacon, Cheese, Hams, and Eggs.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, March 11.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—S. L. Trotman, Liverpool, merchant; fourth div. of 8ths of a penny, on Wednesday, March 19, or any subsequent Wednesday; Mr. Turner, Liverpool—W. and A. Miller, Liverpool and Bootle, wine merchants; first div. of 2s. 6d., on Wednesday, March 19, or any subsequent Wednesday; Mr. Turner, Liverpool—W. Drabbes, Askern, Yorkshire, innkeeper; first and final div. of 4s. 6d., any Monday or Tuesday; Mr. Hope, Leeds.

BANKRUPTS.—J. B. WARDUP, Deptford, ironmonger, to surrender March 20, April 24; solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Adelaide-place, London-bridge; official assignee, Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings—C. DUFFIELD, Beverley, Yorkshire, draper, March 21, April 28; solicitors, Messrs. Ashurst and Son, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Graham—W. BUCKLE, late of Pall-mall and Leadenhall-street, master mariner, March 28, April 29; solicitor, Mr. Towne, Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—G. PARKER, Coventry, carpenter, March 31, April 26; solicitor, Mr. Browett, Coventry; official assignee, Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—H. BLAKESLEY, Castle Bromwich, Warwickshire, brick dealer, March 27, April 29; solicitor, Mr. Harrison, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Christie, Birmingham—E. SMITH, Worcester, hop merchant, March 26, April 23; solicitor, Mr. Reece, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Birmingham—S. T. WALKER, late of Barrowby-lodge, Lincolnshire, horse dealer, March 21, April 25; solicitor, Mr. Swan, Gray's-inn-place, Gray's-inn; official assignee, Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham—M. JONES, Wrexham, cheese-factor, March 24, April 14; solicitor, Mr. Evans, Liverpool; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool—R. WAKE, Plymouth, grocer, March 17, April 24; solicitors, Messrs. Edmunds and Sons, Plymouth, and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter; official assignee, Mr. Hernaman, Exeter—T. KINTON, East Stonehouse, Devonshire, re. furniture broker, March 17, April 24; solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Turner, Aldermansbury; Messrs. Little and Billing, Devonport; and Mr. Stogdon, Exeter; official assignee, Mr. Hernaman, Exeter.

DIVIDENDS.—April 1, J. Murray, Gracechurch-street, Manchester warehouseman—April 3, J. N. Harlow, Ramsgate, wine merchant—April 1, J. Saunders, Basinghall-street, and Bradford, Wiltshire, woollen manufacturer—April 3, E. M'Knott and J. Glass, Belvedere-road, Lambeth, and Blackfriars-road, coal merchants—April 3, T. Noakes, sen., Upminster and Stifford, Essex, miller—April 1, E. May, Oxford-street, ironmonger—

April 3, J. Peachey, Colchester, coachmaker—April 3, J. R. Pidding, George-yard, Lombard-street, and Finchley, merchant—April 3, W. Miller, Liverpool and Bootle, wine merchant.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—April 1, B. Hills, Downham, Isle of Ely, Cambridgeshire grocer—April 2, S. Befus, Houndsditch, importer of French goods—April 3, J. N. Harlow, Ramsgate, wine merchant—April 4, R. N. Jones, Liverpool, merchant—April 4, W. Randall, Manchester, calico printer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. Millar, Ballumbie and Ingliston Forfarshire, banker, March 18, April 8—J. Brown, Kilwinning, Ayrshire, ironmonger, March 14, April 4—J. Sutherland, Edinburgh, merchant, March 17, April 11.

Friday, March 14.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS.—C. T. Depree, Wakfield-street, St. Pancras, first div. of 2s. 5d., on Saturday, March 15, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—J. Savell, St. Neots, Huntingdonshire, draper, first div. of 2s. 3d., on Saturday, March 15, and two subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—S. Southey, Finsbury, cabinet manufacturer, second div. of 4d., on Saturday, March 15, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court, Basinghall-street—C. L. Swainson and J. Birchwood, Manchester, manufacturers second div. of 1d., and 2s 0/3d on new proofs, on Tuesday April 1, or any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Fraser, Manchester—J. B. Sparke, Torquay, Devonshire, hatter, first and final div. of 2s 6d., any Tuesday or Friday after March 17; Mr. Hernaman, Exeter—J. Burnard, Bideford, Devonshire, painter, first and final div. of 4d., any Tuesday or Friday after March 17; Mr. Hernaman, Exeter—H. M. Bowden, Lime-street, export merchant, first div. of 1d., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—J. Ball, Martin's-lane, Cannon-street, merchant, second div. of 1s. 8d., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—C. Green, Beckford-row, Walworth-road, corn merchant; second div. of 1s. 2d., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—W. and J. Pile, Monkwearmouth, shipbuilders; first div. of 6d., on new proofs (being in part of first div. of 1s. 6d. previously declared), on Saturday, March 15, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—J. Marsh, Rotherham, Yorkshire, grocer; second div. of 8d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—W. Ibbotson, Sheffield, merchant; third and final div. of 3d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—H. D. Wilkinson, Sheffield, silver plate manufacturer; second div. of 2 1/2d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—J. Sorby, Sheffield, steel melter; first div. of 9d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—J. Woodward, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire, paper manufacturer; first div. of 2s. 9d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—G. Woodward, Doncaster, gunsmith; first div. of 5s. 4d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—J. Rodgers and J. Brewin, Sheffield, bankers; second and final div. of 20s. on the separate estates, on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—J. Yeomans, Sheffield, merchant; third and final div. of 6d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—G. W. Hinchcliffe, Sheffield, manufacturer; first div. of 12s. 6d., on Saturday, March 22, or any subsequent Saturday; Mr. Freeman, Sheffield—J. Turnbull, Scarborough, linendraper; second and final div. of 2s. 4d., on Thursday, March 27, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Freeman, Leeds—J. Morfitt, jun., Leeds, flaxspinner; fourth and final div. of 3-16d., on Thursday, March 27, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Freeman, Leeds—C. Ware, York, saddler; first div. of 5s., on Thursday, March 27, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Freeman, Leeds—D. and J. Slaitwaite, Haigh, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturers; final div. of 3d., on Thursday, March 27, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Freeman, Leeds.

BANKRUPTS.—C. GRAHAM, New Oxford-street, hosier, to surrender March 21, April 25; solicitor, Mr. Semple, Duke-street, Manchester-square; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—W. LOCKYER, Old-street, St. Luke, and King-street, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, baker, March 20, April 24; solicitors, Messrs. Hilleary, Fenchurch-street; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—J. WILKINSON, Huddersfield, woollen cloth manufacturer, March 28, May 2; solicitors, Mr. Hesp, Huddersfield; and Messrs. Bond and Barwick, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Young, Leeds.

DIVIDENDS.—April 5, F. F. Vouillon, Princes-street, Hanover-square, Court milliner—April 4, J. Graham, Waterloo-place, St. James's, upholder—April 4, C. A. Harris, Bushey, Hertfordshire, and Great Grimsby, Lincolnshire, flax-spinner—April 4, J. Webb, Luton, Bedfordshire, straw-plait-dealer—April 4, D. Slater, Preston, near Uppingham, Rutlandshire, cabinetmaker—April 4, R. Wright, Coppice-row, Clerkenwell, timber-merchant—April 4, J. Steere, Guildford, watchmaker—April 4, J. Wright, Northampton, and elsewhere, corn-merchant—April 4, C. Scarfe, Hall-street, City-road, timber-merchant—April 4, S. Taylor, Staines, Middlesex, grocer—April 5, M. P. Edwards, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, linendraper—April 5, G. Spearman, Leeds, silkmonger—April 5, H. Hauser, Blackfriars-road, linendraper—April 10, A. Provost, Peterborough, linendraper—April 10, P. R. Morrison, late of Liverpool, merchant—April 5, W. Eeley, Horsepath, Oxfordshire, butcher—April 8, W. Kuper, Camberwell, wire ropemaker—April 11, J. G. Briggs, Leicester, innkeeper—April 7, J. Hayward, Oswestry, Shropshire, scrivener—April 4, W. Lees, Liverpool, merchant—April 7, W. Laird, Birkenhead, Cheshire, merchant—April 7, J. Morgan, Liverpool, hotelkeeper—April 5, B. J. Maunder, Mark, Somersetshire, draper—April 11, W. Thompson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer—April 8, J. F. Brett, Gateshead, Durham, tailor—April 8, W. Shaw, jun., Salford, Lancashire printer—April 14, J. Taylor, Rochdale, cotton-spinner—April 16, W. L. Lowe, Salford, Lancashire, victualler—April 8, T. Cox, Manchester, wine merchant.

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting.—April 4, F. F. Vouillon, Princes-street, Hanover-square, Court milliner—April 3, R. Green, jun., Brighton, ironmonger—April 4, A. Honeyman, Deptford, builder—April 3, G. Burton, Whitechapel-road, linendraper—April 8, W. Taylor, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, auctioneer—April 8, W. Harrison, Tynemouth, merchant—April 11, W. Thompson, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, grocer—April 7, J. Shirt, Frodham, Cheshire, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—R. Clarkson, Leith, china merchant, March 17, April 11—J. and W. Taylor, Cambusbarren, near Stirling, shawl manufacturers, March 18, April 8—S. Smith, Crosshill, Renfrewshire, bricklayer, March 21, April 11.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

At St. Ann's, Trinidad, the Lady Harris, of a son and heir.—On the 6th inst., at Southsea, the wife of Major Matland, town-major of Portsmouth, of a son.—On the 8th inst., the wife of Henry Cohen, Esq., Southwick-crescent, Hyde-park, of a daughter.—On the 8th inst., at Wymondham Rectory, Leicestershire, the Honourable Mrs. John Beresford, of a daughter.—On the 8th inst., at Hunnington Rectory, Hampshire, the wife of the Reverend J. W. H. Molyneux, of a son.

On the 9th inst., at Hastings, the wife of the Reverend C. D. Bell, of a daughter.
 On the 9th inst., at Needwood-house, Needwood-forest, the wife of Commander C. E. Tennant, R.N., of a son.
 On the 9th inst., at East Garston, Berks, the wife of the Reverend C. Smith, of a daughter.
 On the 9th inst., in Hyde-park, Lady Walker, of a son.
 On the 10th inst., the wife of Cecil Fane, Esq., of Upper Brook-street, of a son.
 On the 10th inst., at Thames-villa, Hammersmith, the wife of W. F. Ainsworth, Esq., of a daughter.
 On the 10th inst., in Eaton-square, the lady of Sir G. Howland Beaumont, Bart., of a son and heir.

MARRIAGES.

On the 10th of January, at Walton, St. Ann's, Jamaica, Jane, youngest daughter of the late Reverend Wm. Henry, of Tooting, Surrey, to the Reverend G. M. Clinckett, incumbent of St. Matthew's, Clarendon, in the same parish and island.
 On the 6th ult., at Nevis, Charles Kenny, Esq., President of the Council of that island, to Jessy, widow of the late Henry Harding, Esq.
 On the 3rd inst., at Cheltenham, L. A. A. Tottenham, Esq., of Glenade only son of L. A. Tottenham, Esq., to Constance Marian, second daughter of the late N. Wigney, Esq., M.P. for Brighton.
 On the 4th inst., at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, Jas. E. V. Williamson, Esq., Seventeenth Madras Infantry, only son of the late Brigadier Wm. Williamson, C.B., Madras army, to Anna, fourth daughter of David Hunter, Esq., Brompton.
 On the 8th inst., at Hackney the Reverend Geo. Macdonald, A.M., of Arundel, to Louisa, third daughter of James Powell, Esq., of the Limes, Upper Clapton.
 On the 10th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Honourable H. Wm. Parnell to the Honourable Caroline Margaret Dawson, daughter of the late Honourable Lionel C. Dawson and Lady Elizabeth Dawson.
 On the 11th inst., at Dublin, Sidney, third son of R. C. Kirby, Esq., London, to Jane, youngest daughter of Maurice Cross, Esq., secretary to the Commissioners of National Education, Dublin.
 On the 11th inst., at Tissington, Derbyshire, J. G. N. Alleyne, Esq., eldest son of Sir R. Abel Alleyne, Bart., of Barbadoes, to Augusta Isabella, fifth daughter of Sir H. Fitzherbert, Bart., of Tissington-hall.
 On the 11th inst., at Paddington, Æneas Mackintosh Esq., of Daviot, Inverness-shire, to Louisa Fanny, third daughter of the late Major A. McLeod, Bengal N.I.

DEATHS.

On the 4th inst., at Belfast, Mary Pierrepont, the wife of Captain E. Holland, R.N.
 On the 5th inst., at Hammersmith, Miss Martha Euphemia Wilson, aged 65.
 On the 5th inst., at Thirsk, aged 41, John Bell, Esq., M.P.
 On the 6th inst., at the Vicarage, Edmonton, aged 76, Margaret, widow of the Reverend J. Tate, M.A., late canon residentiary of St. Paul's, London, and vicar of Edmonton.
 On the 6th inst., at Lewes, aged 55, J. Webb Woolgar, Esq., F.R.A.S., and a magistrate of the county of Sussex.
 On the 7th inst., aged 60, Elizabeth, wife of the Reverend P. La Tour, rector of Boothby Graffoe, Lincolnshire.
 On the 7th inst., in Wimpole-street, Sir Alex. Hood, Bart., of Wootton-house, Somerset, and M.P. for the western division of that county.
 On the 7th inst., H. W. Acland, Esq., only son of the late H. D. Acland, Esq., aged 33.
 On the 7th inst., at Cefnamwlch, Caernarvonshire, Laura Susan, wife of Charles G. Wynne, Esq., jun., aged 34.
 On the 8th inst., Harriet Eliza, eldest daughter of the late J. Swinfen, Esq., of Swinfen, Staffordshire.
 On the 9th inst., in Arlington-street, Maria, Dowager Countess of Sefton, aged 81.
 On the 9th inst., at Blandford, aged 71, the Reverend John B. Maude, senior fellow of Queen's College, Oxford.
 On the 9th inst., in Foley-place, Sophia, widow of Edwd. Gale Boldero, Esq.
 On the 9th inst., at Brussels, Eliza Susannah, wife of Colonel Coffin, late R.A.
 On the 10th inst., in Camberwell, the Reverend Ingram Cobbin, M.A., aged 74.
 On the 10th inst., the Reverend C. A. Marcus, M.A., late of Bedford-street, Bedford-square, aged 49.
 On the 10th inst., at Cheltenham, F. Jas. Ross, Esq., youngest brother of the late Major-General Sir P. Ross.

CALL'S MESMERIC DROPS are declared

by all who have proved their efficacy to be the greatest blessing ever conferred upon the afflicted. In the short space of half an hour they ensure perfect freedom from pain either of body or mind; the most excruciating torments being subdued as perfectly as in a mesmeric sleep. In smaller doses they soothe irritability of the nerves, and produce a pleasing tranquillity unattainable by any other known physical agent. The MESMERIC DROPS do not contain Opium nor Henbane, and although from its effects the active ingredients may be technically termed a narcotic, its exhibition is not attended with any of the ill effects which arise from the use of the narcotic drugs hitherto known. In many of the most distressing and dangerous maladies, allaying pain and tranquillizing the sufferer is the grand desideratum for effecting a cure, and in cases of a less urgent character the happiest effects often follow the administration of remedies which soothe the nerves and allay irritability. In all such cases the MESMERIC DROPS will be found an invaluable resource.

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Best Plain Truss	5 0	Egg's German Truss	10 0
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Lacing Stockings, Knee-caps, and Ankle-pieces, for Weak Joints and Varicose Veins. Leg-irons, Ladies Back-boards, Dumb Bells, and every other article in the Trade, at equally moderate charges.

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"Sir,—A lady, who had a severe cough for nine years, and could get nothing to allay it, from one box of Dr. Locock's Wafers is enabled to speak more freely, and her cough is cured. (Signed) "W. BARTLE."

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"SIR,—My eldest son, when about three years of age, was afflicted with a Glandular Swelling in the neck, which, after a short time, broke out into an Ulcer. An eminent medical man pronounced it as a very bad case of Scrofula, and prescribed for a considerable time without effect. The disease then for four years went on gradually increasing in virulence, when, besides the ulcer in the neck, another formed below the left knee, and a third under the eye, besides seven others on the left arm, with a tumour between the eyes, which was expected to break. During the whole of the time my suffering boy had received the constant advice of the most celebrated medical Gentlemen at Cheltenham, besides being for several months at the General Hospital, where one of the Surgeons said that he would amputate the left arm, but that the blood was so impure that, if that limb were taken off, it would be then even impossible to subdue the disease. In this desperate state I determined to give your Pills and Ointment a trial, and, after two months' perseverance in their use, the tumour gradually began to disappear, and the discharge from all the ulcers perceptibly decreased, and at the expiration of eight months they were perfectly healed, and the boy thoroughly restored to the blessings of health, to the astonishment of a large circle of acquaintances, who could testify to the truth of this miraculous case. Three years have now elapsed without any recurrence to the malady, and the boy is now as healthy as heart can wish. Under these circumstances I consider that I should be truly ungrateful were I not to make you acquainted with this wonderful cure, effected by your medicines, after every other means had failed. (Signed) "J. H. ALLIDAY."

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