

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.*

Contents:

NEWS OF THE WEEK—	PAGE
The Week in Parliament	722
Our Statesmen at the City Feast ...	725
Chronicles of Chobham.....	726
The Fleet	726
Letters from Paris.....	726
Continental Notes	727
The Cape: Constitution: Peace:	
Trade	728
American Notes	728
Cuba still Violates the Slave-Trade	
Treaty	729
Crystal Palace Extension.....	729

The Great Cab Strike	729
Rights of Conscience	730
Railway Reform	730
Distressing Elopement	730
Criminal Record	730
Workmen and Wages	731
Miscellaneous.....	731
PUBLIC AFFAIRS—	
The "Greek Empire" Notion	732
The Cableless Streets	733
Russian Coup D'Etat in Denmark...	733
Honourable Subserviency to Dis-	
honour	734

A Winter Session	734
The Russian Incorporation of Mol-	
davia and Wallachia	735
Cabbee's Case	735
"A Stranger" in Parliament	736
Who is the Culprit?	737
OPEN COUNCIL—	
The Law as to the Administration of	
Oaths.—V.	737
LITERATURE—	
Browne's History of Latin Litera-	
ture.....	738
Two Novels	739

THE ARTS—	
German Plays: Othello	740
Sardanapalus at the Adelphi	741
A Last Look at the Royal Academy	
Exhibition.....	741
Health of London during the Week...	742
Births, Marriages, and Deaths	742
COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—	
City Intelligence, Markets, Adver-	
tisements, &c.	742-744

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SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE general movement for a rise of remuneration has come to the door of Parliament in the shape of the Cab movement, and of the strike of workmen at the Palace in which that august assembly sits. And it is quite possible, that, if the working-classes, on box or foot, in uniform or out of uniform, be not treated with greater frankness and consideration than they appear likely to receive from some distinguished parties, the movement may take a more serious turn than it has yet assumed. This is quite independently of the feeling of the working-classes; whose general moderation has been admitted on all sides, ever since the movement began. Practically, the London cabmen are resisting a Parliamentary reduction of wages; because, although the proprietors are also concerned, yet it is obvious that to reduce the income of the proprietors is also to reduce the allowance of the working-cabman. Parliament has passed an Act fixing the price at which the London cabman must sell his wares to the public—6d. a-mile. There are, however, regulations also vexatious to the cabmen; but we discuss these in a separate paper. The grand fact here to state is, that substantially the Under Secretary for the Home-Department refuses to make such regulations as the cab people require, or to relax the Parliamentary reduction of fare and wages.

This reduction has been made in the face of a general rise in wages throughout the country; and although the Stockport people are still refused the 10 per cent. which they have demanded, their masters have offered a rise to some extent; even thus recognising the general advance. Nor is it only in wages that the working-classes are now claiming concessions. The Tyne mariners have fixed the proportion of men and boys for coal vessels of different sizes, and the ship-owners have generally assented. The Nottingham carpenters and joiners have refused to "fix" any wood prepared by steam except floor-boards. This we regard as an erroneous decision; since there is nothing more conducive to the general interests of the working-classes than an adaptation of machinery to the ruder employments. If they wanted proofs, they might have two gigantic proofs, in the high rate of wages earned by the classes working machinery as compared with rude labour; and still more recently the rise of wages and expansion of employment in the agricultural

districts since improvements and machinery have been introduced. Nevertheless the fact is an example of the independence newly acquired by the working classes. The miners of South Shields and Hartlepool have resolved not to sail in ships where there are less than three quarters of the crew British. These men resolved to consider Americans as British, and the hearty cheer with which that determination was received by the assemblage will let our friends on the other side of the Atlantic understand something of the feeling entertained towards them by the body of the English people. The Hull police are carrying on a demand for a rise of 3s. a-week; successes having been obtained already in South Shields, Manchester, and other places. These are but recent specimens of the rise which it has been our duty, as it is our pleasure, to describe in all parts of the country. How then is it to be expected that the officials can keep down the wages of the London police, or reduce the wages of the cabmen?—it is an endeavour to resist facts by acts of Parliament.

In order to man the Navy, Government, itself, is obliged to raise the wages of the seamen, and it makes, truly, a magnificent offer—2d. a day! The blue jackets are to "rule the waves" for 2d. a day additional! In truth, the claims of labour are not yet understood, in all their force, either in the House of Commons or in Scotland-yard, or in the Admiralty, or in the City.

But our officials are running a great risk, in thus endeavouring to resist both facts and people. The strike of the cabmen, for several days, has been sufficiently disagreeable to the employing and professional classes—but a wholesale strike of the policemen, which is talked of, would be alarming, as well as disagreeable, especially if it were to happen in conjunction with other strikes, like that of the cabmen, of the building trades, the porters, and various other stout members of society, whom the presence of a strong police has been one means of keeping down. It appears to us far better to make the police force an example of good wages, orderly conduct and contentment, than to force it into a position where it would be a great model force of just discontent and natural disaffection.

We shall have the soldiers strike next.

The debate, on the Cab case, in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, and again on Thursday night, was not creditable. Members of the House of Commons seem to think it necessary, for the dignity of that assemblage, that it should enter into a contest with the cabmen.

The most remarkable Parliamentary event this week has been the reappearance of Mr. Gladstone with his financial scheme, in order to get it modified in accordance with the circumstances of the day. When he first proposed it, Consols were at a premium; the prospects of the harvests were good; the "profound peace" of which our public men habitually boasted was unbroken. Since he propounded it, the Turkish question has broken out, to say nothing of Denmark and various other little affairs; the summer has been more remarkable for moisture than for heat; Consols have fallen to 98½; and, although the favourable opinion of Mr. Gladstone's commutation project, in the abstract, has not altered, the market is certainly unfavourable to the proceeding. He now modifies his plan in three ways. The former alternatives,—a Three-and-a-half per Cent. stock, a Two-and-a-half per Cent. stock, payment in cash, and Exchequer Bonds,—still remain; but a fifth alternative is added: those who decline either of the other commutations are now offered a stock at Three-and-a-quarter per Cent. on such terms as may be agreed upon between the Treasury and the tenderers. Parliament also authorizes a resolution, which will empower to certain persons, who are now technically disqualified from assenting to commutation, but who are supposed to be inclined to accept it, if they can; and, thirdly, the South Sea Company is authorized to commute its capital stock. It is well known, as Mr. Gladstone says, that the original function of the company, or even the shadow of a function which remained to it, has expired; and it now contemplates entering upon a new line of business. It appears likely to become a great public company, possessing a vast guarantee fund, in order to undertake trusteeships, at a moderate per centage, probably one per cent. This would be a great convenience in innumerable cases, and may account for the indisposition of the company to place its capital at the disposal of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Disraeli endeavoured to raise an opposition against Mr. Gladstone, by making the most of his non-success, and he endeavoured, by destroying the confidence of the House, to debar Mr. Gladstone from obtaining additional powers, and thus to bind him down to the scheme no longer practicable: in short, he wished to prevent Mr. Gladstone from mitigating the loss which the turn of public affairs entails upon his operations; and some Liberal members, with crotchets, swelled the murmur of captious discontent, which was raised by Mr. Disraeli. The division, yesterday,

of the rival Chancellors.

The India Bill has at length got to its last stages in the House of Commons, having sustained two amendments this week. Sir John Pakington dug up the grievances of the salt monopoly—for the trade is still a monopoly in the hands of the East India Company, although slightly modified some years back. The Company still retains the sole control of the salt works in India, and only admits salt from beyond the sea on payment of an excessive duty. The manufacture of salt in India is rendered free by Sir John Pakington's resolution, subject only to excise or customs duty. This is a great step. The other amendment carried by Mr. Vernon Smith, to which Government did not dare offer a resistance, increased the salary of the President of the Board of Control to 5000*l.* and appointed a permanent Secretary to the department. In both respects we regard it as being a substantial improvement of the central government. The President is now raised to the rank of a Secretary of State. The permanent Under Secretary will increase the efficiency of the Crown part of the Indian government, and so facilitate the obvious tendency of the whole series of those reforms, to bring India more directly under the control of the Crown instead of the Company.

Mr. Blackett pressed an amendment, obliging the Minister for India to lay a certain portion of Indian finances annually before Parliament. That would have been a form of securing a practical and an attentive discussion upon Indian affairs in the House of Commons, and it could not have failed to be very useful. Lord John Russell, indeed, allowed that such a statement would be useful; but he ridiculed the idea of requiring it by act of Parliament, and went so far as to hint that Parliament might as well fix the length of the speech to be made. The silliness of this sneer is only equalled by its impertinence; and if Mr. Blackett blushed at the insult, it was probably not for himself, but for a statesman who reduced himself to the level of his footman.

Archbishop Whately has thrown up his seat at the Board of National Education in Ireland, for reasons which we have already explained. Certain works of unsectarian religion were used in the model schools, and the general character of liberal and non-dogmatic religion formed an attribute of the system, of which Sir John Young, the Secretary for Ireland, has twice—once since this dispute—made an emphatic boast. The unsectarian character of these little works, which had been composed by Archbishop Whately, and revised by Dr. Murray, provoked the dislike of the Orange party and the Ultramontane party; and we have already explained the manoeuvres by which the Ultramontane party, with the help of the other, caused one of these works to be proscribed, and created a dispute about the others. Under pretence of separating religious from secular teaching, these extreme bigots were really trying to undermine the system. Government has fallen in with their plan; has accepted the letter in lieu of the spirit, and has so compromised the management that Dr. Whately felt himself to be virtually "dismissed." That it is not a personal feeling on his part is proved by the fact, that Baron Greene, and Mr. Blackburn, the Irish Chancellor of the late Government, join him in resignation.

Simultaneously with his retirement from the Board, Archbishop Whately appears as the leader of a new society, to protect those who suffer for the sake of conscience—those of all sects, or of no sect; those of proscribed religious opinions, or no religious opinions. The society does not undertake to protect them from outrages such as the law will give redress for; but from the persecution of non-employment, exclusive dealing, or the like. This society is a paramount fact, and it

almost consoles us for the moral treachery with which the Government has permitted the united Orange and Ultramontane party to lay the axe at the root of the national system of education.

In respect to the Russo-Turkish affair, the latest events throw no new light upon its progress, but rather obscure it the more. The temperate and dignified protest which Turkey has made against the occupation of the Principalities, shows that, down to the 2nd of this month, the position of the Porte was unaltered; the reports that the Emperor had become more gracious appear to be altogether without proof, and to be rather contradicted by more probable reports, that he views the propositions for reconciliation with coldness. The gathering of troops in Bessarabia is against all professions of Russian moderation, threatening Turkey as they do on a new point. The attempt of the Danish court to abolish the constitution of Denmark, because the Diet resists the attempt of the King to abolish a law of two centuries, which is one barrier against the succession of the Russian family to the Danish throne, seems to show that the unrelaxing and ubiquitous designs of Russia find tools as readily in the North as in the South; the Danish monarch excelling in his fidelity even that Servian chief who promises "neutrality," when his suzerain, the Sultan, calls upon him to defend his country against invasion. The Four Powers—Austria, France, England, and Prussia, are now said to be of accord, and active in the effort to promote peace; but whether they are in accord upon the course already struck out by France and England, or whether there is to be some faltering, it is as yet impossible to tell. Only this seems to be certain, amid the general suspense and obscurity, that Russia perseveres, and that Austria is bent on forcing the United States into an European quarrel—for there is a duplicate of the Kossta case at Beyrout, an Hungarian refugee, pursued by Austrians, and protected from violence by the American consul.

THE WEEK IN PARLIAMENT.

THE INDIA BILL.

THE long Committee on this bill has at length come to a close, after three sittings this week.

On Monday evening, and at a morning sitting on Tuesday, various amendments were proposed, and all save one rejected. Sir HENRY WILLOUGHBY moved a clause to enable the Secret Committee to protest, if they thought fit, against the orders of the Board of Control which they are bound to transmit. But Sir JAMES HOGG pointed out that if protests existed they would be called for by Parliament—and that would be inconvenient; besides, the Secret Committee would become a little Parliament rather harassing to the Minister. Put to the vote the clause was lost by 52 to 30.

Mr. HUME moved a clause extending the constituency which elects the Court of Directors to persons holding 500*l.* of stock, retired civil and military servants, and others. To Mr. LOWE was entrusted the task of making out a case against the clause. This he did briefly, by showing that the prohibition to canvassing had been removed, consequently the evil would exist in full force even under the bill; but here was a proposition to extend it still further. Then the clause would include persons who are not members of the company, contrary to the decision of the House, that the Government of India should be through the Company. Assertions were made in an opposite sense by several members; but, on a division, the clause was rejected by 74 to 50.

Mr. RICH moved a clause, the object of which was to give practical efficiency to the clause of the old act, enacting that religion, colour, birth descent, should be no bar to the employment of natives. The question was, had the natives been employed as fully as came up to the intentions of the act of 1833? It seemed that they had not. Mr. BRIGHT, Lord STANLEY, and Sir CHARLES WOOD all agreed on the propriety and justice of employing natives: Sir Charles, while resisting the clause, promising that they should be employed more and paid better in future. The clause was thrown out by 173 to 47.

On Tuesday morning, as early as twelve, the House went into Committee again. Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE moved a clause enacting that the Queen's judges in India should form a supreme Court for deciding all cases between the Government and the native princes.

Mr. Pitt, Sir Robert Peel, and Sir John Malcolm, had all suggested a tribunal of this kind, and, indeed, it was imperatively necessary in order that native princes may be protected from the cruelty, injustice, and rapacity of the Court of Directors. The clause, however, was opposed, and found such small favour in the House that it was negatived without a division.

Mr. BRIGHT moved a clause providing that the affairs of India should be transacted under one roof, that the Court of Directors and the Board of Control should be brought together for that purpose, and the East India House sold to defray expenses. It would diminish annual expense, and promote efficiency by decreasing the delay and curtailing the mass of correspondence. Sir CHARLES WOOD said there was no delay—not of one hour—in consequence of the distance from Leadenhall-street from Cannon-row. Mr. VERNON SMITH, who declared he had had longer experience of the India Board than Sir Charles, said on the contrary that great delay was occasioned. On a division the clause was rejected by 74 to 61—a narrow majority.

Mr. VERNON SMITH presumed he should not meet with any opposition from Sir Charles Wood in the clause he was about to submit. He moved that the salary and position of the President of the Board of Control be raised to the level of that of a Secretary of State—5000*l.* He also proposed that there should be one political and one permanent secretary of the Board, instead of two political secretaries.

This proposition Ministers thought fit to accept, and to that end aptly made choice of Lord PALMERSTON to express their concurrence.

There were very good reasons why it was impossible that the President of the Board of Control, under the existing state of things, should assume the title of Secretary of State. So long as the government of India was conducted upon the double principle, the commands of her Majesty could not be conveyed, and therefore the Minister who directed that department could not assume the functions of a Secretary of State. But he entirely agreed with the right honourable gentleman in thinking it desirable that, with regard to dignity, position, and salary, the President of the Board of Control should be placed on the footing of a Secretary of State. It was impossible to deny that the consideration which he ought to enjoy, so far as that consideration depended on the means which the salary afforded, ought to be equal to that enjoyed by a Secretary of State. There ought, in fact, to be no distinction between the Minister of the Crown who performed the important duties of President of the Board of Control, and the position occupied by any of her Majesty's Secretaries of State. It was customary to say that salary was wholly unimportant, or that it was merely an object of grasping and selfish views. He looked upon this matter not as a person in possession of office under the Crown. He trusted he might be allowed the right of looking upon it in the quality of an independent member of Parliament, and merely as to its effects upon the public service. Whether in or out of office he believed it was of advantage to the public service that persons holding high and important offices under the Government should receive salaries commensurate with the position, the functions performed, and the expenses to which, in the performance of those functions, they were necessarily exposed. The point to be considered in a question of this kind was, that obviously persons whose whole time and thoughts were absorbed in public duties could not pay attention to the prosecution of their private affairs. He thought, therefore, that whatever might be the salary which Parliament might deem right, as attaching to the office of a Secretary of State, that ought also to be the salary attaching to the position of President of the Board of Control; and this opinion he had taken upon himself to state, because naturally it was one which the right honourable gentleman now holding that office would feel a delicacy in giving utterance to. On this point, then, he was quite ready to agree with the proposal of Mr. Vernon Smith. The second point brought under the notice of the committee by him was also of the utmost importance. He proposed by the exclusion from the House of one of the secretaries of the Board of Control to ensure the permanency of one of the secretaries of that board. It was, undoubtedly, impossible to overrate the advantage of having in each department a permanent secretary, not swayed by the feelings engendered in political contests, and possessed of the knowledge and the lore necessary to a full comprehension of the often arduous and intricate duties of his post. It was most desirable to have in each department a man of judgment and discretion, able to give to the new comer into office the sort of information which he must require as to past events, as to the principles regulating the department, and as to the character of individuals connected in various ways with its operations. Without this kind of information it was impossible for any man, however able and however judicious, to perform his duties with satisfaction to himself, or with the advantage to the public which he would naturally desire to confer. He, therefore, most cordially assented to the proposal on this head which had been made by his right honourable friend. He was sure that the Government, that no Government would regret the loss of the advantage they might derive from the presence of a second secretary in Parliament when more than balanced by the convenience to the public of having a permanent secretary at the Board of Control.

Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS dissented, and struck in with an insinuation. It would no doubt be thought a concession in some quarters that the Government, which had steadily rejected every other amendment to their bill, had so promptly and generously repented in



time to give this one their support. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He, however, who ventured to think that the President of the Board of Control had hitherto been paid quite enough, could not see in this bill merits so extraordinary as to warrant his voting for an accession of salary to its author. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He could not, therefore, give his vote in favour of the proposition.

So he divided the committee, and was beaten by 116 to 29.

Mr. WISE moved a clause enacting that one-third of the admission to Addiscombe should be given to sons of Indian officers. But Sir CHARLES WOOD contended that none could now be excluded who deserved admission, and Mr. Wise was defeated by 101 to 29.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON moved the insertion of a clause for putting an end to the manufacture of salt by the East India Company from and after the 1st of May, 1856, after which the manufacture and sale of that article should be absolutely free.

It has become the duty of Parliament to put an end to this obnoxious monopoly, which prevents the operation of the usual rules of supply and demand. The Indian authorities are not to be trusted on the subject, and the remedy must be afforded by the British Parliament. The Company charge what they pleased for salt, and imposed a uniform duty of 300 or 400 per cent. The sterling price of the salt is 8*l.* 5*s.* per English ton, which by various impositions rises to 25*l.* per ton before it reaches the consumer, and is then adulterated, at the rate of from 25 to 40 per cent., with sand, dirt, and ashes. Salt which is supplied in Worcestershire at 10*s.* per ton is charged 1400 per cent. at Calcutta, and the peasant bought it at fifty times the English price. In England the average consumption of salt is from 21*lbs.* to 25*lbs.* a year; in America, 27*lbs.*; in Russia, 23*lbs.*; in Austria, 20*lbs.*; in Prussia, 18*lbs.*; in France and Belgium, 21*lbs.*, and this is real salt; while in India, where the vegetable diet of the natives makes salt far more indispensable, the consumption even of this mixture of sand, dirt, and ashes, is but 12*lbs.* It takes two months of the peasant's labour to purchase this.

Sir J. PAKINGTON then went into painful details to show the sufferings of the natives in consequence of this state of things. He also showed how it interfered with what might be the prosperous fisheries of India.

Sir CHARLES WOOD said that the honourable baronet had better have demanded it in the name of the people of Droitwich, and remarked on Sir J. PAKINGTON's indignation against taxing the food of the people of India, he having all along contended for a tax on corn and other articles of food at home. Sir John wished to have a monopoly on the part of the manufacturers in this country—a monopoly with which the present arrangement certainly interfered. There had been a monopoly in India in former times; but the recommendations of 1836 had been fairly carried out. There was no monopoly of the sale of salt, as far as the consumer was concerned. There were five different competing supplies of the article, all exposed to an equal duty. There was no evidence to show that the people of India complained of the want of salt. The salt sold by the Government was pure, the Bengal rather less so than the imported, and any adulteration took place after it had left the Government warehouses. Thousands of people had been thrown out of employment by the importation of salt from England. The Company had within the last seven or eight years reduced the duty 25 per cent. The general tenor of the evidence before the Committee was that the duty was not a grievance; the duty produced about 1,500,000*l.*

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE assailed Sir C. Wood for his retrograde policy, and his advocacy of what it was mere quibbling to say was not a monopoly.

Sir JAMES HOGG, declaring that the trade in salt was entirely free, opposed the amendment of Sir J. PAKINGTON.

Mr. TATTON EGERTON supported the amendment. Sir HERBERT MADDOCK opposed it on the ground of his objection to the species of interference contemplated. Mr. ADDERLEY believed with Napoleon, that if "England undertook the internal government of India, that country would be lost to us." Had this been a mere resolution on the subject, he should, however, have supported it. Mr. HUME was desirous to see the salt monopoly abolished, believing that it operated unfavourably for the health of the natives, and he also wished to see the trading character of the Company at an end. Mr. DANNY SEYMOUR supported the amendment. Mr. LOWE objected to the form of the clause, which recited the Company's act, and said that if the latter was sufficient, the clause was useless, and if not, it was useless to recite it. He admitted that the Company had a monopoly, but not one to which an odious sense attached. It was only a restriction, necessitated because the Company had to raise a certain revenue. Mr. JOHN M'GREGOR opposed the clause, because no financial provision ought to be introduced into the present bill.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL wished to observe, that though Sir J. PAKINGTON's speech had been against

the salt-tax, his clause did not touch the question. The Indian government, in the exercise of its discretion, and under Lord Dalhousie, a nobleman of high authority, had thought that the best mode of raising a part of the Indian revenue was by means of a salt-tax, and if this clause were agreed to, and a deficiency in the revenue occurred, the Indian government would, for the first time, be able to say with justice that such deficiency had been occasioned by the British House of Commons, and might refuse to lay any new tax upon the people of India.

Mr. DISRAELI said, that Sir J. PAKINGTON's effort has been in the first place to destroy a monopoly. He combated the view he imputed to Lord J. Russell, that there was no identity between the revenues of India and of England. Such had not been Sir R. Peel's view. If there were embarrassment in Indian finances, England must ultimately deal with it, but such a consideration could not weigh in discussing the topic before them. He had heard nothing which met the case advanced by Sir J. PAKINGTON. They had had to consider whether those whom they entrusted with power in India were willing and able to deal with the grievance in question, and, if not, whether it was not the proper time for interference. After some sarcasms directed at Mr. Lowe, including a rebuke to him for having imported from other popular assemblies an inconvenient habit of interrupting a speaker, he reiterated that if the case against the salt monopoly had been made out, this was the fitting period for Parliament to legislate on the subject. Had they considered the consequences of a population in a chronic state of bad health? He was surprised at the taunt with which Sir C. Wood had commenced his reply, and inferred from it that his case was weak. The House would decide upon the broad merits of the case, remembering that if this opportunity should be lost, another might not occur for remedying this great evil.

The House then divided, and the numbers were—

For the clause	117
Against it	107

Majority for Sir J. PAKINGTON's clause 10

The clause was added to the Bill.

Mr. BLACKETT moved a clause to the effect that a member of the Government should every session make a statement to the House on the subject of Indian finances.

Lord J. RUSSELL sneeringly said, that the clause was incomplete. It only enacted that the President of the Board of Control should make a speech every year. It really ought to enact how long the speech should be, and whether the President of the Board of Control should be sent to prison if he failed to make it. Mr. HUME was surprised at the tone of Lord J. Russell, especially as a statement had been recently made that it was intended to bring forward an annual India budget. The clause was negatived.

Sir C. WOOD brought up clauses for fixing the qualification and salaries of directors. The former he proposed to fix at 1000*l.* instead of 2000*l.* and the latter at 1000*l.* instead of 500*l.* The chairman and deputy chairman were to have 1500*l.* each.

The first of these clauses was agreed to, but the second was resisted by Mr. BLACKETT and other members; and Lord JOHN RUSSELL, after defending the proposition itself, assented to its being brought up on the third reading.

There was a debate on the third reading of the India Bill. New proposals were made by the Indian reformers; a new debate in which the representatives of all parties joined.

Mr. J. G. PHILLIMORE made one of his declamatory speeches against the wrongs perpetrated by the Court of Directors on Indian princes; and he proposed, as the present was not the tribunal for the trials of such matters, that there should be powers given in the bill to bring such cases before the President of the Board of Control, who should be required to refer the case to the Privy Council.

Mr. LOWE objected to the suggestion in a "flippant" way, which called forth a second declamatory speech, at the intensity of which the House laughed, from Mr. P. MURROUGH, and a severe but gentlemanly and telling, rebuke from Mr. BLACKETT.

The discussion having proceeded, Lord JOHN RUSSELL took part, and generalized and elevated the debate. He reminded the House, that they were all agreed that a despotism was the only government of India; and, referring to the cited cases, he argued that these despotic acts were inevitable; but he considered that they had future securities against the caprices and the injustices of despotism in the high character of the men they were attempting to obtain for Indian service; and he contended that, at any rate, such cases must be dealt with in India, and not in England. Flagrant cases, such as those of Warren Hastings,

were for the future impossible; but if they did occur, why, the Warren Hastings would not escape that House and Westminster Hall—Lord John not doubting that there would be Burkes, and Sheridans, and a Whig party to impeach the malefactor.

Mr. BRIGHT believed British villainies in India were as rife as ever; and he wanted some security that villains should be punished. If they were tried in India they never would be.

Sir J. HOGG made one of his customary defences. The point of his defence was, that the Company never did wrong.

Mr. PHILLIMORE's clause was lost by 99 to 48.

Mr. BRIGHT re-proposed his plan for bringing the "India House" and the "Board of Control" under one roof.

Sir C. WOOD resisted the proposal. While there was a double government there must be a double set of offices.

[A debate ensued, the result of which, with the rest of the business of the evening, we shall give in our Town Edition.]

SUCCESSION DUTY IN THE LORDS.

This bill has furnished the chief subject of debate—what may fairly be called a debate—a thing rare at this period of the session.

On the motion for going into committee on Monday, Lord ST. LEONARDS resisted—

There had been no petitions against it, because it was not of a nature to draw down immediate opposition, and because it was not understood. He pledged his credit that, should the bill come into operation, no man could live without his legal adviser at his elbow. This was no party question. (Ironical cheers from the Ministerial side.) He charged the Government with having created the necessity for this coercive bill. Stating that it was conceded on his side of the House that real estate ought to be put upon the same footing as personal, he proceeded to argue against the imposing a duty on settled property, which Mr. Pitt had never ventured to tax in times of war, and which had always been regarded by the law with favour, and as sacred. He demanded what was the difference between a fund in possession and one in reversion, insisting that for the purposes of the bill they were the same thing, being equally a man's own property. Complaining of the mode in which children would be taxed, and also of the way in which the bill would affect Scotch entails, he gave notice of an amendment to the effect that where a tenant for life should have paid a higher duty than 1 per cent., persons of his family should, on succeeding, pay 1 per cent. only; and of another amendment, to the effect that if a man made a settlement on the marriage of his children, no death in the settler's lifetime should render the property subject to duty. In reference to this latter point he made a pathetic appeal to their lordships' recollection of how many desirable marriages had been delayed by the consideration whether a young couple would be able to meet their future expenses, and he denounced the interference of the taxgatherer with such a young couple's marriage settlement. No man, he went on to urge, would be able to make any disposition of real or personal property without its becoming matter of observation to Government. Every encumbrance ever created would at once become open to the tax-gatherer. After animadverting upon the operation of the Act on leaseholds, he warned their lordships that the taxgatherer would never have his eye off them in regard to their property. Mentioning some minor amendments which he intended to propose, he declared that his object was to save the people of England from enactments which would bring discomfort to every home. There ought to be no mistake about the bill. No man would, after it had passed, go out of that House without having prospectively a mortgage on his property in favour of the Government.

The LORD CHANCELLOR remarked, that the majority of Lord St. Leonards' observations were upon details which might be discussed in committee; but he felt it his duty to notice the gross exaggerations and extraordinary colouring of the preceding speech. What more could be hoped for any tax than that it should not be unpopular? The real feeling of the opponents of this bill was that it was understood in the country, which comprehended that the great landed proprietors ought to be put in the same category with the people. There were but two principles in the bill—namely, that legacy duty, hitherto paid by personality only, should also be paid by reality, and that the duty hitherto paid only on death in possession should be so arranged that no person should be able to withdraw himself, by means of settlement instead of will, from the burdens of payment due to the State. These principles being recognised, there was no reason why the House should not go into committee. Meeting Lord St. Leonards' detailed objections, he observed, that the rates chargeable on children were not unjust, and that they were not even so heavy as what were charged on personal estate. He replied to the case of Scotch entails, and then, in order to show how small was the reason for harrowing up their Lordships' feelings, he calculated the payments which would be made by a son who, at thirty-nine, should succeed to an estate of 1000*l.* a-year net. He would pay 37*l.* 10*s.* for four years—namely, 7*l.* 10*s.* per annum more than he now would pay for the income-tax, and

after four years would pay no more. Here was the case of hardship and oppression which had been so feelingly described. He ridiculed the bugbear about inspecting title deeds, hoped their lordships would not hesitate about going into committee on a bill in unison with the principles of justice, and which had been received by the other House, and by the country, with so much approbation.

The Earl of WINCHILSEA, had he been present at the moving the second reading, would have divided against it, had he stood alone; and he described the bill as fraught with injustice, litigation, oppression, and cruelty. From the time when the "proud barons" of England had resisted unjust taxation, there had been no such imposition; and "we live in fearful times if the proud barons of England, no longer worthy of their ancestry, submit to bills like this." They had fallen into the hands of harpies. No amendment could ever reconcile him to the principle of this odious and infamous bill.

Their lordships then went into committee on clause 2.

The Earl of DERBY, in moving his first amendment, explained that, though aware of the difficulty existing in the way of their lordships' interference with a money bill, nevertheless there were precedents showing that such difficulty might be got over. That House had upon a former occasion sent down to the other House amendments on a money bill, which the Commons, of course, refused to accept; but, suspending their standing orders, introduced another bill *totidem verbis* with those of the bill from the Lords. He could not consent that the Lords should merely register the money bills of the Commons. He refused to believe that the measure was popular on account of its being an attack upon large landed properties; but he believed that the pressure and the hardship of the bill would fall upon holders of small properties, especially in regard to the legal expenses which would be occasioned, and which would be as vexatious as the tax itself. He then described the second principle stated by the Lord Chancellor as new and unjust, but he urged that if settled and unsettled property, and real and personal estate, were to be placed on an equal footing, at all events the law ought not to be retrospective. To make it so was actually to make a new will for a deceased testator, a course which, even in the case of vested interests in abuses, the Legislature had carefully avoided. But here there was no abuse, but merely a revenue deficiency to be patched up by *ex post facto* legislation. The clauses to which his objections principally applied were clauses 2, 3, 5, 15, and 34. He moved, in the first place, an amendment in clause 2, for the purpose of destroying its retrospective character.

The Earl of ABERDEEN commented upon the course adopted by Lord Derby, in refusing to vote for the rejection of a Bill which he had called the corner-stone of the Government policy, and in proceeding to introduce amendments calculated to destroy its character. Lord Derby professed much regard for small proprietors, but knew perfectly well that settlements were almost exclusively adopted by the owners of large properties.

He stated that in nine cases out of ten the wills of persons in the middle class of life were so made as to subject the property to the incidence of the legacy duty. Therefore the persons for whom the noble earl professed such tenderness were, in point of fact, liable to the legacy duty, in consequence of the disposition they had made of their property, in nine cases out of ten. It was, therefore, true, as the noble earl (the Earl of Winchelsea) who had spoken early in the debate said, a matter which particularly affected the interests of "the bold barons," and, to do them justice, they seemed disposed to act upon the principles which actuated the barons of old in the preservation of their own feudal exemption from the burdens borne by the rest of their fellow-countrymen. It is the object of this bill to bring these bold barons under the same law which is applicable to the rest of the community; and it is in that way alone that the tax can be said to be popular. No tax could be popular in itself, but a sense of justice might render its principles popular when it was seen to be equally applied.

His short answer to Lord Derby was, that his amendment would overthrow the whole structure of the tax, by postponing its operation. Nothing like this course had been taken since the other House had asserted its exclusive right of dealing with money bills. He denied the justice of Lord Derby's objection to the measure, and in reference to the remark that the Government had created the necessity for the tax, demanded why, if it had been thought so oppressive, had Lord Derby permitted the remission of the duties which supplied its place? Probably Lord Derby had thought it would be a less popular course to oppose the repeal of the former duty than the imposition of a new one. In answer to a remark of Lord Aberdeen's, that the late Government had contemplated some such tax, Lord DERBY struck in, and denied that any such scheme had

ever been mooted in his Cabinet, or in any way come under the consideration of the late Government.

The Earl of ABERDEEN read extracts from a speech of Mr. Disraeli's to prove that the subject had avowedly been considered, and then proceeded to controvert the "extravagant" statements of Lord Derby as to the operation of this tax on Scotch entails. He then remarked that this amendment was designed to do in committee what, for reasons best known to themselves, noble lords opposite had not chosen to do on the second reading, and, so regarding it, he opposed it.

The Earl of HARDWICKE supported the amendment, and (having apparently not heard Lord Winchelsea's speech) was especially indignant with Lord Aberdeen for his "sneer" at the "bold barons"—"dangerous words, and not likely to be forgotten."

Earl GRANVILLE, the Duke of ARGYLL, and the Marquis of LANSDOWNE, defended the bill, and argued that it would strengthen the landed interest, by placing them on a footing with their fellow-subjects.

The committee divided, and the numbers were—

For the amendment 68

Against it 102

Majority for Government 34

The clause, and the remaining clauses, were agreed to; and the House adjourned.

The third reading took place on Thursday night. Lord ST. LEONARDS moved several amendments, by way of recording points of protest against the Bill. They were negatived, without a division, and the Bill passed.

THE CONVERSION SCHEME.

A debate on Mr. Gladstone's plan for the conversion of the South Sea, and other stocks, commenced on Thursday evening. Mr. GLADSTONE formally moved three resolutions: the first of which was to provide out of the Consolidated Fund for paying off such holders of South Sea Annuities, Bank Annuities of 1726, and Three per Cent. Annuities of 1751, as should not have signified their willingness to commute under the Act of the present session, c. 23. The second was to enable the South Sea Company to commute certain shares standing in the names of the Chancery and Bankruptcy officials and others, and to convert them into other stock under the said Act. And the third resolution was to enable the South Sea Company to commute any part of the annuity or interest payable in respect of such further amount of their capital as might be authorized by Parliament to be invested as a guarantee fund for the administration of private trusts, should Parliament authorize them to undertake such administration. Mr. Gladstone briefly explained the meaning of the resolution. The first authorizes Government to pay off those who have not accepted the commutation offered to them. The second extends the time for option of commutations as regards that portion of South Sea Stock held by the Accountant-General in Chancery and Bankruptcy, or by joint trustees who have not had the option of such commutation, owing to having no right to vote on the question of option decided by the other holders. And as the South Sea Company are about to become trustees for private parties, it is better that they should be allowed thus to re-invest this money than to have two millions and a-half thrown on the money market in January next. As it is uncertain at what time the new commutations may take place, the terms are to be arranged by the Government itself.

Mr. DISRAELI, having objected that the new resolutions came by surprise on the committee, proceeded to criticise the Government plan. He refused to give the Government leave to proceed with an experiment that had been a complete failure: nor was there a chance of this additional proposition being more successful.

Mr. Gladstone has introduced a novel element into consideration. First, he has extended the area of commutation by introducing new stock, and then he has done that which the committee should ponder well before sanctioning—he has proposed that power should be granted to the Government, which is very unusual if not unprecedented, of concluding at their own discretion the terms on which the financial operation should take place. If the proposition of the Government on this subject had been successful—if they had shown such an acquaintance with the money market, and such a mastery of the phenomena with which they had to deal, that they had a right to appeal to the confidence of the House, as a matter of principle we still should hesitate to confide to any Government so great a degree of power, the possession of which is not at all necessary. But I have a right to consider whether the antecedents of the Government are such as to entitle them to the confidence which they claimed. Mr. Gladstone or his colleagues cannot prefer any claim for this unusual confidence on the score of the success of their financial operation. The manner in which they formed their judgment on this important subject of a commutation of the public funds is not one which they can look back to themselves with unlimited or unalloyed satisfaction or self-gratulation. The project, when first brought before the House, was of very large dimensions. Before any discussion could take place upon it, it was greatly altered and modified. The limitations which were proposed to the

various kinds of stock brought under consideration varied from day to day. The subject, the question, the measure, were hurried through the House, because, they were told, such was the eagerness to accept the commutation that the House must waive their right of criticism. (The Chancellor of the Exchequer made a gesture of dissent.) I appeal to the House whether that was not the conclusion to be arrived at, and I confess I am rather surprised at the interruption of the right honourable gentleman, when he recalled to the House the fact that no discussion upon that important measure ever took place on those occasions on which discussions usually occurred, namely, on the second and third readings of the Bill. When the right honourable gentleman interrupted me I was pressing on the committee two points—first, that it is most unwise to extend to any Minister the power of entering at his discretion into bargains of this kind; and, secondly, I think I am only fulfilling my duty in reminding the committee—I trust not in language which is offensive—that the antecedents of the Government are not such as should make their case an exception to the rule which I have ventured to impress upon their attention. I think we ought to resist the granting of such a discretionary power to any Government. And why is it to be granted? The right honourable gentleman made a proposition of financial commutation, and brought in a measure which has not succeeded. It appears to me the wisest course would be to conclude and close that business as soon as possible. These persons must be paid, and must be paid in money. Let the House know the cost of the transaction. Let them see that, instead of a very moderate saving of 25,000*l.* a year, there will be a certain loss. Let them know what that loss will be, and then we shall be better acquainted with the state of the public finances. But because the Government has brought forward and carried a measure which has turned out, as they were warned it would, perfectly illusory and inefficient, it appears to me most unwise at the end of the session to be patching up that scheme, entering into new speculations, founded on the same erroneous and imperfect data, and asking the House to grant a power to the Administration which must leave the public finances, when Parliament was prorogued, in a state of uncertainty and doubt."

The first resolution was agreed to, and discussion on the second ensued, and continued, until four o'clock interrupted the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the commencement of a reply.

In the House of Commons, in a morning sitting yesterday, which was occupied in unusually important business, Mr. GLADSTONE delivered himself of an elaborate answer to the criticisms spoken the previous day by Mr. Disraeli and Sir F. Kelly, upon his scheme for the conversion of stock. In the first place he denied *in toto* the assertions of those gentlemen that in his new set of resolutions he was proposing to offer to the holders of South Sea Stock any better terms than he proffered under the original plan, and which they had declined; and he further denied that he was now contemplating the giving himself any advantage by securing an unlimited period for carrying out the negotiations. He stated that he simply proposed to empower the Treasury to offer to those holders of South Sea Stock who were disqualified by the existing law from accepting the option held out to other holders, the same identical terms which those persons had so far thought right to decline. He confessed that he was disappointed in his scheme; he had not calculated on so small an amount of stock being commuted; but he accounted for the partial failure in various ways—to the delay which had occurred in passing the plan through the House; and to the political disturbances, occasioning financial suspense in Europe. To a great extent he contended that he had succeeded. Several small stocks had been commuted to the advantage of the Exchequer, and had laid the foundation of a financial operation, which was only commencing, so that decisive criticism was inappropriate, likely to be both profitable and convenient. These are the points of an elaborate statement, of a defensive character, which was warmly received, and made a distinctly favourable personal impression.

Sir F. KELLY continued the discussion by proposing a clause restraining trustees from converting trust property without the concurrence of those who were beneficially interested. His object was to remedy an evil already committed, and to prevent its increase.

After various opinions had been offered,

Mr. J. B. SMITH and Sir H. WILLOUGHBY opposed the new course proposed to be taken to "bolster" his failure, by Mr. Gladstone.

Mr. GLYN defended the scheme in its entirety, and acquitted Mr. Gladstone of "failure."

Mr. DISRAELI (after much incidental discussion had taken place) briefly replied to Mr. Gladstone, and protested against the explanation—"European disturbances"—of the "failure," which he said had been fully predicted by himself and others long before these disturbances had been threatened; and he attributed the failure precisely to those circumstances which he had stated at the outset.

The second resolution was carried—testing the success of Mr. Gladstone's defence—by 117 to 67.

The further proceeding in the matter, after this stop, was adjourned to Monday.

THE CAB STRIKE.

Mr. Fitzroy's Bill gave occasion for an interesting colloquy in the House of Commons on Wednesday—the day of the strike.

Sir R. INGLIS: "Seeing the honourable gentleman the Under Secretary of State for the Home Department in his place, and being aware, in common with other honourable members, of the fact, that in consequence of, or at least following, his bill, there has not been a single cab to be found upon any stand in London this day—(laughter)—and feeling that the bill to which I refer is the only one within my memory in which arbitrarily, and without inquiry by a select committee, a rate of price has been affixed to a given scale of goods, and believing that this is contrary to all principles of political economy, and also believing that a committee of this House should have been appointed to consider the price to be paid for a given set of goods, I ask my honourable friend whether he is not at last prepared to adopt the suggestion repeatedly made to him during the progress of his bill through the House, and to consent to the appointment of a select committee to consider the state of the trade with which that bill deals?"

Mr. WALPOLE: "Before the honourable gentleman answers the question of the honourable baronet (Sir R. Inglis), I wish to put another question to him on the same subject. I understand that the great ground of complaint on the part of the proprietors of hackney carriages is the great hardship pressing upon them, inasmuch as they cannot charge return fares. I remember pointing this out to my honourable friend when the bill was before the House; and the question I wish to add to that of the honourable baronet is, whether my honourable friend the Under Secretary for the Home Department will be prepared to amend the bill in this respect?"

Mr. FITZROY:—In reply to the questions which have been put to me, I beg to state, in answer to the inquiry of the honourable baronet the member for Oxford University, that the principle of arbitrarily fixing the sum to be charged per mile for conveyance by hackney carriages is certainly not new to this bill. On various considerations of the different compensations made to the owners of cabs, in the shape of lower charges for licenses, and taking also into account the reduced cost of materials generally, and of provender for several years past, it certainly did appear to me, after the closest calculations, and the estimates laid before me by the representatives of the trade, that 6d. per mile would be amply remunerative within certain limits of this metropolis. (Hear, hear.) With respect to that estimate, I must say, that I have seen no reason whatever to change my opinion. (Hear, hear.) I have taken every opportunity to ascertain the opinions of the drivers and proprietors of cabs with respect to the probability of this change working beneficially for their own interests and those of the public, and, with hardly an exception, they have told me, that within the crowded parts of the metropolis a charge of 6d. a mile would be amply remunerative. (Hear, hear.) It is quite true, that the only tangible objection to the bill is that pointed out by the right honourable gentleman (Mr. Walpole); and with respect to that portion of the bill I shall state to the House what has taken place. On Monday last I received a deputation of two persons from the body of cab proprietors, the one being the secretary of the body, and the other a large cab proprietor, with whom I had been in constant communication during the passing of this bill. They waited upon me to state their grievances; and after I had asked them to be good enough to tell me what their grievances were, the only grievance they complained of was that which has been referred to by the right hon. gentleman. I stated to them that I was aware that the license to use hackney carriages given by the Bill had certainly been abused—that it has in many instances been worked to its greatest possible limit, and that persons have taken cabs to a great distance, quite six miles into the country, and then discharged them without the payment of any return fare. I stated that I would do everything in my power to find a remedy, but at the same time I told them that it would be impossible to revert to the old principle of back fare, as that would inflict a hardship upon those persons who happen to live just outside the radius prescribed for the payment of back fare. (Hear, hear.) I told them that it would be impossible for them to imagine that I could propose to Parliament to return to the former system in this respect. They admitted themselves that this practice had always been a fruitful source of annoyance to themselves and the public, and had given rise to endless disputes, and they expressed their desire that some remedy should be found in another shape. I told them that I would endeavour, in the course of the present session, to introduce a clause into another bill on the paper, to give them a certain increase of fare after being hired for a certain time and beyond a certain radius, in order to afford them as speedy relief as possible. I have been in communication with my right hon. friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer to introduce some clause to this effect in a bill now on the paper; and failing that, I told him that I would be prepared to introduce a special bill for the purpose. It must be obvious, however, that I am placed in a worse position for effecting this arrangement by the foolish step which has been taken by the cab proprietors this morning. (Hear.) I told the deputation who waited upon me on Monday that I would introduce such a clause as I have now mentioned, and they said they were going to attend a meeting of the trade that evening, when they would communicate my answer. I shall be prepared to introduce that remedy, and to propose a clause providing, for instance, that if you hire a cab, and discharge it at a distance exceeding four miles from the place where it was hired, and without that radius, you shall give an extra sum for the whole hiring. I think it also desirable that a change should be made in the bill with respect to the distance which the drivers shall be required to go, and that they shall not be compellable to go beyond five miles from the General Post-Office, instead of six miles as provided by the new act. I am prepared to submit these two

alterations to the House, and with these arrangements I believe the trade ought to be, and will be, satisfied. All I can say is, that before the strike was contemplated I put these propositions before the deputation, and therefore I am sorry and annoyed at what has since taken place, because, as I have said, it places me in a worse position for obtaining a remedy for them."

Mr. B. DENISON inquired whether the honourable gentleman intended to put himself immediately in communication with the owners of cabs, as it was desirable that no time should be lost in putting an end to the inconvenience caused to the public. Mr. FITZROY said he would be quite willing to put himself in communication with the cab proprietors, but he felt that he could not tell them any more than he had now communicated to the House. He did not know of any means by which he could meet the body, but he could communicate with the secretary, who was, however, already in possession of his views. The subject then dropped.

On Thursday, one clause was added to the new Cab Act. It allows the cabman sixpence (for the whole hiring) for each person above two.

Lord D. STUART having, last night, recalled attention to the case of the cabman sent to prison by Mr. Henry because he could not deposit the bail of 5s., Lord PALMERSTON reappeared in his character of reckless defender of all erring functionaries in the Home Administration, and vindicated Mr. Henry.

JAMAICA.—In the sitting, last night, Lord J. Russell intimated that on Monday he would declare Government intentions with regard to Jamaica.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—In the House of Lords last evening the Earl of ABERDEEN, in reply to Lord Brougham, said it was with great regret he had to inform his noble and learned friend that it was utterly impossible to proceed this session with the Education Bill.

ELECTIONS BILL.—Lord BROUGHAM, in moving the second reading of this bill, the object of which was to provide that the writs of election should be sent direct to the sheriff, and to reduce the time at present required between the receipt of the writ and the close of the election, took the opportunity of urging upon the Government the necessity of introducing in the next session some large measure of Parliamentary reform which would have the effect of improving the character of the constituent bodies of the country, and consequently of elevating the character of the representatives in Parliament. Some of the most important amendments in the electoral law had originated in the Lords, and he felt, therefore, that he was not out of place in pressing the matter on the attention of the Government in that House, though he was ready to admit that the power of their lordships in this respect was one which should be employed as sparingly as possible. The bill was then read a second time.

ENTRY OF SEAMEN BILL.—With some explanation from Sir JAMES GRAHAM, and some talk about corporal punishment, this bill passed through committee at a morning sitting, on Monday.

IRISH LAW REFORM.—Lord BROUGHAM moved the second reading of the Courts of Common Law (Ireland) Bill, which, he said, had met with the general approval of the members of the bench and of the bar in Ireland. The Lord Chancellor concurred in the opinion that this bill would be of immense benefit to Ireland. He also thought that it was the duty of the House to pass as many as possible of the bills which were founded on the recommendations of the Common Law Commissioners, but there were some points which could not be properly matured unless he and the judges had the opportunity of considering them during the long vacation. The bill was read a second time.

PUBLIC BUSINESS.—After Monday next, orders of the day will have precedence of notices of motion on Tuesdays. Mr. DISRAELI did not oppose this when moved by Lord JOHN RUSSELL; but he trusted that Government would give a day, should anything momentous happen in foreign affairs.

"COUNT OUT."—On Tuesday evening, the House was counted out just after six—thirty-eight Members only being present. The cause of this proceeding was Mr. PELLATT, who had come down resolutely to move a bill to abolish pauper removal!

CLITHEROE ELECTION COMMITTEE.—Mr. Aspinall has been declared not duly elected, "illegal expenditure" having been proved.

OUR STATESMEN AT THE CITY FEAST.

THE Lord Mayor made a feast, on Saturday, and called thereto her Majesty's Ministers, and other men of rank and note. The French Ambassador and his wife, the Duchess of Sutherland, and the leading dignitaries of the Bank of England, were also among the company.

The speeches made had, on some points, a timely interest. Lord Aberdeen, who modestly disclaimed any special Ministerial ability for himself, made a brief reference to the question of the day:—

"I will say one word, and but a word, on a subject which now much engrosses public attention. I say that the policy—the essential policy of her Majesty's Government—is a policy of peace (loud and prolonged cheers), and I have no doubt my distinguished friend whom I have in my eye [we understood the allusion to be to the French ambassador] will cordially re-echo that sentiment. I do not think that the question of peace can be a matter of indifference to this great centre of industry and commerce, and I can assure you that no efforts on our part will be wanting, consistent with the honour and real interests of this

country, to secure a continuance of that first of earthly blessings." (Loud cheers.)

Count Walewski fully responded to these sentiments. He spoke warmly of "the cordiality between France and England" as "a happy result, which ought to be hailed with joy by all, for, above all things, it assures the peace of Europe for the future, and even at the present moment. (Loud cheers.) I hope that very shortly facts will occur to sanction that assertion." (Applause.)

After the Lord Chancellor and Lord Granville had made some pleasing but common-place speeches, Lord John Russell spoke for the House of Commons. He referred to the affirmation and prosecution of the Free-trade policy as a signal mark of the wisdom of the House, and to the late regulation of taxation as considerate and judicious:—

"There is, however, one observation which I must make with regard to the House of Commons, which I am sure will be felt in this place, and felt by those whom I am proud to call my constituents of the City of London; and that is, that in revising the taxes—in searching whether there are any taxes that can be considered oppressive—in examining where relief can be granted—and in endeavouring to relieve the people at large from those duties which bore heavily upon articles of the first necessity—articles which, it is admitted on all sound principles, are not the proper subjects of fiscal burdens—we have so endeavoured to arrange the revenues of the country that the public credit shall be inviolably maintained—we have taken care, in the repeal and reduction of taxes, to provide by other arrangements of the revenue, that the public creditor shall still be duly paid, that the great services of the country shall receive full support, and that the public income shall be fully equal to all demands that may be made upon it. In doing this, I hold that we have performed a solemn duty."

The next speech of interest was that by Lord Palmerston:—

"As my present office places me more than that which I formerly held in connexion with my countrymen, it is the more a matter of gratification to me if I do in the smallest degree deserve the commendation which the Lord Mayor has been pleased to bestow upon me as the willing and hardworking horse. (Laughter.) That quality, however, is likely to have little scope as far as the City of London is concerned, for there cannot be a body of men more willing or more capable of co-operating with her Majesty's Government than the magistrates of London. I have recently had a remarkable instance of this, in which I may venture to say that the corporation of the City of London, acting in the true spirit of the Constitution, which leads to constant and progressive improvement, and carefully to build on the ancient and stable foundations, has concurred with her Majesty's Government in the appointment of a commission, not to overturn the constitution of the city, but to inquire whether, in the lapse of time and the change of circumstances, anything may be required to be modified and improved. The readiness evinced by the City of London to agree to this commission has, I trust, been met in the same spirit by her Majesty's Government; and the men who have been named on that commission will merit, I hope, the confidence of the City of London, at the same time that they will not disappoint the expectations that are entertained of their labours. (Cheers.) Perhaps, my Lord, in return for the honour you have conferred upon me, I may do that which is often done in similar cases—namely, when an obligation is conferred, to take a liberty in return. (Laughter.) I am about to propose the health of a body of men who are members of the House of Commons. It may be said, indeed, that a whole contains every part, and that as we have already drunk to the House of Commons, so we have included every member of that House; but, however, I am about to ask you to make an exception to that logical sequence, and I ask you to select as the subject of a separate toast the metropolitan members of the House of Commons. (Cheers.) They are none of them inferior to other members of Parliament in their talents, in their assiduity, and in their personal character; and there is one of them who has distinguished himself in an eminent degree, by his noble and generous advocacy of the cause of the oppressed foreigner—I speak of my noble friend, Lord Dudley Stuart. (Cheers.) I own, my Lord, I am not altogether disinterested in proposing this toast, because I hope to obtain the assistance of the metropolitan members in carrying out improvements, not on the institutions of the metropolis, but on the metropolis itself. When that distinguished and gifted artist Canova came to this country, he was struck with admiration at the conveniences of the city, at the breadth of its footways, the comforts of the houses, and the security for life and property; and he said, with that hyperbole which is peculiar to southern climes, if London were only whitened, it would be an earthly paradise. (Cheers and laughter.) So our great poet (Pope), writing in the last century, has told us (speaking of the Thames) that its translucent wave shone like a broad mirror. That mirror has since been darkened; and if it casts a reflection on anything, it is a reflection upon those who have suffered its waters to be so polluted. (Great laughter and cheering.) I hope the metropolitan members will aid me in transforming the Thames from its present state of liquid mud, and of restoring its fair translucent wave. I am satisfied, if their aid is given us, that we shall render this city not only one of the greatest commercial, but one of the healthiest and most agreeable residences of any civilized community. (Cheers.) I beg to propose, 'Lord Dudley Stuart and the Metropolitan Members.'" (Cheers.)

The other toasts of the evening were disposed of with the usual enthusiasm and the usual amount of complimentary responses.

CHRONICLES OF CHOBHAM.

THE energy of the commanders in exercising the troops, and the interest of the people in the whole experiment, seem unabated.

On Saturday, great crowds came from town to see the manœuvres. The evolutions were novel and well done. The supposed enemy occupied a strong position, somewhat similar to the centre of the allied forces at Waterloo, having Colonel Challoner's extensive plantation in their rear. They were dislodged from this position and driven through the woods, whence, obtaining some fresh accession of strength, they ultimately drove back the attacking force, whose retreat was covered by brilliant charges of cavalry.

The retreat and fighting in the wood was an exceedingly interesting and animating sight for those who had the courage to enter the plantation in the ranks of the enemy. As they retired before the advancing brigade of Guards and the 35th, every hedge-row and ditch was gallantly contested, the defenders lying down concealed, taking steady aim at the advancing forces, and affording no opportunity for being picked off by the other side. Still, however, in overwhelming numbers the resistless brigade of Guards pushed on till they arrived at a thickly-wooded fir plantation, where their red uniforms and tall bearskins, ill concealed by the bare fir poles, made them excellent marks for the enemy, who now secure in the tall ferns of an open space, skirted by the plantation, kept up a steady and destructive fire. At length the open space was reached by the Grenadiers, who, forming in line at its uppermost verge, poured tremendous volleys into the retiring foe. The artillery was brought up as near as possible to the edge of the wood, and to the loud and long reverberations of the musketry was added the deafening thunders of the well-served cannon, while, through the dense smoke that enveloped the wood, the lightning flashes of two thousand muskets revealed the long martial front or the scattered files of the camp forces. At length the firing slackened, and as the white wreathing smoke ascended as a curtain, the enemy were seen advancing, and the forces, apparently so irresistible but a moment before, were scattered, and rapidly retracing their steps before the foe.

On Monday and Tuesday, the troops rested.

The manœuvres, on Wednesday, had a classic ground for their performance. Runnymede "saw another sight" than that of John and his barons. Close by Magna Charta Island, near a bend of the Thames, and in the park of Felix Prior, Esq., were concealed a body of those "enemies," whose bold deeds at Chobham have lately been so frequently recorded. These were dislodged from their position by the Chobham division of the British army, which crossed the river upon a pontoon bridge, and having gained a complete victory, marched along the north bank of the Thames, across Staines-bridge, and returned in martial order to their encampment. The attack was well conducted. The attacking party moved in three divisions. With the exception of the 79th Highlanders, the whole of Colonel Lockyer's brigade bivouacked in the fields as a reserve force; the cavalry also dismounted and rested their horses till occasion required their services. The appearance of Sir R. England's brigade, as it debouched from the woods on the top of the hill, and formed in the open fields on the slope, was grand and imposing, and attracted, as was expected, the attention of the enemy, who supposed that the whole of the forces were about to occupy that position and to make an attack on their right. As soon as the light brigade had formed, the heavy batteries emerged from the wood, and firing over the heads of the infantry, made a strong demonstration on this part of the enemy's forces. This attack was followed up by the light companies extending their front and pressing on as skirmishers of the main body. While, however, this was going on, the enemy—whose experience of Lord Seaton's tactics ought to have taught him better—concentrating his whole attention upon his right, and wasting his energies upon a force which was out of his range, allowed the 79th Highlanders to be pulled over the river in "punts," and permitted the Sappers to proceed with the construction of a pontoon bridge over a narrow bend of the river, of about one hundred feet in breadth, without firing a gun. Too late the enemy discovered his fatal mistake, and the first intimation of this altered state of things was made in the shape of the advance of the gallant Highlanders, who unexpectedly poured in a tremendous fire upon his right flank. Staggered, but not defeated, the enemy sternly rallied, and abandoning the ground on the right, boldly and resolutely attacked the 79th, who fell back to cover the passage of the river, which was also protected by the Artillery on the opposite bank. Big with the idea of driving the Highlanders into the river, the enemy pressed on as if to assured victory. Suddenly, and at

first apparently without cause, the enemy halted in his career; a moment after, however, as the heads of the advancing column of the Grenadiers was seen emerging through the woods on the bank of the river, light dawned upon the hapless foe—he was completely entrapped, and the retreat of the Highlanders was but the snare which drew them to their fate. Still pressed on over the pontoon bridge the dreaded battalions of the Guards, who, as they deployed into line on the open space, poured in volley after volley on the all but discomfited Sappers and Fusiliers. Driven from one position to another, they at last endeavoured to make a stand on the side of a ditch. Some batteries of artillery which had by this time crossed the river, were brought into play, and the enemy was ultimately driven into the shelter of the orchard, where they surrendered at discretion.

THE FLEET.

THERE seems to be now some authority attached to the report of her Majesty's intention to review the fleet at Spithead, and the 2nd of August is the day at present fixed upon; but the day will of course depend upon divers circumstances, such as the state of the weather, the Queen's health, and "foreign affairs." Certain it is that the *Duke of Wellington* was recalled to Spithead to form the principal feature in the display, and the following, we believe, will be the force collected for the purpose:—

Names.	Guns.	Class.	Where at present lying.
Duke of Wellington	131	Screw three-decker	Cruising in the Channel.
Neptune	121	Sailing three-decker	Portsmouth-harbour.
Waterloo	120	Ditto	Sheerness.
Queen	116	Ditto	Plymouth.
St. Jean D'Acre	101	Screw two-decker	Devonport.
Agamemnon	91	Ditto	Portsmouth.
Prince Regent	90	Sailing two-decker	Spithead.
London	90	Ditto	Spithead.
Blenheim	60	Screw two-decker	Kingstown.
Hogue	60	Ditto	Spithead.
Edinburgh	58	Ditto	Spithead.
Ajax	58	Ditto	Spithead.
Impérieuse	50	Screw-frigate	Spithead.
Arrogant	46	Ditto	Spithead.
Sybilie	40	Sailing-frigate	Plymouth.
Amphion	34	Screw-frigate	Spithead.
Tribune	30	Ditto	Sheerness.
Sidon	22	Paddle-frigate	Spithead.
Highflyer	21	Screw-frigate	Spithead.
Terrible	21	Paddle-frigate	Spithead.
Odin	16	Ditto	Spithead.
Encounter	14	Screw-corvette	In search of the Duke of Wellington.
Leopard	12	Paddle-frigate	Spithead.
Desperate	8	Screw-corvette	Portsmouth.
Barracouta	6	Paddle-sloop	Sheerness.
Vesuvius	6	Ditto	Spithead.
Banshee	2	Express-boat	Spithead.

The *Blenheim* was to leave Kingstown for Spithead on the 26th, and all other ships and vessels on the home station, in the above list, or not included, but which are ordered to join the Spithead fleet, are to be at their anchorage by the 2nd of August.

The above is a more powerful fleet in character than ever assembled at this station, and no review of any such force has ever been made by royalty since the visit of the Allied Sovereigns to Portsmouth, on which occasion the Prince Regent reviewed the fleet at Spithead (on the 23rd of June, 1814), in their presence:—The ships of the line were moored in one line from the N.E. to the S.E. end of Spithead, thus:—*Sceptre*, 74; *St. Domingo*, 80; *Bedford*, 74; *Rodney*, 74; *Chatham*, 74; *Ville de Paris*, 110; *Impregnable*, 98; *Prince*, 98; *Tigre*, 74; *Queen*, 74; *Magnificent*, 74; *Stirling Castle*, 74; *Montagu*, 74; *Norge*, 74; and the following frigates and sloops:—*Andromache*, *Ackbar*, *Apollo*, *Galatea*, *Ceres*, *Belle Poule*, *Cerberus*, *Cleopatra*, *Magicienne*, *Tartarus*, *Amphion*, *Tisiphone*, *Foxhound*, *Banterer*, *Tyrian*, *Orestes*, *Archer*, *Eclipse*, *Bittern*, *Hope*, *Penguin*, *Chanticleer*, *Martial*, *Urgent*, *Harrier*, *Snap*, *Reynard*, *Sparrow*, *Freya*, and *Fervent*. The *Impregnable* carried the Royal standard of England, as that was the ship on board which the Prince Regent and his foreign allies took up their position on the interesting occasion. The *Ville de Paris* carried the flag of the Lord High Admiral. The *Chatham* carried the flag (union at the main) of the Duke of Clarence as Admiral of the fleet for the occasion, Rear-Admiral the Hon. H. Blackwood acting as captain of the fleet, and Rear-Admiral Lukin acting as the captain of the ship. The *Prince* carried the flag of Admiral Sir R. Bickerton, Bart. The *Rodney* carried the flag of Vice-Admiral G. Martin. The *Tigre* carried the flag of Rear-Admiral T. B. Martin, now Sir T. B. Martin, Admiral of the Fleet, and Vice-Admiral of the United Kingdom; and the *Queen* carried the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir T. Lafoney, Bart. The Allied Sovereigns (the Prince Regent, the Emperor of Russia, and the King of Prussia) and their illustrious suites, including the Duke of Wellington, Blucher, and the other heroes of that

memorable era, proceeded in barges to the westernmost ship of the line, and reviewed the whole up to the flag-ship. The majestic appearance of the ships of the line, the first-rates especially, was at once the admiration and wonder of the Allied Sovereigns.

The fleet at Spithead seems to engage as much attention from foreigners of distinction as does the camp at Chobham. It has been visited lately by the following distinguished personages:—Prince di Carini, the Neapolitan Ambassador, and suite; General the Count de Montebello, General of Brigade and Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor of the French; General Ozaroff, Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor of Russia, and staff; Count Bernstorff and Baron Brandenstern, from Berlin; Commandant le Comte Reille, Colonel on the staff of the Emperor of the French; Don Argel Villaboia, from Spain; Colonel Laurencez; Lady Langdale and party; M. de Kleuze, Chamberlain to the King of Bavaria; Count Perponser and party, Count Euzenbarg and party, M. Wasserburger, Captain Salvador, and Lieutenants Tole and Youzon, of the Swedish navy.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER LXXXIII.

Paris, Thursday Evening, July 28, 1853.

THE great event of this week has been the decision of the Court of Cassation upon the affair of the *Foreign Correspondents*. Their decision quashes the judgment of the Court of Appeal, and completely nullifies the claim of the Government to violate the secrecy of letters entrusted to the Post. This has been the talk of all Paris. No one expected such an act of firmness from the Supreme Court—the public no more than the Government. The former is delighted to see the Government kicked by Justice; the latter is proportionately vexed at what it naturally conceives to be a check to its pretensions, a diminution of the arbitrary powers it had insolently arrogated. Let me give you the text of this memorable decision.

"The Court of Cassation, considering that Art. 88 of the Code of Criminal Instruction, set forth in the sentence of the Imperial Court, confers upon the *juge d'instruction*, and on him alone, the right of seizing letters at the post: that it confers this right upon the said *juge d'instruction* only in the case of misdemeanour (*délit*), and of such offence being proved: that, consequently, the Prefect of Police, a magistrate dependent on the Government, and removable at pleasure, has no right to execute such seizure: that even if he had the right to seize, he ought only to have done so in the case of offence proved: that in the present case there was no offence proved before the opening of the letters seized: that the accused had been condemned on the proofs resulting from the letters seized and opened: that these proofs could not be produced: quashes and annuls the sentence of the Imperial Court: orders restitution of fines, and refers the case to an Imperial Court, which will be ulteriorly designed."

The Government, however, will not allow itself to be stultified in this way; it will prosecute further. It is already reported that the Court of Amiens has been fixed upon for this purpose. The affair of the *complot rouge* as it is called, has ended in a condemnation. Felix Pyat, Caussidiere, Boichot, Avril, are sentenced, in their absence, to ten years' imprisonment, and six thousand francs fine. The poor old woman who figured in the trial on the charge of having distributed seditious writings, is sentenced to six months' imprisonment and 100 francs fine. It was Jules Favre who conducted the defence, and he did so with all his peculiar *verve* and irony. "The law officers," he said, "have made of this widow, Libersalle, a principal agent of the *Commune républicaine*—they pretend that the members of the society have been in the habit of meeting at her house, and that she has co-operated in an active distribution of these 'Letters to the French People.' Now, if we believe the indictment, there is a party conspiring against the Government. What party is there so abandoned by Gods and men as to establish its headquarters at an old fruit-woman's? This really is too much of a joke. This old woman is a respectable mother of a family—a woman full of devotedness to her duties, but who has never mixed in politics. Monsieur l'Avocat Impérial has tried to make out of this poor old soul of sixty the Jeanne d'Arc of the *Commune révolutionnaire*; but, as the certificates of respectable persons of her neighbourhood, who have known her for twenty years, will assure you, she is simply a fruit-woman, who has never ceased to be '*la fruitière la plus fruitière du monde*.'"

The affair of the *Opéra Comique* is still undergoing examination. The examining magistrate has renounced his intention of seizing the threads of the vast conspiracy which, he pretends, enfolds all Paris, and has thrown himself upon the provinces. Divers persons have been arrested in four or five departments. Two

have been arrested at Melun, and three, viz. one doctor and two lawyers, at Lille. All these persons were brought to Paris by the railway, and lodged in the prison of Mazas. The Government indeed sees nothing but conspirators, secret societies, daggers, bombs, pistols, and infernal machines in every quarter. Three working men, who were walking quietly in the Bois de Boulogne, in a retired alley, were arrested; the terrified imagination of the Bonapartists transmogrified them into three conspirators armed to the teeth. These gentlemen tremble so painfully for the safety of their hero, that it has been decided that Bonaparte shall not go to the South, where the secret societies are more powerful, more formidable, more menacing than ever. As I am on this topic, let me mention that it is pretty well ascertained that the Prince de Joinville lately disclosed to the Government the existence of a plot to assassinate the Emperor. Only, this revelation was not made in the form of a romantic letter to the Empress, as our sportive imaginations described. The Prince simply, and quite prosaically, wrote to Lord Palmerston, who communicated the letter to the French government. This would only corroborate what I have always assured you, that the republicans had nothing to do with the matter. The Orleans family are now reconciled to the Comte de Chambord; it can only have been in their interest that the plot was laid. This reconciliation is as yet only known to a very select number of persons, but the fact is not the less asserted.

The Duc de Nemours is about to start for Germany, and there he will pay a visit to his cousin the Comte de Chambord, at Frohsdorf: on the other hand the latter has positively announced his intention to come to England to visit the ex-queen Amélie, at Claremont. This fusion, so often announced and so often contradicted, will change the face of things in France. The men who for fear of the republic had rallied to Bonaparte, will now turn round and rally to the cause of the "legitimate monarchy." The officers of the army are already being plied in this direction, as you will perceive next month, on the trial called the *Procès de Vincennes*; but now they will be far more vigorously worked upon than ever. Perhaps we may live to see a military conspiracy pull down the very regime which a military conspiracy elected. For the present, however, this regime flourishes more luxuriantly than ever. It is a flaming despotism. The trial of the *Commune révolutionnaire* has revealed a curious fact, which throws full light on our Government. You know, that on the pretext of his accession to the Imperial Throne, Bonaparte, on the 2nd December last, decreed an amnesty for offences of the press. It seems there were a certain number of refugees in London included in that category. Allured by the rose-pink decree, they attempted to return into France, and were repulsed by the gendarmerie, who wrote on their passports, as I hear from actual eyewitnesses, the picturesque word, *Refoulés*! (repulsed). I will cite another fact in illustration of the dominant system. Persigny lately sent again for the chief editors of the journals. "You are aware, gentlemen," he said, "that the Government has granted you authority to speak more freely (*plus largement*) than before: you are at liberty to discuss every question, with the exception of two:—the Russian question, and the crops (*la question des subsistances*). Don't be too Russian, and take care not to spread any alarm about the harvest." The Paris papers have been cautious enough since this warning about opening their lips; but in the provinces the same circumspection has not been observed. Not having been advised of the interdict laid upon discussion of the weather, they have exposed themselves to the "warnings" of the Prefects.

Just now we are in full swing of elections. Who would believe it? They are only municipal elections, to be sure; but it is a remarkable fact about them that nobody votes!

I told you in a former letter that a gentleman had been arrested for table-moving, as a political offence. The Bishop of Rennes was consulted on the subject of these table-movings, which are now an exploded folly here. The Bishop condemns them as *contrary to the faith, and an invention of the Devil*.

The Eastern question has entered upon a new phase here. Bonaparte has lost all patience at last. He begins to understand that Russia only wants to gain time, and he has sent to your Government the project of an ultimatum to be addressed to Russia.

This ultimatum imposes upon Russia the obligation of evacuating the Danubian provinces immediately after the acceptance by Turkey of the Russian conditions; *sine qua*, France and England would make it, without more ado, a question of war with Russia herself. Your Cabinet (so says my informant) less logical than ours, has refused to subscribe to this ultimatum on the terms I have described, and proposes the follow-

ing contradictory nonsense—to represent to the Czar that if he does not evacuate Moldo-Wallachia without delay, France and England will be obliged to—take further measures (*aviser*). This does not satisfy Bonaparte by any means, you may well believe. The Bourse, on the other hand, has just closed with a rise. It is really the old story of *Jean qui pleure, et Jean qui rit*.

By this time the actual reply of the Czar to the proposals of arrangement addressed to him in common by France and England is known. The Czar replies that he never desired, and never intended, nor does he desire or intend, to settle the dispute with any other Power but Turkey, and that he does not recognise in France or England any right to intervene in the question. In fact it was the insolence of this reply which suggested to Bonaparte the project of his ultimatum. Let me add, that the Russians resident in Paris dissemble neither their pride nor their pretensions. "Turkey has been our vassal," say they, "for the last sixty years; she is only kept alive by the breath of the life we vouchsafe to spare to her; if it is our good pleasure to diminish that portion of vitality which we allow her, no power in the world has the right or the might to prevent us."

Consider! consider! great Powers! (*avisez! avisez!*) While you are considering, the enemy acts; he takes, and he keeps.

Russia is intriguing enormously in the Danubian Provinces. She has succeeded in stirring up a revolution in Servia. The reigning prince has been forced to abdicate in favour of his nephew, who was educated in Russia. The first act of the new government has been to suspend the levy of Servian troops which Turkey was summoning to her aid.

The British steamer *Caradoc* has just brought to Marseilles the note of the Turkish Government addressed to the other Governments of Europe. The telegraph assures us (to the rejoicing of the Bourse) that Turkey yields on every point. S.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE following is the Protest of the Turkish Government to which our Paris correspondent alludes. It is addressed to all the European Governments.

"The Sublime Porte has just been officially informed that the Russian army has crossed the Pruth, and that it has entered Moldavia, with the intention of also occupying Wallachia. This movement, effected without its co-operation upon an integral part of its empire, has occasioned it as much sorrow as surprise. It is painful for it to behold the inhabitants of those loyal and peaceful provinces exposed to all the chances of a military occupation. It is difficult for it to reconcile such an act of aggression with the pacific declarations and amicable assurances so often reiterated by the Cabinet of St. Petersburg. It is still more difficult for it not to be astonished at an operation which is an infringement of the principles established in the treaty of 1841.

"The Sublime Porte, in expressing the sentiments which this event has caused it, cannot dispense with setting in their true light some circumstances to which the Ministers of his Imperial Majesty have in vain endeavoured to give a conclusion such as their love of justice and tranquillity made them desire.

"The negotiations which were opened in concert with Prince Menschikoff were restricted at first to the points which offered difficulties relative to the question of the Holy Places, and the differences which were the principal object thereof speedily received a solution of a nature to satisfy all parties interested.

"We have consented, moreover, to the construction of a church and hospital at Jerusalem for the special use of the Russians, so that the concessions demanded in favour of the priests and pilgrims of the same nation have not been refused to either.

"After the happy conclusion of the part of the negotiations which related to the sole ostensible object of the extraordinary mission of Prince Menschikoff, that ambassador hastened to press another demand, which, if it had been admitted by the Government of his Majesty the Sultan, could not have failed being a grave attack on the interests of the empire, and of compromising the sovereign rights which are its ornaments and its supports.

"It has been seen by the official communications which the Sublime Porte has at various times made to the Great Powers, that it does not hesitate to give sufficient assurances capable of dissipating the doubts which led to the discussions relative to the rights, spiritual privileges, and other immunities attached thereto, and which the Greek churches and Greek priests possess, on the part of his Majesty the Sultan. Far from wishing to withdraw any portion of those privileges, or even of restricting the enjoyment consecrated by their utility, his Imperial Majesty makes a glory to confirm them publicly, and, faithful to the maxims of justice and mercy, of placing them safe from all prejudice, by the means of a solemn act bearing his *hatti-cherif*, and which was made known to all friendly Governments. Such being the case, it would be an act of supererogation to encumber this question with a heap of details. It suffices here to demonstrate that, on the one hand, the demand of the Russian ambassador, notwithstanding certain modifications, either in the terms or in the form, remained inadmissible, in consequence of what has just been explained; whilst, on the other hand, it had no real object, in consequence of the solemn guarantees given spontaneously by the Sovereign himself, in face of the whole world. These incontestable facts suffice to relieve

the Sublime Porte from all obligation to excuse itself further on the subject of the religious privileges. It is incontestably evident that the independence of a sovereign State is null, if among its attributes it does not possess that of refusing without offence a demand unauthorized by treaties, and the acceptance of which would at the same time be superfluous as regards its ostensible object, and no less humiliating than hurtful to the High Party declining it.

"Nevertheless, the Sublime Porte in no way desists from its amicable and profoundly sincere desire not only to fulfil all its engagements towards Russia with the most scrupulous exactitude, but, moreover, to give it any new proof of its cordial dispositions compatible with the sacred rights of its sovereignty, and with the honour and fundamental interests of its empire.

"It is always ready to reiterate the assurances promised in the letter dated 4th (16th) June, written in reply to that of his Excellency Count Nesselrode, bearing date 19th May; and it is still disposed, if an arrangement of a nature to satisfy Russia can be arrived at without prejudice to the sacred rights of the Sultan, to send an ambassador extraordinary to St. Petersburg to seek in concert with the Russian Cabinet the means of arriving at that end.

"As regards the passage in the letter of his Excellency Count Nesselrode relative to the eventual invasion of the Ottoman territory, the Sublime Porte has already declared that it cannot accept it; and as that letter, as well as the reply of the Ottoman Ministry, was at once communicated to the Powers that signed the treaty of 1841, it evidently becomes needless to enter into details on so painful a question.

"In consequence of these circumstances, and in virtue of these considerations, the Government of his Majesty had reason to hope that the founded motives which he never ceased to allege to justify the refusal of his consent, the impossibility in which he finds himself of according it, and the sincere desire which at different times he has expressed to see a renewal of the cordial relations between the two High Parties, would be finally appreciated, and that the Court of Russia would return to more equitable sentiments towards it, the Sublime Porte feels the more sorrow in finding itself deceived in this hope, as the eminent qualities of the Emperor of Russia, his known justice and moderation, did not allow it to suppose that his Majesty would be capable of wishing to ground his demands upon other bases than those of reason and common right, as he had but recently given, both to the Sultan himself and to the European Powers, positive assurances of his desire to respect the dignity and maintain the independence of the Ottoman Empire.

"And it is in this state of things that the Sublime Porte has just received the official notice that the Russian troops have crossed the frontier.

"If the Court of Russia persists in founding the demand to consecrate, by a document obligatory towards it, the religious privileges of which it is question on the treaty of Kainardjé, it must be observed that the promise contained in the first part of Art. 7 of that treaty, relative to the protection of the Christian religion and its churches, is a generality; and that degree of importance attributed to it by Russia can scarcely be found in it, still less a speciality in favour of the Greek religion.

"However this may be, if the Sublime Porte omitted to protect the Christian religion and churches, it is then only that it would be time to remind it of its promise by quoting that treaty; and it is no less clear that this new proposition cannot be founded upon that treaty, inasmuch as the privileges and immunities of the Greek religion have been granted (*octroyés*) by the Sublime Porte without the demand or intervention of any one whomsoever. It is, in fact, a point of honour for it to maintain them at present and in the future, and a duty imposed upon it by its system, full of solicitude for its subjects. The firmans which have recently been promulgated, and which confirm the privileges and the immunities of all religions, publicly testify to the firm intentions of the Sublime Porte in this respect, in such manner that without the slightest doubt a foreign intervention is not at all required for the purpose. Only, whereas the Court of Russia, whatever may be the motive, has conceived suspicions with regard to those religious privileges, and as the Greek religion is that of the august Emperor, and of a great portion of his subjects, the Sublime Porte, moved by these considerations, and also from deference to the amicable relations which still exist between the two Powers, does not retire before the resolution of giving sufficient assurances to his subjects. But, if a government contracts, on the rights and privileges which from its own movement it has accorded to the churches and priests of a nation of so many millions of souls submitted to its authority, exclusive obligations with another Government, it would be to share its authority with that Government; it would be nothing less than the annihilation of its own independence.

"The treaties concluded between the Sublime Porte and the Court of Russia, concerning the two principalities, do not authorize in any manner the sending of troops by Russia into these two countries; and the article relating thereto, which is in the *Send of Balta-Liman*, is subordinate to the case of the breaking out of internal disturbances; which is by no means the case in the present instance.

"The fact is that this aggressive proceeding on the part of Russia cannot in principle be considered in any other light than a declaration of war, giving the Sublime Porte the incontestable right of employing military force in return. But the Sublime Porte is far from wishing to push its rights to the extreme. Strong in the justice which regulates its policy towards the Powers, it prefers reserving them in the expectation of a spontaneous return of Russia to a line of action more conformable to its declarations. It is with a view to remove every obstacle to that return that it restricts itself at present to protest against the aggression of which it has such just right to complain. It thinks thereby to offer to the whole world an additional

proof of the moderation of the system it has adopted since the commencement of this affair. It abstains from any hostile act, but it declares that it in no manner consents to the entrance, from time to time, of troops into the provinces of Moldavia and Wallachia, which are integral parts of the Ottoman Empire, regarding them as a house without a master.

"It protests, therefore, formally and openly, against that act; and, in the conviction that the Powers that signed the treaty of 1841 would not give their consent to such an aggression, it has given them an explanation of the circumstances, and meantime maintains an armed attitude for its defence.

"In conclusion, it repeats that his Majesty the Sultan is always desirous of meeting any founded reclamation of the Court of Russia, of which he has already given proof more than once, and is ready to redress any grievance concerning religious affairs of which his Greek subjects might have cause to complain; that that reparation has been made as regards the Holy Places; that that question has been solved to the satisfaction of Russia; and that the Sublime Porte does not hesitate to offer more explicit assurances to confirm the arrangement which has been made to the satisfaction of all parties.

"Constantinople, 2 (14) July, 1853 (8 Chervat, 1296.)"

The ministerial journal of Prussia, in a recent article on the Turkish question, contrasts the passive attitude of the Western powers, content with refuting the notes of Count Nesselrode, with the active and aggressive position of Russia, and expresses a hope that Russia will be content with the immense "moral triumph" she has already gained. "Russia has proved," says the *Zeit*, "that she can do what she will."

The independent Prussian journals, if any can be called independent, have been ordered to be less severe upon Russia, in discussing the Eastern question.

There remains no doubt that both Austria and Prussia, however jealous of their Great Protector, are more afraid than jealous. Their dread of the probable revolutionary consequences of a European war, compels them to make all possible efforts to induce Turkey to yield. It is, therefore, simply ridiculous to talk of a common accord of the two German powers with France and England. Such an accord can only result in the utter humiliation of Turkey, and the absolute triumph of the Czar.

While our Black Sea fleet is fretting at its anchors in Besika Bay, our Baltic fleet is preparing to amuse the Court at Spithead. A more splendid national fête than a naval review by Her Majesty at Spithead, can scarcely be imagined. But we think it right to say, that the Baltic, as well as the Black Sea, may soon demand all the vigilance of Downing-street, and all the resources of the Admiralty.

"Some time ago," says the *Spener Gazette*, of Berlin, "The Russian Government prohibited the exportation of wheat and straw from Finland, and allowed the importation of them. It was at first believed that this measure was taken on account of the bad state of the crops in Finland, but we now learn that it was adopted because Russia intends to send an army of between 25,000 and 30,000 men into that province. This version is generally credited in Sweden, and it is easy to conceive that great importance is there attached to it. Sweden is the sole independent maritime power in the Baltic, and she alone can neutralize the pressure which Russia exercises on Denmark. The Baltic is of as much importance to Russia as the Black Sea; and if Austria is called on to protect the interests of Germany in the Black Sea, Prussia should protect them in the Baltic."

But Austria and Prussia, as we have said, are not in a position to do either the one or the other. It remains for England and France to act, unless it be indeed true, that we are omnipotent on the seas on condition of being impotent!

The Baltic fleet of Russia, consisting of thirty-seven sail, left Cronstadt in the morning of the 15th, to manoeuvre in the Gulf of Finland. The Hereditary Grand Duke inspected it previous to its departure.

British seamen (says a correspondent of the *Times*) who have had an opportunity of making a nearer acquaintance with these vessels than merely passing by them whilst they lie imposingly at anchor, speak very disrespectfully of their seaworthiness and the talents of Russian sailors in handling their ships. It seems that the greater part of the vessels are older than deal-built ships can generally be kept water-tight, and that the slightest approach to rough weather compels a very numerous and strenuous attendance of hands at the pumps. Jack says they daren't put out to sea even in fair weather, for fear it should turn foul before they can get back into port. The Russian sailors are admitted, however, to be good gunners.

The united Swedish, Norwegian, and Danish squadron, consisting of six ships of war, was seen on the 10th inst. from Oxoe, in Norway, steering in the direction of Flekkerøe.

We have referred in another place to the recent *coup d'état* accomplished by Russian influence in Denmark. This is the end of the "pacification" so loudly vaunted by our Foreign Office in the days of Lord Palmerston and of Lord Malmesbury alike. The game is now in the hands of Russia. On the 19th instant, when the Danish Parliament was prorogued, Denmark ceased to be a constitutional kingdom. On the table of the House was laid a so-called "sketch of a ground law for the kingdom of Denmark, in so far as its own affairs are concerned."

This document does away at one blow with every shadow of constitutional right in that country.

The right of self-taxation is abolished. The present free electoral law is abolished, and a new one, it is announced, will be *octroyed*. The liberty of the press is abolished. Freedom of trade is abolished, and the hateful and destructive system of close guilds re-established. The free corporation law is extinguished. The contemplated introduction of trial by jury, solemnly guaranteed by the constitution, is

done away with. The independence of the law courts and separation from the Executive is annulled. The promised organization of the Danish church by a free Synod, in connexion with a free Parliament, is revoked, and the Danish State Church will remain a police machine in the hands of a Minister of Public Worship. The Diet shall only assemble every second year, not annually, as heretofore. The finance-law shall be passed for two years.

Lastly, this new act will not be submitted to the present Danish Parliament for its sanction, although it has been again and again solemnly promised that any alteration required by the whole-state legislation should be laid before the legal assemblies. The whole is *octroyed*. It will immediately become law, and the present constitution ceases to exist, as soon as the whole-state arrangements are proclaimed by the sole authority of the king.

Thus the future Government of this country is now ascertained. There will be a common representation, fixed by the King, in which the people will, of course, have scarcely any power. This will legislate for the "whole monarchy," under the omnipotent authority of a nearly absolute Sovereign.

We have briefly treated the question of the Danish succession, and the recent treaty of London in a separate paper. It was for its determined refusal to assent to this treaty that the Danish Parliament was repeatedly dissolved. The Danish patriots are said to have attached an undue importance to the possible dangers from Russia, but Lord Clarendon only so recently as May last gives a different account to the question. He thinks that on mature reflection the patriotic party will be convinced that the treaty of May 8th, instead of increasing these dangers, removes them, by making the Danish succession an European question, which, in the event of the male descendants of the Prince and Princess of Glücksburg becoming extinct, would have to be laid before all the Powers who signed that treaty, for discussion. Should the King of Denmark, to whom the initiative is reserved in case the above-mentioned eventuality should come to pass, which God forbid, find himself in a dangerous degree of dependence on Russia, it is not to be supposed that England, France, and the other contracting Powers will find themselves so under the dominion of such an influence as to be disposed to acknowledge a Russian succession to the Danish throne, or one exclusively in Russian interest." It is not, therefore, in the Black Sea only that the Western Powers will have to meet Russia. Singularly apropos, the Austrian *Lloyd* asserts that the Cabinets of St. James's and Copenhagen are in active correspondence on the subject of the Eastern question! This same paper states that England desires to induce the Danes to conclude a treaty which shall provide for all possible eventualities.

The Austrian policy of arresting Hungarian Refugees wherever they are found has again brought Absolutism into action with the American government, which now appears in the seas of Europe as the sole protector of the rights of nations. It appears that Beyrout has been the last scene of the attempted Austrian violation of public law. A Hungarian refugee, accompanied by his wife and children, embarked on board one of the Austrian *Lloyd's* steamers. No doubt acting on instructions from head quarters, the Captain immediately signified to him in the name of the Consul that he arrested him and would convey him to Trieste. The Hungarian protested; and then appearing to submit to his destiny, he withdrew to a corner, and waiting until he saw that he was not watched, threw himself into the sea. A boatman picked him up and conveyed him to the Consulate of the United States. There proving by his passport that he was entitled to American protection, he was received. Thanks to the energy of the American Consul, the wife and children of the Hungarian, whom the captain wished to keep on board, were restored to liberty, and arrived at Smyrna by the French steamer.

When Ali Pacha, the ex-governor of Smyrna, left that city, the consuls displayed their flags, and the men of war fired a salute, with the exception of the Austrian Consul and Commander. In relation to the homicide of the Austrian midshipman, the Austrian Consul insisted that the chiefs of the emigration should be bastinadoed, but, to his honour, the new Governor Chekib Effendi refused.

The 4th, of July was gallantly commemorated at Constantinople by the American *Chargé d'Affaires*. Sixty Americans assembled on the occasion. The Hungarian and Italian emigrants serenaded the *Chargé d'Affaires*, who himself appeared on the balcony, and gave three cheers for the freedom of Italy, Hungary, and the United States.

M. Usener, the approver of the *Times*, in the great rocket case at Rotherhithe, has been arrested at Coblenz. Surely the Prussian police have made a mistake in his case.

The 22nd anniversary of King Leopold's taking possession of the throne of Belgium, and swearing to respect the constitution of 1831, was celebrated on Thursday with the usual ceremony.

The civil marriage of the Duke de Brabant with the Archduchess Maria Henrietta is to be celebrated on Sunday, August 21, at the King's palace at Brussels. The next day the religious ceremony will take place in the church of St. Michael and St. Gudule, the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines officiating. The public rejoicings organised for the occasion will take place on the 23rd, being the seventeenth anniversary of the birth of the bride.

Although the surface of German society is undisturbed, and the police-spy and the soldier have it all their own way, the elements of revolution are active beneath. The life of the Emperor of Austria is again threatened, by a conspiracy, mysteriously wide and deep in its ramifications.

The stability of the Prussian Crown is menaced by religious as well as political agitation. A sort of free-thinking development of Protestantism is making rapid progress in Southern Germany. Something like the old ferment of the Anabaptists, if without their ferocity, distinguishes the movement.

There have been symptoms of famine-riots in Italy. Some towns in the Romagna have been placed in a state of siege. At Rome an insurrection was recently apprehended. All Italy is a mine.

THE CAPE: CONSTITUTION: PEACE: TRADE.
The Cape of Good Hope is at length justifying its name. Peace on its borders, plenteousness within its homes, political satisfaction, and extending trade, allow the best hopes for the long vexed colony.

The new constitution has been received with popular thanksgiving. At the Cape a meeting has been held to hail the new institutions with which the country is endowed. The constitution was warmly received, and an address of thanks voted. The *South African Advertiser* is eloquent in its enthusiasm. It says:—"We have heard from the lips of all but infants, blessings on the Queen who had made their fathers free. In his person, in his family, in his soul, the poorest inhabitant of this colony no longer knows a master on earth. The constitution combines the whole power of the State for the protection of every individual. This is civil and religious liberty. When St. Paul pronounced the words—'I am a Roman,' the arm of the provincial oppressor was paralysed. The name of a British subject is not less powerful over a wider empire than Rome ever knew. The gift of liberty, thus understood, was rapturously accepted on Monday last, and thus one grand act of the colonial drama was triumphantly concluded.

At Graham's Town the people had passed resolutions declaring, together with their gratitude for representative institutions, that these do not meet the moderate requirements, or satisfy the reasonable expectations of the people of the province. They particularly complain "that the constitution is unaccompanied by any suitable provision, either for a removal of the seat of Government from Cape Town, or for the establishment of a strong and efficient government in this province." It is believed, however, in the colony, that a little discussion in the first new parliament will show that the constitution makes the best provision that could have been devised, on all points affecting the general welfare, by bringing the whole colony into one council, in the first place, expressly for the purpose of discussing and settling them by general consent.

It appears by some notices in the frontier papers, that there are still some brigands at large in the Fish River Bush, the relics of the war, whom it will be necessary to root out; but generally the frontier districts are rapidly recovering their former settled and prosperous appearance.

The material interests of the colony, as a whole, have steadily improved. Landed property has everywhere risen in value. Capital finds constant and remunerating employment. All sorts of labour are in demand at high, but not extravagant rates. The *Graham's Town Journal* says:—"Our farmers are gradually returning and resuming their usual occupations. The plan of settlement of the N.E. boundary is proceeding satisfactorily, and the expectation of the scheme being extended along the line of the South Victoria division gives a degree of confidence to our frontier men, which would not have been otherwise felt. The Kat River commission has nearly closed its labours, and has, we understand, collected a mass of evidence which, when published, will be found alike interesting and important."

The trade and commerce of the colony during the last year are described in the Report of the Committee of the Commercial Exchange, to be gradually extending not only to the uttermost limits of civilization, but to regions hitherto unexplored by the most adventurous travellers. In the same document the committee mention with satisfaction the grant of a constitution and the contract made with the General Screw Steam Shipping Company, to have two vessels of 300 tons each running between the ports of Table Bay and Natal; the improvements made during the year in the coaling of steamers; the expectation of seeing a lighthouse reared on Cape Point; the growing improvement in the Post-office arrangements; the receipt of the Prize Medals from the Great Exhibition of 1851; the rapid increase in the quantity of wool; and the progress of road making in the colony.

AMERICAN NOTES.

THE 4th of July was celebrated, in the cities of the States, with the usual ebullitions of enthusiasm and gunpowder. In New York the Cubans walked in procession, with "lone star" flags, and other "independent" symbols.

Many reforms have been carried out in Canada. The new Ministry is among them, the old administration having become unpopular, "through mismanagement of the Crown lands, and glaring subservieny to the Romish hierarchy." (*Chronicle* correspondent.) A decimal currency has been established. The Grand

Trunk Railway has been organized. All religious sects have been placed on an equality, with regard to the celebration of marriage. An "elective senate" is among the "anticipated" improvements. The public mind continues much disturbed by sectarian agitation, arising out of the Gavazzi riot.

Ship-building is making head in New York. During the first half of this year the ships launched, or on the stocks, numbered sixty-five, of 51,083 tons. Screw propellers do not seem popular in America: there are only two of that make among the new steamers.

America is rapidly extending her trade with Europe. Two new steamers are to be employed on the New York and Bremen line, completing a fortnightly communication between the cities. The imports of New York have been increased 73,000,000 dollars. The exports from the Southern States have been increased from 25,000,000 dollars to 28,000,000 dollars. The shipping in the harbour of New York amounted, during the month of June, to 195,401 tons.

Three American vessels of war have been sent to the coast of Nova Scotia, to look after the interests of the American fishermen.

A "National convention of coloured men" has been held at Rochester.

"The manner (says a public correspondent) in which the American Exploring Expedition is fitted out, reflects credit even on one of the greatest republics that has existed since the world began. Every new invention in mechanics that can be applied to lessen labour is there. Their magnificent six-oared whale boats can be propelled by a wooden screw that takes to pieces by one of their respective crews, with a fair velocity; a neat contrivance turns them into a sledge, or forms a cradle for dragging them over jagged rocks. The fashion in which their crews are armed makes one ashamed to look at our ancient fire-arms. Each man has a pair of neat seven-barrelled revolvers, and a rifle of the newest construction that primes itself, so that a man can fire several rounds without taking his eye from the sight-vane."

Canada is a fine field for Irish labourers, testifies Mr. C. P. Roney, now on a visit in that country.

"The moment the vessel arrives at Quebec (this is a port to which all emigrants for Canada should come), the men are immediately engaged, either for the railroads or for the Government provincial works now in course of construction. The wages for labourers are about 4s. British per day. They can be most comfortably boarded (with meat twice a day) for about 1s., and allowing 1s. a day more for other expenses, it leaves a clear 2s. a day of savings. Then, again, on the Ottawa River, one of the great sources of the inexhaustible supply of Canadian timber, 'lumbermen' all earn at least one dollar a day; and as they advance in skill and experience, their wages rise to a dollar and a half to two dollars. That there should be no fear of the supply of timber becoming exhausted, may be proved by the fact that recent and very accurate surveys made along this magnificent river and its innumerable tributaries, by order of the Government, have shown that if double the amount of timber now taken from the district be continued for five hundred years, it would not exhaust it. In the immediate vicinity of this river and its tributaries, throughout their entire extent, is magnificent agriculture land." He adds,—"Irishmen make better lumberers than the natives of any other country; for it appears that the good and abundant food that they begin eating, from the moment they arrive here, expands not only the muscular frame, but also the intellect."

CUBA STILL VIOLATES THE SLAVE-TRADE TREATY.

A STORY of a strange ship is told in the *New York Herald*, by a correspondent from Laguna de Terminos:—

"On the 30th of May last a vessel entered this port with Mexican colours flying, under pretext of seeking freight. She was reported as the *Marianna*, of 410 tons burden, Juan Gutierrez, master, from Cienfuegos, in Cuba, in ballast. Her crew was made up of twenty-six men, all of them Old Castilians, and six officers, represented as being passengers. On the 2nd inst., these were discharged, and proceeded hence to Havannah, *via* Campeachy, with the exception of one officer and two or three of the original crew, who remained by her with the master, and a few hands from shore (Mexicans) were sent on board to replace them. The rakish appearance of the ship, the length of her spars, the quantity of sail she displayed, the circumstance of her having on board nearly 300 watercasks, with several pieces of artillery below, and the reckless appearance of her men and officers, soon created a suspicion as to her true character, and it was ascertained to a certainty that the vessel had been trading on the coast of Africa on a slaving voyage, under the command of a notorious character named Vinas, who succeeded in successfully landing a cargo of nearly 1300 blacks near to Cienfuegos, in the island of Cuba. On the 14th of May last she cleared from there, with the connivance of the Spanish authorities, under the Mexican flag, without any other papers of nationality than a certificate from the Mexican Consul at Havannah, therein stating, that she sailed with a temporary license under his seal and signature, bound to Laguna de Terminos, to be nationalized as a Mexican ship, owned in Mexico by one Don Jose Ruiz, a confidential friend of the Dictator of the Republic. The person now in command of her represents her as having originally been the Ameri-

can ship *Mary*, of Boston, lately owned by, and purchased from, an American of the name of Smith; but this description of her by no means coincides with this class of vessel. Behold, however, the *Mary* of Boston, after all this prevarication and deception, changed, as by magic, into the celebrated ship *Lady Suffolk*, of Baltimore, reported as having sailed from Bahia Honda, after putting into Mariel on or about the 22nd of November. Of this being a fact there can be no manner of doubt entertained, as her appearance has been compared with, and ascertained by good judges here to exactly correspond with, the description given of her in your paper before alluded to—viz., her being a Baltimore built ship of about 520 tons' burden, of a rakish appearance, her hull painted entirely black, with the full-length figure of a woman on her bows, painted white, with gilded wings on her shoulders, in her right hand a gilded trumpet of Fame, and in her left a crown or garland, also gilded. After so much daring prevarication on the part of the Spanish and Mexican authorities, in aiding and abetting the present owners of the *Lady Suffolk* in concealing the real name and character of the vessel to enable her to get in safety to a Mexican port, nothing can be more clear or evident than that there also exists an active co-operation of persons of high authority in Mexico with Spanish merchants in Havannah in promoting and protecting, as far as possible in their power, the piratical pursuit of the slave trade in vessels purposely built for it in the United States. It is very likely that the *Lady Suffolk* will be permitted to sail hence, and to escape out of the gulf without being overhauled or captured, as the old fogey of a British Consul residing at this place does not appear to concern himself much about it, and it is very possible that he will not think of giving timely advice to the British authorities at Cuba to give John Bull's 'brazen-bottomed serpents' a chance to keep a vigilant look-out for her."

The connivance of the Cuban authorities is confirmed by the fact that Zuluela, the owner of the *Lady Suffolk*, has been released, and has proceeded to Spain.

CRYSTAL PALACE EXTENSION.

A PROJECT, originating with Mr. Samuel Beale, the deputy-chairman of the Midland Railway Company, and a magistrate for this borough, has been started, with the intent of erecting, in Sutton Coldfield-park, a public edifice, after the plan and for similar purposes as those of the new Crystal Palace at Sydenham; and, moreover, there appears to be every probability of its success. A very numerous and most influential meeting of magistrates, merchants, and manufacturers of Birmingham, at which the Mayor presided, was held at the public office, on Tuesday, when the proposal of Mr. Beale was fully discussed and unanimously approved. Sutton-park, by road, is about seven miles from Birmingham, or nearly half way between this town and Lichfield. It is proposed that the Corporation of Sutton, in whom the park is vested, should convey, at a nominal rental, for a period of 999 years, 200 acres of land—the park being a beautiful tract of several thousands, unoccupied and useless except for the grazing of a few cattle—on the condition that the Corporation of Birmingham should erect an ample and magnificent building for the reception, accommodation, and amusement of the people of Birmingham and the surrounding districts, and as a repository for the exhibition of specimens of the manufactures and artistic works of the Midland counties—the property to be vested in the Corporation of Birmingham, but the inhabitants of Sutton, who would be largely benefited by the establishment of the institution, to enjoy the same privileges as those of Birmingham. The leading gentlemen of Sutton had intimated their wish to enter cordially into the proposed scheme, and Mr. Muntz advised that the men and Corporation of Birmingham should "strike while the iron was hot," and secure the great advantages now presented to them. It was calculated that a rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ d. in the pound would pay the outlay, and redeem the building in twenty years; but the general opinion was, that the receipts would be more than sufficient to pay the outlay and management within that period, to say nothing of the excellent moral effect it would, in the meantime, produce upon the contiguous population. A deputation, consisting of the Mayor, Mr. P. H. Muntz, Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Beale, and Mr. H. Smith, was appointed to confer with the inhabitants of Sutton, and to put the matter into such a shape that it might be clearly and definitively placed before the corporations of that town and Birmingham.

A railway from Birmingham to Sutton is also included in the project.

THE GREAT CAB STRIKE.

THE Cabmen have taken a bold revenge. They have stopped work, and the whole machinery of London life was at a stand still or moves clumsily with new means. On Tuesday, at a meeting of the cab-proprietors and drivers, their positions were mutually considered; and it was ascertained that the new fares were not sufficient to defray the expenses of keeping and driving cabs. It was, therefore, resolved that the public should have the benefit of a little "wise and salutary neglect," and that Wednesday morning should rise on cabless London. The threat was fulfilled.

The first to feel the inconvenience was the traveller by early trains, into and out of London, who found himself three or four miles from everywhere, with a leather trunk, a hat-box, a carpet-bag, fishing-rod, umbrella, and waterproof coat to carry. As the day progressed, the desire for cabs became more urgent; people found themselves at a full stop without knowing why. There was no "going to my banker's," or "call in the City," or "take a cab to the railway." The railways suffered the greatest possible inconvenience. At every station piles of luggage waiting conveyance, and mobs of jeering bystanders advising the calling of a cab that would not come, confronted the impatient traveller. Even the highest aristocracy did not escape the common fate. Unless met by their "own carriage," they were compelled to trudge it on foot for long distances, and several instances of ladies of high degree in a state of comparative exhaustion were observed by the writer. At none of the railways was the inconvenience greater felt than at the London and North-Western. Train after train brought an accumulation of luggage, and each hour added to the harassing of impatient passengers from all parts of the country. Fortunately, the day was fine, and the appliances of a railway are so multifarious that they can be expanded to meet almost every possible emergency. Cabs being altogether wanting, the railway authorities, by going a step lower in the scale, were enabled in some measure to meet the contingency. Spring vans for the accommodation of the heavier luggage, light carts, and even wheel-barrow for the immediate urgency of single passengers, were pressed into service, and by the active employment of the energies of all the officials, the difficulties were considerably diminished.

The case of the cabmen is simple. They complain especially of the abolition of back fares. Under the new act a cab can be hired at two o'clock in the morning from Waterloo Station to Dulwich-road; and while the cabman has to travel the whole distance back again, receiving only the single fare of half-a-crown—the chances of another passenger on the return route are very slight. Or a cabman may be taken five miles from home, discharged, again taken another five miles in the same direction, and have to return home ten miles—thus travelling twenty miles during the day and receive but five shillings. The fares demanded by the united cab-owners are 1s. for the first mile; over one mile and under two miles, 1s. 6d.; two miles and under three, 2s., and so on. They also propose "amendments" to the new act. For distances beyond four miles from the General Post-office, 1s. instead of 6d. per mile to be paid. Two-pence per package to be allowed for all luggage carried outside. A power of appeal from the decisions of the police-courts. This the cabmen declare very necessary; recent measurements by the police having been found very incorrect. The cab-owners seem firm. They say, in fine, "If the public can do without us we can do without the public. Our horses and cabs will fetch money in any part of the country, and if gentlemen wish to start cab companies we will drive for them."

On Thursday, at a general meeting, a deputation from the cab-proprietors were nominated to wait on Mr. Fitzroy. Upon the return of the deputation,

Mr. Rider, who had acted as its spokesman, reported to the meeting that the deputation had had an interview with Mr. Fitzroy, at the House of Commons, in company with Sir R. Mayne, Sir J. Shelley, and another member of Parliament, whose name he did not know; but he was going to inform the meeting that their hopes, if highly raised, would be disappointed. The first thing which Mr. Fitzroy did was to express his regret at the step which they had taken, as, however much he might have been inclined to do for them on Monday, he was not, through their subsequent conduct, in so good a position to do it now. They then went into the consideration of the conditions contained in the memorial. The first was the demand of 1s. for a hiring under two miles. Mr. Fitzroy said he could not accede to it. It was unreasonable to ask it, and quite impossible to do anything of the sort. (Oh, oh.) The next condition was the payment of 1s. for every mile beyond the fourth, and Mr. Fitzroy said that he would that night propose a clause, fixing the fare at 1s. for every mile beyond the fourth—Charing-cross to be the central point. (Cheers, and "That will do.") In fact, upon looking into it, the clause was found to agree exactly with their proposition. That was the first thing Mr. Fitzroy could give them; and the next was the 6d. which they required for every passenger beyond two, and which Mr. Fitzroy was also willing to grant, whether they carried three, four, or five passengers. (Cheers.) The next point was the luggage. Mr. Fitzroy admitted the reasonableness of their request, and stated so to Sir R. Mayne, but decided that no such alteration could be made. They next came to the time clause, which Mr. Fitzroy insisted was in their favour, but he (the speaker) objected, that the seeming advantages which it conferred upon them were more than counterbalanced by the disagreeable feeling which it raised in the minds of passengers. They then passed to the appeal, with which Mr. Fitzroy said he could do nothing, as the clauses were to be introduced into the Chancellor of the Exchequer's bill. (Oh, oh.) Mr. Fitzroy also admitted that the request with regard to the Hansom cabs was a reasonable one, but, for the same reason as to the preceding

demand, he could not do it, inasmuch as it was a mere point of discipline, and would render necessary the introduction of a new act. (Oh, oh.) Mr. Fitzroy again alluded to the disagreeable feeling caused by the strike, when he (the speaker) said it would be exceedingly easy to do away with that feeling by granting all the demands made. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Fitzroy replied that Parliament might have been in a position to do so, but their very foolish movement had put it out of the question to do it now, and they had themselves to thank for that. (Laughter.) He replied to this, that he believed the movement would never have been attempted if it had not been for that very unfortunate decision at Bow-street about Phillips. (Hear, hear.) Sir Richard Mayne said—"Yes, yes; that was very bad." But Mr. Fitzroy said—"You ought not to come here and blame me for any decision of a magistrate;" and yet Mr. Fitzroy had told him on a previous occasion that the Home-Office was the proper place for appeal. Sir John Shelley also blamed him for the step which they had taken, and asked why they had not first brought the matter before those who were so anxious to do them justice?—(laughter)—and yet Sir J. Shelley had told him when asked to present their petition, that he was entirely against them; and he should have done very wrong to go to him after that. (Hear, hear.) Sir J. Shelley also told him that there was an application before Parliament to work 200 hackney carriages, Mr. Fitzroy adding, that they had made arrangements so that the licenses could be had, and that the capital employed would be immense. He (Mr. Rider) said, "So much the better, for they would want it all." (Laughter.) Mr. Fitzroy said, "The feeling of the House will be against you," and the member present, whose name he did not know, added that he had intended to vote for them, but would go against them now, solely because of their conduct, as he had seen too much of combinations. Mr. Fitzroy referred him to the important meeting of Monday, and his reception of them then, is a fact which should have kept them from adopting the step which they had taken; but he told that gentleman that he had not promised to alter the act this year, and he admitted that he had not, because he could not commit the Government; and yet it might be inferred from his statement in the House that he had given a distinct promise. (Hear, hear.) He told Mr. Fitzroy that it was not the object of the proprietors to withdraw their property from the streets, as they wished to pursue their business; but he thought the concessions were the very least they could ask for, and if those concessions were diminished one iota, it would be impossible to carry on business. (Cheers.) Mr. Gamble, one of the deputation, told Mr. Fitzroy that the omnibus interests were considering whether, under the circumstances of the bill, they should take the same step as the cab proprietors had done—(cheers)—when Sir R. Mayne said that "no class of men could be permitted so to set themselves up above the law," and asked, "Is there no law to prevent this?" (Laughter, and a voice:—"Is there no law to prevent a shopkeeper shutting up his shop?") Mr. Fitzroy told them to expect nothing further than the concessions to which he had consented, and to which Parliament would assent. He replied that it would not be sufficient for the trade. Mr. Fitzroy did not exactly ask him whether they would go to work again, but it was evident he wished to know, for he said the railways had made arrangements to bring up conveyances from the country; and as for members of Parliament, they would rather ride in carts than submit to the conduct of the cab proprietors. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) He replied that he should be sorry to see members riding in carts, and that such a proceeding might be easily prevented by agreeing to all they requested. Mr. Fitzroy repeated that it was perfectly impossible. He would say no more, and must leave it to the sense and discretion of the trade. In the end Mr. Fitzroy took him aside, and told him he was quite sure the bill, with his amendments, would answer their purpose; and Sir R. Mayne finished up by saying, "Go to work, men; go to work." (A voice—"Yes, and be pulled up next day.") So the question stood, and the meeting must decide upon any further steps to be taken. (Hear.)

Mr. Beadle asked the meeting whether Mr. Fitzroy's concessions were what they wanted? and the reply was an unanimous "No, no."

Mr. Beadle—We must have the shilling for the first hiring under two miles. (Cheers.)

A Proprietor—And we must have the appeal. (Loud cheering.)

Another Proprietor—We must have what we ask, or stop at home. (Hear, hear.)

A long discussion followed upon the policy of making another attempt to get the shilling for the first hiring; but the meeting finally resolved to "keep as they were," rather than make any further appeal to the Home-office.

The meeting pledged itself to keep all their cabs at home to-morrow (this day), and separated apparently with a full determination to have "the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill," as drawn by themselves.

We are also threatened with the withdrawal of all the omnibuses. On Monday next a meeting of the proprietors is to be held to consider the necessity of that step, the deprivation of a right of appeal being the peculiar grievance of that class.

A new decision on the Cab Act was made on Wednesday. It was decided that a person employing a cab by time must pay 4s. if he keep the cab for even one minute beyond the first hour.

The case of the cabman Phillips, recorded last week, has aroused public interest. Phillips was adjudged wrong in his estimate of distance, and because he was not provided with 5s. to pay for a special measurement. He was, therefore, sentenced to a month's imprisonment. It now appears that he was right in his estimate; but he was not released from prison until he paid, wrongfully, a fine of 40s. The new act admits no appeal from a magistrate's decision however hasty or presumptuous.

RIGHTS OF CONSCIENCE.

The Archbishop of Dublin presided, on Monday, at the first meeting of the "Society for Protecting the Rights of Conscience," at the parochial infant school, Kingstown. The attendance was chiefly composed of clergymen. His Grace the Archbishop, in addressing the meeting, said:—

"We are entirely unconnected with conversions, except so far as converts may be exposed to persecutions for conscience sake. We enter into no connexion with any society for diffusing religious knowledge of any kind. By rights we understand not necessarily that every one is right in the religion that he adopts, but that his neighbours have no right to interfere with him. We merely maintain that a man has a right, not necessarily a moral right, nor a right in point of judgment, but a civil right, to worship God according to his own conscience, without suffering any hardships at the hands of his neighbours for so doing. We limit ourselves entirely to those descriptions of persecution in which the law can give no relief. As for assaults and violence of any kind, where the law provides and holds out a remedy, we leave all persons to seek that remedy for themselves; and we do not undertake to guard, or to remunerate, or to compensate any persons who are exposed to obloquy, to curses, denunciations of divine vengeance uttered by men, to ridicule, or to any sort of annoyance of that kind. They should be taught to bear it and to support it with joy and satisfaction through divine help, and rejoicing that they are counted worthy to suffer in the good cause. But when attempts are made to compel men to conform to what they do not conscientiously believe, by the fear of starvation, by turning them out of employment when they are honest and industrious labourers, by refusing to buy or sell or hold any intercourse with them, then I think it is, and then only, that a society like this ought to come forward, and that all persons, whatever religion they may be of, or whether they are of no religion at all or not, in a feeling of humanity and justice, ought to look with a favourable eye on such a society as yours, provided it keep itself within its own proper bounds."

How far will the able and humane prelate be disposed to carry out his principles? Does the unbeliever in all religious systems come within their range?

RAILWAY REFORM.

THE Fifth Report of Mr. Cardwell's committee, appointed to consider the principle of amalgamation as applied to railway or railway and canal bills, has just been issued. It states that it appears to the committee to have been established in evidence that competition fails to afford the public the same security in respect of railway accommodation which it gives in the transactions of ordinary trade. The report reviews at considerable length the evidence given before the committee on various subjects relating to the management and working of the railway system, and concludes by stating the general views of the committee thereon. For the purpose of carrying into effect these views the committee recommended:—

"1. That the mode in which railway bills are now dealt with in the House of Commons should be revised, with the view of securing, by the institution of a committee, of a character more permanent than has heretofore been the practice, a comprehensive review of all schemes submitted to Parliament in every session. That to this committee the Railway Department of the Government should afford all the advice and assistance which the committee may desire.

"2. That, for the investigation of contested bills, the committee should divide the whole country into districts; should decide questions of principle, and make arrangements for the decision of questions in which more than one district might be interested; and should so direct the investigation of schemes within the several districts as to secure for the public, within each of them, the utmost advantage which might be derived from a judicious combination of new lines with those which already exist; they should also make provision for facilitating the passing of unopposed bills.

"3. That no scheme should be investigated without security being taken that, in the event of its passing into a law, the works will be actually made.

"4. That the practice of *locus standi* should be adapted to the necessity which exists for trying, in a direct manner, and with a comprehensive regard to the general advantage, the public issue involved in any scheme, and that provision should be made for the payment of costs in cases where the proceedings of any party shall appear to have been illusory, vexatious, or unwarranted.

"5. That working arrangements between different companies for the regulation of traffic and the division of profits should be sanctioned under proper conditions and for limited periods, but that amalgamation of companies should not be sanctioned except in minor or special cases, where it clearly appears to the standing committee that the true and only object of such amalgamation is improved economy of management and consequent advantage to the public.

"6. That running powers should generally be discouraged, on the score of danger, and conceded only in cases where the public object of free transit from one system to another cannot practically be insured by other means.

"7. That every railway company should be compelled to afford to the public, in respect both of goods and of passengers, the full advantage of convenient interchange from one system to another; to afford to every class of traffic, including postal communication, just facilities, and to observe all statutory provisions, especially those requiring equal charges under the same circumstances; and that

where complaint arises that any company has violated any of these obligations, provision should be made for the hearing and decision of such complaint in open court, with power to make use of the interference of the railway department, for the purpose of ascertaining by what specific and detailed arrangements such complaint may be effectually redressed.

"8. That where any dispute arises between two or more railway or canal companies, and the companies agree to refer it to the Board of Trade, that board should be empowered, if it think fit, with a view to the public interest, to entertain the reference, and its decision should be valid and binding on the companies.

"Since the general principle of increasing the stringency of the criminal law in England, so as to render liable to prosecution persons guilty of culpable negligence tending to the risk of human life, even in the cases in which no fatal consequences ensue, is under consideration in a select committee of the House of Peers, to which a bill, embodying such a provision, has been referred, your committee having already stated their views upon this subject, now recommend that for the better management of railways it will be desirable—

"9. That every board of directors should be required to register with the Railway Department some one person, to whom should be delegated the chief authority over all the external discipline of the company and its servants; also, for every part of the line, some person should be registered as resident engineer; and for every portion of the locomotive stock, some person as locomotive engineer.

"10. That the general regulations of each company, from time to time in force, should be transmitted to the Railway Department, and that the inspectors of that department should have power at all times to examine the books in which the arrival and departure of the trains from the several stations are registered, and the books in which the particulars of the moving stock of the company are recorded; also, in cases of inquiry into the causes of accident, to examine the servants of the company.

"11. That provision should be made for enforcing the means of constant communication between all the servants, to whom the safety of the passengers in any train is entrusted."

DISTRESSING ELOPEMENT.

"WE noticed in our last week's paper," says the *Plymouth Herald*, "that an officer of the 35th Regiment had run off with the wife of a baronet, residing in the north of Devon, under circumstances of a very disgraceful character. We regret to state that there is no doubt of the truth of the statement; the officer is Captain Berkeley, of the above-named regiment, and his unfortunate companion in guilt Lady Wrey, wife of Sir Bouchier Wrey. It appears that this man is now with his regiment, and still wearing her Majesty's uniform, though it is currently reported that he will be obliged to leave the army; and the lady, it is said, is in London. The *North Devon Journal* of the 14th inst. in noticing the disgraceful circumstance, says Sir Bouchier Wrey, Bart., has recently been staying at his marine residence in Barnstaple. For some weeks past, Captain Berkeley, of the 35th, son of Sir George Berkeley, had been visiting at the house of the honourable baronet, whose hearty hospitality is only surpassed by high-minded and unsuspected candour. This town became agitated on Friday with the startling and painful intelligence that this guest of the hon. baronet's—the man who had been receiving his hospitalities—had taken the opportunity of domestic intercourse thus afforded to him, to draw from her conjugal duty the wife of his friend; that she had, in fact, that morning eloped with her paramour. They drove off, it would appear, about half-past one that morning, to Barnstaple, and from thence to the Tiverton station of the Great Western Railway. Their course from this point we are not curious to trace. That this lady should have left in such a manner, and for such a man, a home replete with all the earthly good that earthly wealth can furnish, a husband dotingly fond of her, and without a shadow of the causes usually assigned in such cases, is an aberration of conduct only to be charitably covered by a verdict of temporary insanity. Report says that already has the dreadful hallucination passed away, and reconciliation been sought. We give, of course, simply report, but it is highly probable that such is the case, as we know that such must be the course the moment the mind recovers its equilibrium. Sir Bouchier returned that same evening to Tawstock Court."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

THE character of the present Assizes is very painful. The cases of murder are not comparatively many, but brutality and beastliness scarcely less atrocious appear to be more than usually epidemic. The outrages on women by the now common brutality of violent assaults, with intent to bruise, to maim, and to kill, and in the worse form of other and more felonious attempts, have formed the staple of the cases in the Northern counties. A still worse crime seems common in the Midland Counties. On the whole the Assizes reveal the utterly unmanly and degraded state of a large proportion of the English peasantry.

John Pitcher was tried at Norwich for killing his mother. She was a very old woman, nearly 85. He frequently beat her in a most savage manner, and left her for days without food or clothes, uncared for in a wretched room. She was found by the police dying, biting the bed-clothes in the agonies of hunger. She died; and the wretch has been transported for life.—Edward Pass, a drover, lived an offensive and immoral life in Bethnal-green. A young married woman, named Hailos, remonstrated with him on his conduct. In revenge Pass struck her violently, beat her about the head and face, and knocked her down. "Four months' imprisonment" has been awarded.—Ann Vickers was in the constant habit of beating her little step-daughter—a mere child. When brought before the court the body of the child was bruised all over, and dreadfully discoloured. She has been sen-

tenced to three months' imprisonment.—James Buxton, a working jeweller in Hoxton, beat his wife so savagely, that on her appearance in the witness-box her face was all blackened and swollen. Yet she entreated the magistrate to forgive her husband. He has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment.—Another case appears in Wednesday's papers. It is not the only one of the kind this week. Charles Davies, a filthy-looking man of dissipated appearance, was charged with cruelly beating his wife.—Hannah Davies, the wife, a care-worn looking woman, said her husband had been away from home several weeks. About three o'clock that morning he came home; he broke open the door of the room in which her two children and herself were in bed, then rushing towards her, seized the poker, and aimed a blow at her head, but she avoided the injury as well as she could, and escaped with only the skin being torn away from her face. He then struck her a violent blow on the nose, which he had previously broken, and seizing a knife, swore he would rip her open. She managed to get out of the house, and remained in the street until she could procure the protection of a constable, when she gave her husband into custody. The poor woman horrified the Court in her details of the brutality to which she was constantly subjected by her husband, who was a confirmed drunkard, by stating that within the last eight weeks, among other injuries, he had broken her thumb, and twice broken her nose.—The case of Robert Oram, in Thursday's papers, is of equal brutality. He first attempted to strangle his wife, and then flung her from the top of the kitchen stairs to the bottom. Her back and throat were fearfully marked with blood and bruises. The woman stated before the magistrates that she had been married to Oram for seven years, and she had endured nothing but sorrows, troubles, and privations, ever since, in consequence of the violent and intemperate habits of her husband. Ever since she had been married he had been repeatedly in the practice of ill-using her, and she had marks on her person which she would carry to the grave. He had broken up five good homes, and sold off one home. On the magistrate asking her to explain this more fully, she said that her husband had actually chopped up their furniture and effects five times, and left her without anything, and he had also destroyed her clothes; and on one occasion called in a broker and disposed of everything. She had been often driven from her bed-room by the violence and threats of her husband, and compelled to sleep or sit on the stairs all night, or seek refuge in a neighbour's dwelling. In the two last cases the now usual "six months' imprisonment" has been awarded.

An unusual ending to conjugal quarrelling is recorded in Thursday's papers. Charles Thomson and his wife lived unhappily together, and they agreed to separate, and that he should marry another. The second wife was aware of the separation and agreement. But Thomson having also ill-treated the second wife she has given him into charge for bigamy.

A more tragic termination was exposed at the Leicester Assizes. John Hubbard, a man of 58, married to a young woman of 25, quarrelled with her. She resolved to leave him. This he vehemently opposed, and in an altercation on the subject he got so enraged as to draw a knife across her throat, dangerously wounding her. Sentence of death has been recorded against him, but his life will be spared.

There have been published this week many cases illustrative of the necessity for Lord Shaftesbury's Act. It has been shown that boys of ten and twelve are regularly encouraged to thefts by men and women, who buy from them the stolen goods, but never put themselves in danger of actual detection in theft.

Two attempts at suicide by women have been made this week. Domestic misery was the cause in both cases.

WORKMEN AND WAGES.

THE results of the late strikes have been by no means favourable to the men. The masters hold out firmly. The Stockport strike is still unsettled. The piecers have returned to most of the Manchester mills, but the dyers still hold out.

Many other unsuccessful strikes have taken place throughout the country. Five thousand miners at Dowlas are out on strike, demanding 10 per cent. advance. The Hull police, to the number of 80, refuse to do duty without higher pay; and 30 have finally resigned. Five hundred of the London corkcutters demand higher wages in consideration of the rise in rents and the prices of provisions. The railway labourers in the south of Ireland demand 10s. instead of 8s. a week. The labourers at the Southwark docks, hitherto receiving 3d. per hour, and two pints of porter in the day, now ask 4d. an hour with the same gratuity. The Leeds carpenters ask an advance of 1s. per week, and two hours leisure time on Saturday. The masters are willing to give the increased wages, but not the additional time. The bricklayers at the new Houses of Parliament have struck for an advance of wages.

The only successes we note this week are few. In Suffolk the agricultural labourers have obtained an advance of 6d. per week; and the carpet-weavers of Scotland and the North of England have got an advance of 10 per cent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE public were informed on Monday of the convalescence of the Queen, which was announced on Saturday morning in an official bulletin; and on that day the Duchess of Kent and Sir Henry Holland left Osborne. We have further evidence of her Majesty's return to health, that on Wednesday she was able to take a drive in an open carriage.

The mail steamer *Queen of the South*, Captain W. H. Norman, arrived at Plymouth at four o'clock yesterday morning, with the mails from India and the Cape, after a splendid passage. The news from the Cape is satisfactory.

An item of importance appears in the Irish news. The *Evening Mail* says it has "good reasons for believing that Mr. Baron Greene has resigned his seat as a Commissioner of the Board of Education," and that Archbishop Whately and Mr. Blackburne have also retired from the board. The *Times* reports that at a meeting of the clergy of the diocese of Dublin on Wednesday morning, the Archbishop formally announced that he was no longer a member of the National Board, his Grace having received a letter which he could regard in no other light than as a "dismissal" by the Government from an office which he had filled for a period of over twenty years. The letter in question is stated, on good authority, to be a simple dissent from Dr. Whately's view of the subject, and not by any means a personal rebuke to the Archbishop. Unless matters can be amicably adjusted, even at the sacrifice of "prejudices" on both sides, the apostolic delegate will, says the *Evening Mail*, "have an opportunity to assume the supervision of the entire secular education of the country, and the unchecked control of at least 140,000 of public money." The places of two of the ex-commissioners have, it is said, been already filled up by the appointment of the Right Rev. Dr. Knox, Bishop of Down and Connor, and Mr. Abraham Brewster, the Irish Attorney-General.

The Summer Poultry Show on Wednesday was successful. The "extraordinary size of the Cochins-China chickens" was again remarkable. A single egg was valued at from one to five guineas.

The artists of London, with whom Hampstead-heath has been a favorite haunt, are alarmed at the rumour that Sir Thomas Wilson wishes to build on it, thus destroying a landscape that has afforded suggestions to many British painters. Sir William Newton, Stanfield, Pickersgill, Pye, Lucy, J. Doyle, and other artists of eminence, held a meeting on Saturday, to devise means to stop the threatened desecration. It was finally resolved to petition the Queen to preserve Hampstead-heath for art study.

The concert in doing good which our benevolent societies continuously illustrate, was strikingly shown on Wednesday at their new asylum at Balls-pond. This institution has long been a home for the aged *protégés* of the various beneficent societies in London: 126 persons have been permanently relieved, and 32 are at present comfortably placed. On Wednesday there was a pleasant demonstration, signifying a substantial progress in the institution. A procession of the members was made; they walked with banners and music on the ground; and there Lord Robert Grosvenor laid the first stone of a new wing to the building. Speeches for the occasion were well made, and at the dinner in the evening 200l. was subscribed.

Dr. Barlow, an English medical gentleman visiting Berlin, experienced "brutal treatment at the hands of the Berlin police." According to the instructions of the Foreign-office here his passport was not *viséd* by any Prussian authority in London. Wanting this he was arrested at the railway station:—"I was sent, under extremely annoying and vexatious circumstances, after half-an-hour's detention in a guard-room, in the custody of a policeman, to the head police office, where I was kept in durance vile, among a set of itinerant vagabonds, for nearly three hours, and was subjected to all the brutality of looks and words which the menials of the office, short of personal violence, could well inflict; after this I was told I might go where I liked, and received back my passport."

A "flower show" at the Surrey Zoological Gardens, on Tuesday, was remarkable for the display of heaths and the great show of fuchsias. The show altogether was very successful.

Dr. Newman has handed over the balance of his defence fund—3600l.—to the new Roman Catholic University in Ireland, with the exception of a few hundred pounds given to one of the religious houses in this country.

The *Baltic*, which sailed on Wednesday from Liverpool for the United States, carried M. Jullien, his family, and a corps of performers.

Sir William Molesworth is really a Reformer in office. His latest good work has been to take Holyrood Palace into the keeping of Government, fixing an uniform fee of sixpence for visitors, in lieu of the discretionary extortion hitherto practised, and opening the palace free of all charge on Sundays.

At Pimlico a kind of Protestant Convent or Sisterhood of Mercy has been instituted. It is called the "Nursing Sisters Hospital." It has been established at St. Barnabas', with the concurrence of the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, in order to provide for the sick poor in our church that care which can only be given by those who devote themselves entirely to such a work, and tend them for love and not for hire. A paper we have been sent says,—"The sisters visit the poor in their own homes and receive a small number of patients into the house. It remains to be seen whether we can find help and sympathy to enable us to carry on such works and enlarge them. We trust to do so, and eventually to replace the paid nurses in our hospitals and amongst our poor by those who will so devote themselves from a religious motive. The hospital may be visited on any week-day between two and five, and persons who wish it may attend the prayers of the House at two, and visit the Hospital afterwards."

The following letter from Archbishop Whately, addressed to Mr. Lloyd Garrison, appears in the *Boston Liberator*:—"Dublin, 16th June, 1853.—Sir, A copy has casually fallen into my hands of the *Boston Liberator* (4th March), in which I am described as the author of a review, in the 'North British,' of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin.' I am not the author. I happen to know that it is from the pen of a lady—a clergyman's widow—in the south of Ireland. As I wish for neither credit nor discredit that is not fairly due to me, and as I presume you do not mean to mislead your readers, please to give notice and correction of the mistake.—Your faithful, humble servant, Richard Whately, Archbishop of Dublin."

While Mr. Walpole was at the Home Office, the policemen of the metropolis were generally informed that each man was expected to go to his proper place of worship on

Sunday. This was felt irksome by some of the police, and last week a deputation waited on Sir Richard Mayne, to know were they obliged to go to church. The commissioner intimated that under the new reign of Palmerston no such "request from the authorities" had been made, and that going to church was at the option of the men.

The *New York Herald* states that Mr. Buchanan has definitely accepted the embassy to England.

The New York Crystal Palace was opened on the 14th inst., in the presence of an immense concourse of spectators. The President of the United States and General Scott were present.

The steamer *Empire*, on her downward trip from Albany to New York, on the morning of the 16th, was run into by a sloop, and one of her boilers was thrown overboard. Two persons were killed, and eight or ten severely injured. The damage done to the steamer is estimated at 6000 dollars.

The coroner's jury on the victims of the Gavazzi riot at Montreal, concluded its sittings on the 10th inst., after a long charge from the coroner. Instead of a verdict, special returns were handed in by the divided jurors. Eight jurors found that the mayor ordered the soldiery to fire upon a crowd, while there was no riot or disturbance to justify such order, and that the order of the mayor, as well as the firing of the soldiery without the orders of their officers, were unnecessary, culpable, and unjustifiable acts. Ten jurors found that one man was killed by some person supposed to be one of the defenders of Zion Church, and that those killed by the soldiery were killed in consequence of military words of command uttered by a person unknown after the riot act had been read. The jurors agreed on one point, that the mayor read the act unnecessarily, and that, immediately after he was done reading, a firing took place on the part of the military, and that several parties not concerned in the riot were killed.

The police of London cost the inhabitants in rates 400,000l. a year.

There are over 500,000 volumes in the British Museum. A new office, for the collection of the Income-tax is to be established in Ireland.

Irish tax-gatherers are bold and ingenious men. On the Dublin and Belfast Junction the other day the train was "arrested" for county cess due to the Company, and although steam was "up," and the passengers furious, the tax-gatherer stood firm until the debt was paid.

A new and large Military Barrack is to be built at Brompton.

Postscript.

SATURDAY, July 30.

THE terrible Indian Bill has at length passed the House of Commons. Mr. Bright's amendment, to unite the two offices, was again defeated by 100 to 72. Sir Charles Wood met with a similar fate, when he proposed that the salaries of the Chairman and Deputy-Chairman should be 1500l. each, and of each Director 1000l. a-year: 99 to 83 rejected his proposition. The salaries were therefore fixed at 1000l. a-year for "the chairs," and 500l. a-year for each of the Directors. The Bill then passed amid loud Ministerial cheers.

The Scottish Universities Bill passed through Committee last evening. An attempt to introduce the words, "on the true faith of a Christian," in the declaration by Professors, was defeated by 81 to 37.

The news respecting the Turkish difficulty is of the usual character. We are promised peace through the mediation of Austria. It is ostentatiously paraded that the fleets will not retire from Besika Bay until Russia evacuates the Principalities.

It further appears from the telegraphic despatches of this morning that all the Powers are anxious for peace, with the exception of Russia. At Constantinople, the four Western Powers and the Porte are reported as being thoroughly in accord, and *all* they have got to do is to obtain the consent of Russia to evacuate the Danubian Principalities.

News from India and China reached town early in the week. From Burmah the intelligence is that no advance is to be made on Ava unless our troops or civil servants are molested; and our present position there is to be maintained. Many officers have died. The Empire of China is divided, and Nankin is independent of the Tartar dynasty. Great anxiety was entertained for Canton, and a rising was daily expected there.

The committee of Cab owners sat again last evening, and at eleven o'clock came to the following resolution:—

"That the Committee of the Metropolitan Hackney Carriage Trade, having observed that certain amendments have been proposed to the Hackney Carriage Act, take this opportunity of earnestly recommending their fellow-tradesmen to return to their usual avocations."

The result of this resolution will be that this (Saturday) morning London will be in possession of its usual supply of cabs.

The Bow-street reporter of the *Times* has again convicted Lord Palmerston of defeating the House in the matter of cabman Phillips. He shows, from the entry by the clerk of the court, that the cabman was "offered to have the ground measured, but had not 5s. for the purpose."

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. No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications. All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London. 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.

The Leader

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1853.

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.

THE "GREEK EMPIRE" NOTION.

THE agitation of the Eastern Question is producing at least one good effect—it is accustoming the public mind to a higher order of political speculations than it has of late been thought "practical" to meddle with. At this very moment a notion is abroad, dazzling the imaginations of many, and seriously occupying not a few of our most practical heads, which little more than a month ago would have seemed the mere phantasm of a student, fresh from the pages of Gibbon, and innocent of any statesmanship beyond that which may be transacted over a cup of coffee and a map. The reconstruction of a Greek Empire—the rehabilitation in the East of that old Byzantine power which the Turks overthrew four hundred years ago: such is the idea which has passed within the last few weeks from the private note-books of a few solitary thinkers, where it had lain undisturbed for twenty years, into the columns of public newspapers, and the red boxes of men in office. Several books and pamphlets have already appeared, advocating the idea: it has been propounded by a score of journals of all shades of opinion, from that Ishmael of politics, the slashing *Times*, to the cautious, plodding *Economist*; and last Saturday week witnessed the publication of the first number of a new journal, named the *Eastern Star*, established, as it would seem, for the very purpose of providing for this idea an active and continuous propagandism. So it will not be for lack of literary championship if the world does not before long find itself invited to the inauguration of a Pan-Hellenic Empire in the East, the capital of which shall be Constantinople. Of this real Hellenic empire, the present little kingdom of Greece, with its miserable Otho and his mongrel Court, will in that case turn out to have been but a kind of prelude and instalment.

Such is the idea; and it is intellectually refreshing, in this age and country of peddling politics, to have such an idea let loose among us, even though we should have to pronounce it in the end only a splendid chimera. The particular form which the idea assumes is as follows:—All this babblement about supporting Turkey against Russia, and about "maintaining the integrity of the Turkish Empire," belongs but to the passing diplomatic phase of a much bigger question. That Russia shall not be allowed to walk into Turkey; that at the present moment England, France, and every other western power that has any pluck or any foresight, must take Constantinople and the region thereabouts under vigilant protection, and, if need be, make the shores of the Baltic and the Black Sea bellow with gunpowder for twelve months rather than let Russia clutch that bit of the map—as to this all are agreed; and if, as matters stand, such a policy is diplomatically tantamount to backing the Porte and preserving the integrity of the actual Turkish Empire, it cannot be helped. But beyond the present diplomatic moment there lies an exigency to which, when that moment is passed, and even before it is passed, politicians must address

themselves. Even suppose that Russia should be driven back without a blow, and that all should be restored to the condition in which it was a month or two ago, the real Eastern Question still remains to be settled. Chalked up, as it were, on the black board of the world's politics, the problem which now stares us in the face is the problem of a reorganization of the East. Russia is attempting a solution after her particular fashion; and it is not enough in the other nations to refuse this solution, unless they are prepared to take the problem entirely out of Russia's hands, and see another solution fairly wrought out. In short, the moment has arrived when there must be performed for the East of Europe and the adjoining lands of Asia, that highest feat of statesmanship, the factitious recombination of a number of contiguous and intermixed populations into a new political unity. Such feats of statesmanship have hitherto been performed almost exclusively by conquerors—by Alexanders, Cæsars, and Napoleons; it remains to be seen whether a similar result may not be attained by a more pacific process.

Setting aside the Russian solution as intolerable in the eyes of all but the Russians themselves, the next presentable solution, and that to which, as being the least bold and innovative, English statesmen are likely as a body to be most inclined, is that of a *continuation of the present Turkish Empire under a new system of obligations and guarantees*. The mere "preservation of the integrity of the Turkish Empire" everybody sees, is nothing at all; it is but driving away the lion from the carcase, and leaving the carcase to re-attract the lion. Hence, if the Turkish Empire is preserved, it must be preserved with a thorough purgation. England, France, and the other western nations must, in fact, overhaul the whole system of Turkish government, re-arrange the relations of that government to the populations under it, and continue for a long time to direct the Turks, as a master directs his apprentices.

This solution, however, finds no favour with some. Such a pretended reconstruction of the Ottoman Empire, they say, would be, in reality, a perpetual squabble between the Western protecting powers for the superiority of the Protectorate. What is required in the East is not a system which will need to be wound up every twenty-four hours by Western constitution-makers, but a system which, when once wound up, will go of itself. Now, on no principle, they say, can it be maintained, that such a system can be devised consistently with the continued supremacy of the Turks in the East. There are but two principles by which the right of a ruling power to continue to rule can be tested—the principle of nationality, and the principle of fitness. By neither principle will the Turks bear to be tried. Take, first, the principle of nationality. The essence of this principle is, that every nation, every mass of men defined as homogeneous by a certain assemblage of common qualities, has a right to govern itself, without interference from without, even should that interference be by a wiser power, and promise better government. But the Turks, as inhabitants of Turkey, are no nation; they are a garrison distributed among many nations, and holding them together. You may say "Italy for the Italians," and "Hungary for the Hungarians;" but you cannot, in the same sense, say "Turkey for the Turks." The Turks are to the Turkish Empire what the Austrians are to Italy; and it is the height of absurdity in those who urge the principle of nationality in behalf of the Italians, claiming that the Austrians should be driven out of the Italian peninsula, to join in the cry for "the preservation of the integrity of the Turkish Empire." What is the Turkish Empire?—The Turkish Empire is an aggregate of about 25 millions of people of various races, chiefly Greeks, Slavonians, and Shemites or Arabs, permeated and governed by about two millions of Turks. Restricting our view to European Turkey alone, we find there, it is said, ten or eleven millions of Christians, to about three millions of Mohammedans, of which latter not more than 700,000 are pure Osmanlis. The Turks, then, are an insignificant and alien ingredient foisted into the East some centuries ago, and yet living, as it were, only as marauders in an encampment, with their horses saddled, ready to go back to whence they came. So far as the principle of nationality is concerned, the

idea of fighting for them is positively ridiculous. It remains to be inquired then, whether, on the other principle, they have a better title to respect at our hands. Nationality, it may be said, is humbug: wherever there is good and strict government, wherever a people shows a capacity for ruling, that government or that people has right on its side. If a set of negroes from Ashantee were to get hold of Spain, and make a better thing of it than the Spaniards are making of it for themselves, then the Niggers and not the Spaniards should be upheld in the government of Spain. Is it so with the Turks? Have they really a governing hand and a governing brain? Aliens as they are in race, do they show that they have a greater capacity for administering the lands they dominate, than the populations more native to those lands—the Greeks, the Slaves, the Shemites? Now this is a question on which there are various judgments. On the one hand, the Turks are admitted to have, as individuals, certain sturdy qualities such as Englishmen like. They are stolid silent buffers, with a great deal of pride, and more true to their word than the majority of Orientals. Look at a Turkish boy, says Layard, in any Turkish village playing with the other children, Greeks or Arabs, and you will find that, though he is a sulky little beggar, and no match for the others in talk or cleverness, he has yet the faculty of making himself obeyed, and can kick and cuff like one born to it. Again, the Turks have done fine things in the way of moral firmness. Their refusal to give up the Hungarian refugees did them honour. No one can deny that, individually, they have very respectable features of character. Recently, too, their Government has had much to interest us. Since 1828, the Porte has adopted many western ideas and improvements; theoretically, there is as large a degree of toleration under the Mohammedan Government as in England itself, and much larger than in Italy or Spain; in Turkey, as in England, you may travel without passports; and in commercial importance Turkey has been outstripping Russia. Admitting all this, more or less, the opponents of Turkish supremacy have various ways of accounting for it, and still keeping to their point. Study the history of the Turks, they say, or read the accounts of their present condition and administration, as given by authors of the most diverse opinions, and writing for the most diverse purposes—Layard, Macfarlane, St. John, Churchill—and you will find that, with all their moral doggedness and military tenacity, they are a people who have never done a single stroke of real good for the world, and under whose rule progress can be but accidental. Sixty years ago, Burke described the Turkish Government as "a barbarous anarchic despotism, where the finest countries in the most genial climates in the world are wasted by peace more than any others have been worried by war; where arts are unknown, where manufactures languish, where science is extinguished, where agriculture decays, where the human race itself melts away and perishes under the eye of the observer." Facts have occurred since this was written which renders it less apparently just than it once was; but substantially, it is said, the picture is true yet. The recent improvements in Turkey, it is said, are clearly against the Turkish grain, and amount, in fact, to an incipient suicide of Mohammedanism. To back up the real Turks, to tolerate for one instant the idea of seeing the noble Oriental lands handed over to the continued stewardship of a set of Mohammedan fellows, who wear turbans, and swear by the Koran, is a sad proof, it is said, to what a low pitch our own Christianity has come.

It is by such a process as this that a number of our speculative politicians have arrived at the notion of a restored Greek Empire as the true solution of the Eastern question. The East, they say, waits but the stroke of inventive genius, and the materials will arrange themselves. Out of the dissolved Empire of the Turks there will spring a great Greek nationality, occupying south-eastern Europe; and what remains of the Turkish Empire after this fragment is subducted, must be otherwise provided for. Such is the idea. It has been our object here simply to state it in the form in which it is being disseminated by its advocates. The criticisms that naturally suggest themselves in connexion with it, we postpone till another occasion.

THE CABLESS STREETS.

THE highest indignation has been expressed at the unwarrantable brutality of the cabs in withholding their aid from the Londoner, compelled to walk on foot. It was said that the cabman took advantage of his position to put a restraint upon the passenger-class. He was called indiscreet, and Mr. Fitzroy has declared that the strike places an embarrassing difficulty in the way of adjusting the case on its merits.

It is to be confessed that strikes are things in themselves actually bad: they create ill-feeling, waste the resources of those who engage in them, and inflict trouble upon the innocent. Yet, we would ask, whether the absence of resistance has not generally resulted in placing working men more completely at the mercy of the employers? And in this case particularly we would ask, whether the same concentrated and assiduous attention would have been bestowed upon the question of amending the new act, on Wednesday, if, during the day, the streets had not been bare of cabs. It was that great fact which convinced the public and the Member that "something must be done;" for so long as it was merely an abstract question of justice, or of hardship on the cabmen, the something to be done was easily postponed till a future date.

Even now the something is insufficient. Mr. Fitzroy, under the compulsion of the circumstances, offers to make a concession on two points: one is, to give the cabman an extra sum for hiring if he be compelled to go a greater distance than five miles; and another is, not to oblige him to go more than four or five miles from Charing Cross. This is not to satisfy either party. The Post Office is scarcely to be called even one centre of the long and irregular ellipse called the Metropolis; and the cabman is still kept down in his price, be his cost what it may. In the preface to the promised concessions, Mr. Fitzroy ventured to assert "the only complaint, the only grievance, the only tangible objection to his own bill, was that pointed out by Mr. Walpole, that the cabmen could not charge return fare;" but Sir Robert Inglis had also pointed out a breach of all principles of political economy, in "arbitrarily fixing the rate of price to a given scale of goods." In justification of this fixity, Mr. Fitzroy defended himself thus:—

"On consideration of the different compensations made to the proprietors of cabs in the shape of lower charges for licenses, and taking into consideration the lower cost of materials generally, and of provender for several years past, it certainly did appear to me, after the closest calculation, and examining the estimate put before me by the representatives of the trade, that 6*d.* a-mile would be amply remunerative within certain limits of the metropolis."

Supposing this were true, it does not meet the case. Here is a law, newly stringent, applied to an old principle. Mr. Fitzroy confesses that the rate would "only be remunerative within certain limits," which he afterwards described as "the crowded parts of the metropolis:" how, then, could the same rate serve for the outlying and uncrowded parts of the metropolis? He is refuted by his own defence. Nor does he explain how he justifies an abatement of the price: he does not explain the anomaly, that, while hay was 50*s.* a load, the fixed charge was 8*d.* a mile, now hay is 100*s.* a load the fixed charge is reduced to 6*d.*; and when Mr. Fitzroy asserts that the "only tangible grievance was the want of return fare," we beg to doubt whether he is not mistaken in his memory.

There are three principal grievances to the cabmen: one is, their being compelled to go to the outlying parts of town, without security of pay for the whole distance traversed; the second is the having to pay a rate arbitrarily fixed, when the price of provisions has risen, and may continually fluctuate; and the third is the being liable to a call from the stand for a single 6*d.*, out of which a penny has to be paid to the waterman. The public, also, has some complaint to make. If fares are fixed, distances are left doubtful, by the want of the official book of distances. The hardship of the law has made the cabmen reluctant and uncivil, and the cabmen's grievance, respecting the disproportion between the fixed price per mile and the price of hay, is likely to be the source of a disaffection, which will entail further inconvenience upon the public. A principle is daily gaining recognition, that it is beyond the province of the legislature, or of a public department, to fix the price of a com-

modity. Fix the scale of measurement or standard, fix rules by which, in the case of a public conveyance, the passenger is secured, beforehand, a knowledge of the rate to be charged, fix means for bringing the cabmen, like the omnibus-driver, to account, but leave prices to find their own level, as is the case with omnibuses and the price of all commodities, excepting the cab ride.

It is probable that, in such case, the average price would come to be 6*d.*; but, then, it would be worked out by the cabmen themselves. At present they are in the position of men who are unjustly compelled by the legislature, in the teeth of high prices, and in the teeth of the principles of commerce to which the present Government adheres.

But it does not seem likely that they will get justice. Sir Richard Mayne is said to admit that they have been subjected to unjust magisterial judgment, and they are still refused right of appeal! The classes of cab vary, and yet they are refused different classes of prices. The prices of the raw material vary, and yet they are bound down to one price for their produce. The House of Commons legislates arbitrarily for them, and if they "shut up shop" for the day, the House treats them as rebels. Surely no class of British traders, except the Negroes of the West Indies, have been compelled to trade under such restrictions and such compulsion. The Negroes have been emancipated; but, it seems, the Government cannot exist without having some class of slaves on hand.

If the cabmen hold out, there is great chance that some new class of vehicles may be introduced; and then, although the cabs could return to their trade, and punish the interlopers for intruding, the ruin of the one would not compensate for the ruin of the other party. There is a feud between the Commons and Palace Yard, and the Commons are having their revenge. It is a bad job, and we do not know how the cabmen can startle the consciences of legislators into justice. It is evident that the faithful Commons do not understand either the wants or the rights of the common people of England; the separation between the two classes is too great, and the working classes, totally unrepresented in Parliament, cannot make their actual circumstances understood. It is not the cabmen alone who are in this predicament: all the working classes are so. But we can imagine a vision which might tell the slumbering member, that there is more in these things than his philosophy dreams of. The police talk of resigning, 4000 strong. The omnibuses talk of resigning. There are several of the labouring classes of London in the same state of resignation. We can imagine the member startled from his slumbers by a grand procession; all the resigned cabs passing by in ghastly train, each carrying inside a resigned policeman; followed up by all the omnibuses, and the rear brought up by all the resigned labourers.

RUSSIAN COUP D'ÉTAT IN DENMARK, AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

WHETHER the Allied Powers, who have undertaken to mediate between Russia and Turkey, are temporising or not; whether they are preparing to accept a semblance of peace, by making concessions to Russia, which will surrender to her without contest the fruits of war; it appears now to be certain that no practical gain has been made on the side of justice by consenting to a procrastination of the decision; but to be equally certain that Russia is gaining most materially by the extension of time. That Turkey has not in any degree altered her position, appears by the protest of Redschid Pacha, which renews in other terms the declaration that he last made—averring that Turkey *has* satisfied the Emperor, and showing that further concession would be inconsistent with the independence or dignity of the Ottoman Government. The most probable accounts from St. Petersburg represent the Emperor as equally unchanged—resolved to insist upon his demands to the last, but politely entertaining propositions which have the effect of delay. It is well known that every week's delay wastes the resources of Turkey, while every week's delay positively adds to the resources of Russia, whose immense size and *vis inertiae* enable her to gain by simple passive perseverance. The Four Powers are said to be negotiating in Vienna; but the reports from that quarter incline us very seriously to doubt whether the aim is not rather

to contrive some kind of compromise, which will conceal a material and damaging concession to Russia, under the form of "mutual concessions" by Turkey. We trust that this fear may prove to be mistaken, but the last accounts show symptoms of irresolution, not only in the Austrian or Prussian Governments, but also in those of France and England.

A new importance has been given to the position of Russia by what has taken place in Denmark. In 1848, the joint duchies of Schleswig and Holstein claimed the fulfilment of the late King's promise, which secured to them that they should not be divided; and which, therefore, left to Schleswig the right of following the succession of Holstein, and of being considered as pertaining to Germany, rather than to Denmark. There were many feelings mixed up with this wish on the part of the Schleswig-Holsteiners; and the Danes, under the instinct of national pride, supported their Government in overcoming the people. The Germans gave a very feeble support to the outlying provinces of "Germany," and England, most unaccountably, supported the claims of Denmark.

It would appear now that a retribution is likely to fall upon our country for that misprision of treason. The effect of the arrangement agreed to by the Convention of London, is to recognise the Duke of Glücksberg as the next heir to the Danish throne, and on the failure of his descendants the question of the succession would come before the Allied Powers of Europe. The King has lately proposed to his Diet to repeal a fundamental law of the kingdom to impede the claims that the family of Russia has upon the succession. The Diet of Denmark resisted that repeal; and now the King, by an arbitrary act like that of Louis Napoleon, but without the soldiers, proposes to supersede his Diet, and to annul the constitutional character of his Government. It is impossible not to regard this proceeding as one in which the King of Denmark is acting under the orders of Russia; and it appears to expose, by an inopportune indiscretion, the aim of long-continued intrigues carried on by Russia in Denmark. We wait to see what course our own Government will take; but this is evident, that the acts to which our own Government has been an accomplice, and in which our Government aided to betray the rights of the Schleswig-Holsteiners, were only part of a long-pursued plan to surrender Denmark into the possession of Russia. Let us remember that Denmark is the guardian of the Sound; that she is, geographically, the Turkey of the North; and our readers will perceive that we were not too hasty when we described the aim of Russia as contemplating both the maritime portals of Europe, North and South.

The course pursued by our own Government is not yet explained. For the share taken in the Schleswig-Holstein affair, now suddenly illustrated by this Danish crisis, the apprehension is revived, that our Government, whatever may be its *intention*, is subserving the purposes of Russia, at least in the Baltic; and if it is so subserving them in the North, may we not too reasonably suspect the readiness with which it assents to procrastination, in the face of Russian purposes in the South.

A new sense is awakened in Europe of the position taken by America. The wildest stories are abroad, and we find English journals which do not scruple to echo the preposterous remonstrances and calumnies of German papers. The Americans are represented as conniving at the assassination of an Austrian officer in Smyrna, because, forsooth, an American commander, with a spirit which honours him, defended a persecuted foreigner who bore the passport, if he did not the citizenship, of the United States; and because an Austrian officer was killed in a riot provoked by Austrian outrage. The Austrian press now rakes up every species of anecdote, to prove bad feeling on the part of the United States towards the Government at Vienna. It is said that Mr. Marsh, the American minister at Constantinople, serenaded by Hungarian and Italian refugees, gave from his balcony a cheer for the freedom of the United States, Italy, and Hungary; and the Austrian papers report with an affectation of mirth, that on the arrival of two frigates, the *Bellona* and *Novara*, in the roadstead of Smyrna, the United States corvette, *St. Louis*, sailed away! These anecdotes do not prove malevolence in the United States, but they do

prove the invidious and hostile feeling of Austria. It is evident that the adherents of absolutism on the Continent do not understand American policy; but the Americans, we are fain to believe, understand themselves. President Pierce has equally been accused of entertaining extreme opinions, and of being undetermined in his policy; but we have shown that his appointments indicate a positive, active, and national policy. Their character is unmistakable. If there is any doubt at all, it consists in the appointment of Mr. Marcy to be Secretary of State. That gentleman, with all his distinguished personal qualities, inclines to that spirit of "moderation," as it is called in Europe, which is really a compromise of decided opinions. But it would be an absurd error to suppose that any individual minister can check the decisive character inherent in General Pierce, and the men by whom he is surrounded. You can hardly look through a file of American papers without perceiving the longing which possesses the American mind, to extend the principles of the republic, whether by absolute annexation, or by aiding in the progress of freedom throughout the world. "We cannot," says a paper which we may call provincial, a Connecticut journal,—

"We cannot," says the *Hartford Times*, "yet believe that this country, held up by Providence as an example of what self-government can accomplish in the restraint of crime—of how much more efficacy law is than the bayonet—will be suffered to fall a victim to foreign combinations, to internal dissensions, to the progress of wickedness, or to the follies of ambition. God has still something for us to do in the political regeneration of the world, and that the great destiny of the nation will yet be fulfilled, in spreading the knowledge of the true principles of government through the world."

We perfectly agree with the correspondent of the *Times*, when he says, of Austria, "this Government will, at no distant period, have cause to rue the day on which it gave America an opportunity of picking a quarrel." "Decidedly," says the *Journal of Frankfort*, with that strange mixture of truth and misconception which distinguishes continental writers on English or American questions,—“Decidedly there is a secret pact between the United States and the Sultan. It is certain that the port Marmorizza has been in agitation. The Commodore has remitted nearly 500,000 dollars, in gold, to the Sultan; he has taken position, with three frigates and corvettes, in the middle of the Turkish squadron in the Bosphorus. He pretends that the treaty of the Straits of 1841 does not regard him." Whatever the truth or falsehood of these particulars, the statement serves to show, at once, the malice and the alarm with which the American eagle is regarded on the Continent. If England is irrevocable, we do not believe that America is so, or that a single position taken up by the star-girt Eagle will ever again be yielded.

HONOURABLE SUBSERVIENCY TO DISHONOUR.

It is remarkable the extent to which society takes the last form of any question, and confounds the form with the substance. Latterly an "affair of honour" was understood to mean an arrangement of two persons at a stated distance opposite each other, with a pair of pistols; and the real honour and merits of the case, the generosity, the truthfulness, the justice, the humanity, almost came to be considered irrelevant, if not impertinent. So in Parliament, every man is an honourable member, whatever may be his conduct, unless he be actually placed at the bar, and reprimanded, by the Speaker, in his proper name. But even when we come to a more particular use of the word honour, as meaning something distinctive, we find that it still means conventional arrangements, separated from the substance and merits of the case. So divorced have the usages of debate become from the practical considerations of justice and humanity which dictated them, that an honourable member may strictly conform to the rules of the House, and yet violate truth, justice, and good feeling towards his fellow-men, and faith to his country. And yet, again, if he depart from those rules, for the sake of truth and justice, and the public weal, there will be an outcry at his misconduct.

The other night Mr. Bright violated one of these conventional rules of honour, and seldom has there been a louder burst of cant, hypocrisy, malevolence, and cowardly unfairness, than that

with which he was assailed. Amongst the rules of the House it is set down, that you are not to make a charge against persons, unless you can bring forward names, and substantiate the charge. The rule looks very fair, and it would serve fairness in an assembly composed, entirely, of men bold and sincere, but it does not work exclusively for fairness, in an assembly of the opposite kind. In society a great portion of polite art consists in covering corruption with a veil; and where all society, although more or less virtuous, or the reverse, connives at keeping the veil over the indecorum, there is no end to the unfairness and falsehood which may go on, under the glittering cover of a conventional honour. Thus it happens, that things proceed around us which we may know, but which we are forbidden to name. Who cannot recollect scores of instances of bad things, which continue by virtue of that tacit sufferance? On Thursday last week, Mr. Bright assailed one of these covert conventional corruptions, and declared that he knew an instance, in which attempts had been made to use the patronage of the East India Company, for an oblique purpose. He had learned these facts in confidence, and therefore he was precluded from mentioning the individuals who were implicated. And are there not scores of such instances? Do we not know in society of men, and women too, who break the laws by wholesale, which they pretend to observe, in trade, in morals, in administration? Does it serve truth, to pretend that these things go on regularly, smoothly, and virtuously, when the fact is the reverse.

There have been instances in which the speaker was less strictly bound by confidence, but the indignation was almost the same, at any censure. We have known such things as a Minister's denying that a despatch had been received, after it had been; yet that man is better welcome in honourable society than some of his straightforward denouncers would be. He is a man who can be admitted into society, without fear that he will break its glass cases; whereas, amongst the social shams, the direct speaker is like a bull in a China shop. We remember a Minister who quoted part of a despatch, to prove, on the high authority of Lord Harris, that the West Indies were prospering, the extract being divorced from the context, which asseverated the direct opposite; yet there was no howl against Lord Grey, even in a right honourable assembly. When Mr. Stafford declared that he had not received Sir Baldwin Walker's resignation, there was a degree of impatience to believe him: Lord John Russell hastened to declare that Mr. Stafford had thoroughly exonerated himself; and we verily believe that there was more dislike of those who had brought the Admiralty corruptions to a thorough exposure, than to those who had revived these corruptions; although, in that particular case, it so happened that party interests were served by the exposure.

The true test of honour is the substantial merit of the case and the interest at stake. Mr. Bright asserts that there is a corrupt distribution of Indian patronage; Sir James Hogg asserts that if the originator of the accusation be named, the East India Directors will prosecute him; and the public has found no difficulty in believing both assertions. We all of us believe that appointments made without responsibility are not governed exclusively by regard for the interests of the whole empire, but are also governed, if not in a greater degree, by regard for the individual interests. No doubt these arrangements would always be managed in such a way as to avoid flagrant scandal; but should that nice arrangement, or even the possibility of error, be a reason why we should continue to wink even at a suspicion that there is malversation of such important trusts? On the contrary, it appears to us that the violation of good feeling and breach of honour lie in winking at the corruption, not in denouncing it; that if the arrangements are so complete for concealing direct evidence, it is still the duty of a courageous man to get as near to the truth as he can, by plain and direct speaking. The man who refrains from doing so through fear of such reproaches as were levelled at Mr. Bright, lowers his own truthfulness to the standard of conventional hypocrisy, and becomes an accomplice in the corruption which a little rough handling would shake out of its tranquil impunity. There is no doubt that Mr. Bright's blunt speaking will be useful to India and to the Empire; and was far more honourable to him, than that

conventional courtesy which perseveres in hushing up notorious scandals, so long as the ill-doers contrive to fulfil their little arrangements with as much privacy as custom requires.

A WINTER SESSION.

OVER-WORK, and consequent exhaustion of mind and body, want of time for the performance of social duties, mental culture, and innocent recreation, are common complaints among our working classes, on which we need waste no writing here. But the world has lately listened to similar complaints from our legislators. They, to whom the working classes look for redress, have grievances of their own. Mr. Cobbett introduced a bill for limiting the hours of labour in factories and workshops. Before long, we shall have a Home Secretary coming down to the House with a bill for limitation of hours in the House of Commons. The Lords manage to pass their time agreeably enough. Only on grand occasions, such as a call for a splendid display of intellectual gladiatorship, when Lord Derby tries his skill with the Duke of Newcastle, and some question of principle is at issue, do we hear of their lordships sitting far into the night, or breaking in upon the still repose of morning with their noise of voices. In the Commons it is different. A cab horse enjoys the luxury of indolence, compared with a working member; ambition, prospects of a place, love of notoriety, or the external pressure of constituents, are as "exigent" in their demands upon his time and labour as the most determined "cabby" in the metropolis. During the early portion of the session there are committees from eleven o'clock, or, it may be, earlier, which last till the hour of four; at five the bell, inexorable as that which summons unhappy operatives from their beds, calls members to the work of legislation. And no easy work it is. From 4 o'clock P.M., to some hour ranging between midnight and 4 A.M., as has lately happened more than once, our legislators are condemned to linger in the precincts of the House, to be ready for a division, if they have not endured the additional torture of listening to prosy debates in which they can feel the very smallest amount of interest. Matters are even worse as the session advances. The press of business produces morning sittings, and the House is occupied from noon till 4 o'clock, and, with a short interval of two hours, from 6 P.M., until the exhausted senators wander dreamily through the streets, sickened, rather than refreshed by the morning air, to snatch a few hours of distracted repose. What dreams they are which haunt this victim to public duty it would be easy to imagine. Then comes the mass of correspondence. Letters from constituents on most ridiculous subjects—letters of importance—letters of private friendship—all demanding an immediate reply. What is to be done?

One of the main complaints we take to be no real complaint at all—that of late hours. In this the members of the House of Commons are no worse off than fashionable ladies and dancing Guardsmen. We put no faith in the nursery fable, that one hour's sleep before 12 o'clock at night is worth any two after that hour. Some men "are fat: sleek-headed men, and such as sleep o' nights." Others, like "Randal Leslie," neither like nor require much sleep. But whatever be the exact measure of repose required, we take it that it matters little whether it is enjoyed at morning, noon, or night. Let this grievance, then, go for what it is worth.

Doubtless the real evils consist in the burdensome character of legislation; the amount of business to be transacted in the House of Commons; the onerous duties imposed upon Ministers; and the consequent want of time for the performance of social duties. Mr. Drummond has proposed to remedy these evils by introducing the practice of a winter session, and Lord John Russell gave a partial assent to the proposal, but deferred its consideration to a more convenient season. With regard to the first evil it is not the amount of work, but its character, which forms the main objection. The actual amount of labour undergone by members of the House of Commons (always excepting Ministers and working conscientious members like many whom we could name) is not so severe as that entailed upon journalists, barristers, physicians, and men in other callings; but it is in many cases wearisome, boring, ceaseless, and unprofitable. The Legislature takes too much upon

itself. It transacts a vast amount of business which might very fairly be left in the hands of local authorities, or given up to permanent boards. Give a town a corporation, and it is perfectly competent to manage its own affairs, without any interference of Parliament. Appoint a permanent railway committee, and you not only release members from a large amount of work, but you gain the positive advantages of better information, and greater power of decision in those who are connected with such separate jurisdiction.

Again: Why should Ministers be compelled to undergo the drudgery of their several departments? To some extent, no doubt, they are released from a large portion of unnecessary labour, but there is no reason why this principle should not be carried further. Let the Minister be at the head of his department, but let him be surrounded by reliable men, well paid, and able, in a majority of cases, to know the mind of their chief, and the policy which should be pursued. It is simply absurd to say that such men could not be found. It is chance, and not merely superior ability, which makes men Ministers of State.

Doubtless the difficulties attendant upon any resolution like that suggested by Mr. Drummond would be serious, and fair ladies no less than sporting members would feel themselves aggrieved by any change which should banish them from town much earlier than July, or call them from the country until after Christmas. Still we cannot but believe that there is a sufficient staff of working members who would be content to sit during the morning hours even in the midst of November fogs. But whatever may be the ultimate result of this very moral "short time" movement we would really urge upon members to remember the sage advice of a popular novelist, himself a member of the House of Commons:—"Look to it, O public man, whoever thou art, and whatsoever thy degree, see if thou canst not compound matters so as to keep a little nook apart for thy private life—that is, *for thyself!*" Let not the great Popkin's question absorb wholly the individual soul of thee, as Smith or Johnson. . . . I don't deny to thee the uses of 'public life;' I grant that it is much to have helped to carry that great Popkin question; but private life, my friend, is the life of thy private soul—oh! immortal soul, for one quarter of an hour *per diem*—do Popkinise thine immortality."

THE RUSSIAN INCORPORATION OF MOLDAVIA AND WALLACHIA.

LETTER VIII.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—In direct contempt of the stipulations of treaties, the Russian occupation of Moldavia is now an accomplished fact. In the treaty of Kainardji, Russia obtained the recognition of her right of intercession: the treaty of Adrianople saw the word "protector" assumed: the convention of Balka Liman asserted that only in cases of organic disturbance could the Russian troops enter either of the principalities, and then only, I believe, to the number of 10,000 men, and that, too, conjointly with Turkey. All these stipulations are now so much waste paper: the Czar expressly asserts that he enters the territory in order to constrain the Porte to an arrangement satisfactory to Russia! and the present amount of the rapidly augmenting army of occupation is variously estimated at upwards of a hundred thousand men. These troops are crossing the Danube in shoals, and at several points. Thus the sacred rights of nations are now no longer anything but a name, for the Emperor Nicholas, in his own words, oppresses the innocent Moldavians in order to exact certain guarantees from the Porte! Russia dares even to assert that this is not Turkish territory, properly understood, and she is supported in the assertion. The iniquity of this invasion in such a case is all the greater, for in this latter relation Russia invades a neutral territory in which Turkey has only a remote interest, to constrain Turkey to certain conditions, which the Moldavians in no way control and in no way influence! And this, sir, is public right and European law! Let us regard this territory in what light we will, the unparalleled nature of this aggression can find neither apologists nor supporters. If the territory is independent, Russia has no right, human or divine, to occupy it in order to coerce a different power. Russia, however, gives the lie to this presumption by the

occupation itself; for if Turkey has not that property and interest in Moldavia which is asserted for her, why does Russia invade that province expressly to drive the Porte to some ruinous stipulation to obtain the evacuation of the country, and why does Russia stipulate with the Porte concerning Moldavia at all? In the other case, recognising the sovereignty of the Porte, the invasion is, *de facto*, a declaration of war, for it does not take place upon neutral territory! It is, therefore, notwithstanding all sophistry, an armed occupation of a portion of Turkey, and consequently an armed invasion of the country. If this is not held sufficient to justify the Sultan's repelling the aggression by force of arms, Abdul Medjid need only at once surrender the throne of the Sultans to the northern autocrat; for to that conclusion must such reasoning inevitably lead.

This result has been brought about by the hesitation and supineness of the Western Powers, and by the *coup* of Count Leiningen. Russia, informed of the temporising and vacillating nature of our Governments, has been encouraged to proceed. The pacific attitude of England and France has been visited with the contemptuous reply of the manifestoes, the circulars, and the invasion! The fleets, notwithstanding Lord Clarendon's declaration, were ordered to Besika Bay to intimidate the Russian autocrat from moving his army forward. The effort, accompanied as it was by the ridiculous statement that the movement upon the principalities would not, it was thought, constitute a *casus belli*, of course failed in its intended purpose. Lord Clarendon denied the intention; Drouyn del'Huys admitted it, in his anxiety to clear the Western Powers from having been the aggressors. He, indeed, clearly shows that it was only after the receipt of the letter to Redshid Pasha, presenting "a final ultimatum, with a brief delay, and which contained a very clearly expressed threat of an approaching occupation of the Danubian principalities," that the fleets were ordered to the Levant. The papers representing the two Governments thought proper, just at that moment, when apparent determination was our only safeguard, to enter into puerile discussions of what would, and what would not, constitute a *casus belli*. This double policy has met with a righteous reward. The slashing and plastering of reviewers should never be extended to questions momentous to the happiness of Europe. Such conduct is mean, unworthy, and defeats its own ends. Thus, then, sir, the invasion is accomplished. It takes place either upon neutral or upon Turkish territory—both equally against the public law of Europe. And the Powers, through their undecided and undignified policy, have not only met with merited contumely, but have encouraged Russia to assume a position from which it is almost impossible for her to withdraw without a sacrifice of Imperial honour.

The unfortunate result of this state of things may be exhibited in few words. The fanaticism of the Christian and Mahometan races has been encouraged and increased—the peasantry have been called from their occupations, and the fields lie unreaped, untilled, and neglected—the agricultural *materiel* is pressed into the military service—the Porte has already been compelled to conclude a loan—the populations of the mountainous districts of Asia, wild, savage, and fanatical to a fearful degree, are brought down almost into immediate contact with the Christians, *in whose interests the invasion which has called these mountaineers from their fastnesses ostensibly takes place*. The troops have hitherto repressed the attempted outbreaks, both of Christians and Mahometans. Heaven grant they may continue to succeed in doing so. In addition to all these evils, the commerce of the Danube, of Turkey, and of Europe, has been stayed; this will still further restrict the resources of Turkey; the money that might have been devoted to internal improvement is diverted to the channels of war, and the future, wasted in negotiations, promises increasing evils and remoter misfortunes. This aggression, too, involves an all-important principle—whether Russia has only to support an outrageous claim on any European power, by force of arms, and thus, through mere intimidation, obtain, if not the whole, at least a portion of her demands. Let this principle once be conceded, in the present case, and Russian grievances and movements will become limitless, exhaustless, and never-ending. Let this principle

be once and for ever rejected now, it will probably never more recur.

Certain it is, that up to the present time, Russia alone has derived advantage from the pacific policy of the European powers. Russia threatened, upon the departure of Prince Menschikoff, that she would resort to effective means of coercion. She afterwards proclaimed her intention of advancing into Moldavia. She has done all this, and more: she has not only advanced into Moldavia, but has invaded Wallachia, and temporarily or permanently incorporated both provinces. Her troops are well armed and appointed, and they are also enthusiastic, for Russia has appealed to their religious passions, and made religion what religion always has been made, a scapegoat for her infamy. The British and French fleets which sailed to stay the progress of Russia, have effected nothing. The Baltic and the Black Seas are still free to the Muscovite navy; whilst the combined fleets lie anchored ignobly enough in the Bay of Besika. If these fleets were advanced for any purpose, they have not effected that purpose; and if they were advanced with no purpose, they should not have been advanced at all. Every hour of delay ensures supplies and reinforcements to Nicholas, and affords him opportunities of intriguing with the nobles, corrupting the *employés*, and appealing to the fanaticism of the various races of European Turkey. Every hour devoted to idle looking on by England and France, degrades them in the eyes of the races of the East, which consider delay without apparent motive tantamount to ignominy, and on a par with cowardice. The same arguments considered weighty for the Irawaddy should hold good for the Bosphorus. Russia knew this, and directed her energies accordingly. The results may be read in her success.

ALPHA.

CABBEE'S CASE.

THE cab-driver leaves his home in the morning commonly at eight or nine o'clock, and walks perhaps three miles to the yard at which he happens to be employed. He returns to the yard about midnight if he be somewhat early, with three miles to walk home afterwards. He slinks wearily, and often wet to bed, without a sight of his children and with hardly a word to his wife. This he does for months together, Sundays included, except when caprice or ill fortune deprive him of a day's work. With all beside, home is the very seed-bed of right affections, just and pure resolves, and proper outward conduct; and without a home these rarely flourish. The cabman has virtually no home, and yet you wonder that he is a bully and cheat.

You take, or did take from the owner of a cab, 5*l.* for a license to begin with, and 10*s.* a-week ever after. That is, you exact, or did exact, eight or ten per cent. of his capital for one tax, and (we speak, it is true, of extreme cases) a fourth or a third of his earnings for another tax. Marked out for imposts like a Jew in the middle ages, or a vassal in feudal France, you again wonder that the cabman is a bully and a cheat.

Take away the legal standard of a sovereign, a pound avoirdupoise, or a yard, and let sellers and buyers squabble about the weight and measure, in every transaction, and what morality of trade would there remain amongst drapers and grocers? Would it not be exactly that of a cabman wrangling with a passenger about a distance which neither of them can substantiate? What is the morality we expect to find in New Amsterdam when, according to Knickerbocker, a Dutchman's hand in the scale was made to pass for a pound? And yet with the neglect of so obvious a measure as an authorised table of distances you wonder again that the cabman is a bully and a cheat.

Liberty is for man—not a grant, a boon, something it is as well that he should have, if it be not inconvenient, but a necessity of his nature, without which he becomes stunted, soured, and debased; and so much the more if liberty flourish near him and he have it not. Now all other men fix their own terms, and are bound only by engagements made with their own concurrence. But having freed all other men from the galling control of prices by authority, which was once your favourite but most injurious policy, you leave the cabman alone still bound under it. Him alone you stigmatize as unfit to be trusted with a voluntary bargain, and yet you wonder he is a bully and a cheat.

You meet a cabman, and you assume at once he is a bad character; you speak to him with that assumption visible in every gesture, and stinging in every word. The cabman is to you what the negro is to the Virginian, or too often the "black fellow" to the Indian cadet before he has earned his common sense. It is

nothing that there are hundreds of cabmen as irreproachable as yourself; nothing that he has to endure both fatigues and temptations of which you have felt nothing. He is a cabman,—that is enough,—you treat him accordingly; and yet you wonder he is a bully and a cheat.

You blunder on until your cabman is either bad in reality, or is treated as though he were. You are vexed, and so is he. You have the power of making laws, and you make them stronger. You can inflict punishments, and you make them heavier. Again you must add severity and weight,—again and again. You have entered on the fatal course of all who begin to use force where voluntary concurrence is all that justice permits,—a course which always ends in a condition of which the awful repression of the slave states of America is but an extreme instance. The cabman subjected to a brutality of law reserved for him alone, fits himself to bear or to deserve it,—and yet you wonder he is a bully and a cheat.

What then is to be done? Just begin at the beginning. Get rid of the notion that Cabbee ought to be set apart for special oppression, or what is the same thing, for a sort of special law. Treat him like a man: and try whether the ingenuity of imperial office cannot do that which any man of common business tact would easily accomplish—viz., devise a plan by which perfect freedom of enterprise may be made consistent with that certainty in the terms of a bargain which is all that the magistrate requires for the fulfilment of his office, and beyond which he ought not to be permitted to go. What has Government to do to find cabs more than corn for the public? While it busies itself with the cab, it deludes the public and degrades the cabman.

C.

"A STRANGER" IN PARLIAMENT.

THE Senate of this enlightened country still contentedly continues in profound ignorance of the foreign policy of the British Government; and while Russia is solving, without a reference to the West, the problem of the East, the great British House of Commons is legislating, with pretentious airs of omniscient power, on—cabs, accidents in mines, the truck system, and a new Westminster-bridge. That is the business week. There has been, indeed, a helpless talk about Succession Duty, about India (the great question in regard to that being whether a Minister of State should have 3500*l.* a year or 5000*l.* a year), and about a vast financial scheme to affect the national debt infinitesimally; but these are subsidiary conversations, not business. Parliament sits through July, not because Russia is menacing, but because points as to hackney carriages, mine accidents, dog-carts, and the new road to Lambeth, have to be settled. Russia crosses the Pruth—the British Government crosses Westminster-bridge. Turkey may be destroyed—the House of Commons must nevertheless legislate upon the "back fares" of metropolitan cabs. Mr. Disraeli taunted Peel that he was degrading the House of Commons into a vestry; he might suggest to the Coalition that it leaves to the Senate topics less noble than those which are familiar to tap-rooms.

The conduct of the Government and of Parliament in relation to that question now raised by Russia, and on which the future of Europe so vitally depends, is alike unprecedented. From the beginning of the negotiations to the end, the Government, which had Lord Redcliffe to supply facts and Lord Palmerston to supply comments, has been fully cognizant of the real designs, and of the settled purpose of Russia. The lobby and the club talk of members of Parliament has been consistent from the first; and it indicates a profound disbelief that any one is in earnest but Russia, and a profound conviction that Russia will never resign the Principalities—therefore knowing that, England will not enter on a war, or even on the simulation of war. Hence a perfect agreement between the House and the Ministry that silence should be preserved; the condition of carrying the farce of diplomacy to a successful termination being that no one should be allowed to expose it. From the first to the last the intention of Government and Parliament was to dishonour England by a treachery to Turkey; and not until the perfidy is accomplished is the next act in the farce—a debate—to be permitted. Yet, if England is a consenting party to the dishonour, which she obviously is, why not? The governing classes are never ashamed to acknowledge that their tendencies are Russian. And the commercial classes, as usual, see only the immediate balance sheet, and let Lord Aberdeen understand they will not have war. They do not see that there *is* war. England commenced war when she advanced her fleet to Besika Bay. *Another two days' sail would have cost not a farthing more.* The cost of destroying the Russian fleet and Russian prestige in the East would just have been 1000*l.* for gunpowder—or say Sir Charles Wood's salary for one year! Pity it is

that the Coalition did not include a MAN—who could have taken and forced on Government, on Parliament, and on governing classes, some such view. Who could have shown that Lord Aberdeen talked to the citizens on Saturday like a courteous old lady, hating quarrels, and not like a First Minister who holds the thunderbolts of a great nation in his hand. Who could have suggested to a timid people, making too much money and getting too high wages, that Lord Aberdeen does *not* preserve peace: that we are always at war: and that we should feel a distant war with Russia as little as we feel a war with the King of Ava. Who could have reminded Parliament that senates lost in questions as to cabs and dog-carts are losing every pretension to the fear or respect of every potentate but cab-drivers and dog-fanciers. Elephants are, no doubt, the more admirable animals that they can rend trees and pick up pins—but if they prefer the picking up pins? Lord Aberdeen, unconscious enthusiast for peace, does not mind, he likes being despised; and the Mansion House cheers him for it. This is, unquestionably, a Christian attitude:—Russia has entered within the barriers for the tournament: and Lord Aberdeen pitches a tract after Nicholas.

Lord Aberdeen revealed too much of his nature in the debate, in the Lords, on the Succession Duty Bill. He sneered at the "bold barons" just enough to intimate his preference for barons who are *not* bold. The genius and the merit of the bold barons he cannot understand; and in borrowing a sneer from Mr. Bright, which did not acclimate in the House of Lords, his somewhat lethargic lordship was evidently convinced that he was saying a good thing: from him a scarce coruscation, and which his peers, perhaps from their surprise, did not seem to appreciate. Lord Derby, indeed, might have fairly expected, even if he could not get a majority, that he should get a hearing; but it is a significant circumstance that he got neither; and the fact should be accepted, as intimating the final verdict of the governing classes on this noisy statesman. And that his party should have repudiated his lead will be less galling to the ambitious but placid orator than the still more cruel sentence—that he is, as a debater, a bore. This was signified to him sufficiently on Monday; the Lords would no longer even affect to listen to his tortuous commonplaces and rotund truisms. They yawned, they walked about, they chatted, they slept. Listen to this enlightened and chivalrous English Peer shamefully attempting to make them "hear-hear" an argument that land should not pay the tax which personal property has long paid, they clearly would not; and they didn't care for his knowing their obstinacy. They were, indeed, as indifferent to Lord Derby talking as they are to Lord Monteagle talking; and comparison can no further go. Stung by that indifference, what could Lord Derby have thought of the division, which told him that his day was over even with his own order? Tories, to account for the destruction of the Tory party, have been assiduously saying and writing that "it's all Disraeli." But now we see that in the stronghold of Toryism, on the question on which of all questions the landlords would appear to be disposed to take the selfish, and therefore party side, Lord Derby doesn't lead a hundred followers. An exploded politician—what then is to become of him? He has a refuge in the press. Great journalists, who write of statesmen without even visiting the scene of statesmanship—which is as clever as criticising theatrical performances without ever going to the theatre—sustain the old cant which was got up when Lord Derby had not yet been tried, and go through the old formulas of respectful puffing of pretentious peers—talking of this "able man," who has broken down in every function he ever assumed, and of the "brilliant speeches" which even the House of Lords will not listen to. And while the press maunders on in bolstering up his reputation among his countrymen, Lord Derby may still have heart enough left to face the sneers and the smiles of the club—viz., Parliament. In the same way Charles Kean, having manipulated the free list, and made sure that there is not a *connoisseur* in the house, can afford to be indifferent to the stares of his brother actors.

The press would appear to blunder in other ways. Liberal journalists on Tuesday congratulated the country on Lord Derby's defeat on Monday; and, as a matter of taste, it is no doubt gratifying that that nobleman should have been found out and put down. But there are circumstances in connexion with the occasion on which liberal journalists should pause before they rejoice. A close investigation would show, that though the Tory party is broken up, it has not disappeared. Lord Derby was in a minority—a minority even more contemptible than the minority of that man of many minorities—Sir John Pakington. But of whom was the majority composed? Of that principal portion of the Tory party which will not follow Lord

Derby. And that is suspicious. Viewing the division in that light, the vote of the Lords on Monday was to be accepted as a compliment to Lord Aberdeen, to the effect, that he is, on the whole, a safer Tory than Lord Derby; and of such a compliment what can Lord John Russell think? Veneer Liberal of the Cabinet, is he not coming to the conclusion, that there is slightly too much Toryism for him to cover? Practically, Lord John's personal following in the House of Commons is numerically less than that of Mr. Gladstone; and it is also perceptible, that they lead, in the Ministry, two different parties,—who, in the House, sit opposite one another. By a careful avoidance of all main questions, and by a careful "open"-ing of all secondary questions, of principle, the Whigs continue for the present to get along with the Conservatives: and you can see at any moment, that Mr. Gladstone and Lord John are wonderfully cordial. But as, if you throw a cake into the middle of the happiest "Happy Family," there is immediate anarchy, so the next session's Reform Bill is likely to scatter the Coalition.

Mr. Disraeli has done a good deal this week in the endeavour to damage Mr. Gladstone's reputation, political and financial. He was politely savage, on Thursday, in his opening attack; and he really seemed as if he had at last mastered the Commutation scheme, about which he was so painfully puzzled when it first appeared. But Mr. Gladstone's reply, yesterday, was conclusive—winning for its candour; and he disarmed all further criticism by admitting the full extent of his failure, so far as the experiment has yet gone, while legitimately taking credit for a fair probability—that if Russia had not unsettled Europe (how the Chancellor must curse the Coalition foreign policy!) he would very likely have got the settlement he wanted on the Stock Exchange. What had Mr. Disraeli to say after that? Why, nothing; and his small interjectionary protest when the House was weary of the subject against the reference to European disturbances, was a weakness and a piece of ill humour, visible in his bad manner, quite unworthy of Mr. Disraeli. Why Disraeli, who has been studiously idle during the Session, and who has passed all his legislative time in lolling on the Opposition benches, cracking jokes with Lord Henry Lennox, or in lounging about the lobbies, astonishing the inhabitants of the refreshment stands by his weird apparition, should so suddenly bricken up into malignant activity on a question on which it was impossible, however he might injure Mr. Gladstone, that he could make a reputation for himself, is a perfectly inexplicable matter. There is an immemorial right in authors who have failed to convert themselves into critics; and a Chancellor of the Exchequer who brought a Ministry down with his Budget—at a season of dead principles and profound political apathy, and when a good financial scheme would even have kept the friends of Louis Napoleon, of Stafford, and of Beresford in power—may deem himself fully entitled to carp at a partial mistake in his too felicitous successor. But Mr. Disraeli forgets his own dignity in accepting the rôle of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, who has "suggested"—the great statesman—with much assiduity in connexion with the scheme; and he looked, on Thursday, less than ever he looked before, in making an elaborate speech of the "I told-you-so class," and of secondhand figures, at the inspiration of some city calculating boy, who is angry with the rival James Wilson, in order to induce a commercial faith in his own future finance, because he once happened, when his intellect was suffering from a combination of ill humour and ignorance, to make a similar guess. In this instance his assault has failed. Mr. Gladstone, yesterday, won the personal sympathies of the House, and developed (which was desirable, for he has latterly been tediously lost in details), a perfect mastery of all the features of European finance; and as for the public—that outside the Stock Exchange—it takes men and things, in Mr. Gladstone's favourite way, "as a whole," and judging him by his entire Budget, of which this scheme was a part, his countrymen have assigned to him the position they formerly gave to Peel—in a commercial nation the best financier being necessarily the first statesman.

Sir John Pakington has been more fortunate than Mr. Disraeli in an opposition function—annoying the Government. For the first time in his life (on Thursday—on the East India Company's salt monopoly) he happened to be right; and he established another precedent—for the first time in his life he happened on that day to be in a majority—two circumstances which were evidently great sources of astonishment to himself and the House, but particularly to Sir Charles Wood, who perhaps had not quite recovered by that time from his perplexity at a sage senate agreeing to raise *his* salary. Sir Charles has got so well through his India bill, nobody even taking any notice of his marvellous introductory five hours speech, and the celebrated snub he received from

Lord John, which everybody politely affected not to observe, being amply balanced by the extra salary of 1500*l.* a year, which Vernon Smith, who is waiting for a vacancy in the Coalition, proposed, and which the House was too careless to denounce as a job, but rather permitted as a capital joke, that he was puzzled at this supplementary opposition, tagged on by Sir John when the committee had been got through, and it was evident from his haw-haw-ish and pooh-pooh-ish air in replying to the Droitwich baronet, that he never dreamed of the defeat that he immediately received, and which should never have been allowed, for the very reason for which the unwilling House has been intimidated into passing this wretched bill—that it weakened the moral power of England in India. The natives might not have comprehended our æsthetical difficulty about double governments; but they understand their own politico-æconomical perplexity as to salt; and the practical effect on their minds of Thursday night's division will be this—that they will believe, with great propriety, that Parliament has rebuked the East India Company for what the ryots regard, with great propriety, as an infamous monopoly of what is, in India, a first article of subsistence. The result will test whether or not the House of Commons might not safely have put the Government in a minority (had it been so disposed,—which is very doubtful; for most members have relatives who hold India stock, and most members are practical men) on the main points of the bill. If we do not see a revolution, or a murder of a collector, Sir Charles Wood will have been convicted of obtaining an act under false pretences. There are, however, other tests at work of native endurance. It appears that the India (native) newspapers are going to translate Sir Charles Wood's five hours speech. If England retains her great dependency after that, she is sure of her for ever.

England, at any rate, has paid India the compliment of agreeing to give a Yorkshire squire 5000*l.* a year to govern her: of putting the Minister for India on a level with the Minister for all the Colonies. Nay, Lord Palmerston, who spoke for the blushing and would-be unconscious Wood on the occasion, induced the House of Commons to consider whether it was not desirable to have in the Indian department some man, to be called a Permanent Secretary, who should know something about India! That sounds an extravagant report of Lord Palmerston; but—read his speech. He spoke for half an hour on the advantage which it would be when a Minister for India was appointed to find in his bureau a gentleman, high in character, and reliable in tone, who could guide the Indian Minister on Indian affairs! He referred to the advantages he had experienced from such an arrangement in the Home Office, where he was very new; and he referred, generally, to the facilities which such a system gave to all new Governments. That is—up to this moment India has repeatedly been governed by men who knew nothing, and who, until they had educated themselves at her expense, could get to know nothing of her affairs! What a satire, from one of our first Parliamentary heroes, on our whole Parliamentary system!

Saturday Morning.

WHO IS THE CULPRIT?

SIMONY is a very innocent and proper thing; it's only one of the rights of property; why should you interfere, with your canonical notions, to put it down? Law sanctions it; human avarice holds fast to it; the Church—now you know the Church could not get on without it; and if unfit men creep into the Church through the back door it opens, of course that is the fault of the Bishop. Yes; it's all the fault of the bishop; he should not institute; it's a disgrace to him to institute an unfit person. We, Simonists, we are not to blame; we only sell the presentation, the Bishop, he's the culprit.

Such are the objections with which our views are assailed. Now, reader, we ask you who is the culprit in the following disgraceful transaction, narrated by the Reverend Sidney Godolphin Osborne, authenticated with his signature, and published by the *Times*.

There is in Cornwall a certain parish called St. Ervan. In or about the year 1851, by the death of the then incumbent, the living became vacant. The patron wished to sell the said living (the next presentation or the advowson, I am not informed which) at the highest price he could obtain. A gentleman was found, very infirm, paralytic, utterly incompetent to do the duty, and giving every prospect, from his state of health, of affording to the purchaser speedy possession. To this gentleman the living was given. It was some time before he was brought to the spot for induction, &c.; he had then to be supported up the aisle by two persons; jelly and wine, says one informant, wine and water says another, were supplied him at the reading-desk. He was not able to get through reading the Thirty-nine Articles in the morning; becoming very unwell, he was removed from the desk to the inn in an almost fainting state. In the afternoon, however, he

was again brought down to the church, and did succeed in finishing the reading of the said Articles. Another clergyman from a neighbouring parish had been sent for, to be ready to finish the service, in case this new incumbent should through weakness fail to do so. So fatigued was the poor man with the effort that he was detained in the neighbourhood under circumstances causing great apprehension for his safety. *He never resided; within these few weeks the living has become again vacant.* "The whole scene," says my correspondent, "was one calculated to inspire unqualified disgust."

Mr. Osborne, with whom we by no means agree in general, is a zealous hunter of such abuses as this. In the present case he lays no small blame on the Bishop of Exeter for allowing a paralytic to pass muster. Well, we admit it is a strong case. But although Mr. Osborne is confident that the Bishop could have refused to institute, we by no means share his confidence. Clearly the Lay patron thinks he is right; but how he reconciles it to his conscience, it would take an Erastian imagination to conceive. To us he is the culprit; he knows that the bishop is surrounded by a network of legal doubt, and that if he refused to institute, it would be under heavy penalties; for Parliaments, composed of lay impropiators, have fully protected their property in simony, and neglected the rights of the Church. It is too bad of them to turn upon the bishops, whom they menace with penalties, and say, after having appointed an unfit man—My lord, it is disgraceful, why did you institute?

The practical point suggested is this: Could not the Bishop of Exeter take up the challenge, and explain *why* and *how* a bishop is at the mercy of lay patrons; what restrictions are set upon him, and what penalties?



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 LAW AS TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS.

V.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—The following is the 6 and 7 Vict., c. 22, referred to in my last letter. It is entitled "An Act to authorize the Legislature of certain of Her Majesty's Colonies, to pass laws, for the admission, in certain cases, of unsworn testimony, in Civil and Criminal Proceedings." Passed May 31st, 1843:—

"Whereas there are resident within the limits of or in countries adjacent to divers of the British colonies and plantations abroad, various tribes of barbarous and uncivilized people, who being destitute of the knowledge of God and of any religious belief, are incapable of giving evidence on oath in any court of justice within such colonies or plantations; and whereas doubts have arisen whether any laws which have been or which might be made by the legislatures of such colonies respectively, to provide for the admissibility in such courts of the evidence of such persons, are not or would not be repugnant to the law of England, and therefore null and void; and it is expedient that such doubts should be removed. Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that no law or ordinance made, or to be made, by the legislature of any British colony for the admission of the evidence of any such persons as aforesaid, in any court or before any magistrate within any such colony, shall be, or be deemed to have been, null and void, or invalid by reason of any repugnancy or supposed repugnancy of any such enactment to the law of England, but that every law or ordinance made or to be made by any such legislature as aforesaid, for the admission before any such court or magistrate of the evidence of any such persons as aforesaid on any conditions thereby imposed, shall have such and the same effect, and shall be subject to the confirmation or disallowance of Her Majesty in such and the same manner as any other law or ordinance enacted for any other purpose by any such colonial legislature."

The legislature appears to have had some doubt, as

to whether the law proposed to be made was repugnant to the law of England, as it uses the words "repugnancy or supposed repugnancy." And well might it doubt, since Lord Denman's Act has rendered infamous persons—persons who have been convicted of crimes—competent witnesses;—for Lord Coke considered infidels as not *fide dignus*, nor worthy of credit, and he put them in company, and upon the level with stigmatised and infamous persons.

Numerous instances are to be found in our books, of the application of the principle, that witnesses are to be sworn in that form which they consider binding on their consciences, and the following may interest your readers. Members of the Kirk of Scotland, and others, who object to kissing the book, have been sworn, by lifting up the right hand, while it lay open before them. This appears to be the mode in which President Franklin Pierce took the oath of office. (See *Leader*, March 19th.) Irish Roman Catholics are sworn on a New Testament, with a crucifix delineated on the cover. Jews are sworn on the Pentateuch, keeping on their hats, the words of the oath being changed, from "So help you God," to "So help you Jehovah." Mahomedans are sworn on the Koran, and the ceremony is thus described in *R. v. Morgan*: The book was produced; the witness first placed his right hand flat upon it, put the other hand to his forehead, and brought the top of his forehead down to the book, and touched it with his head; he then looked for some time upon it, and, on being asked what effect that ceremony was to produce, he answered that he was bound by it to speak the truth. According to the report of *Amychund v. Barker*, part of the ceremony of swearing a Hindoo consists in his touching the foot of a Brahmin, or if the party swearing be himself a priest, then the Brahmin's hand; but, if this is considered by their religion as essential to the validity of an oath, and it appears to be so, it is obvious that a Hindoo cannot be sworn in a country where no Brahmins are to be found. In a recent case, a Chinese witness was sworn thus: On getting into the witness-box he knelt down, and a China saucer having been placed in his hand, he struck it against the brass rail in front of the box, and broke it. The officer who swears the witnesses then administered the oath, in these words, which were translated by the interpreter into the Chinese language: "You shall tell the truth, and the whole truth; the saucer is cracked, and, if you do not tell the truth, your soul will be cracked like the saucer." Whether this deference to the conscience of witnesses could be carried so far, as to allow a form of oath involving rites which our usages would pronounce indecent or improper; as, for instance, the sacrifice of an animal, or, as in patriarchal times, placing the hand under the thigh of the person by whom the oath is administered, (See *Genesis*, ch. xxiv., v. 2; *ch. xxvii.*, v. 29,) has not been settled by authority.

In conclusion, I have only to thank you for enabling me to state the law upon this subject, through the medium of your Open Council, and express a hope that some law reformer will take this subject in hand, and remove the evils which I have shown to exist.

Temple, April 4th.

A BARRISTER.

To persons wishing to investigate this subject, I can confidently recommend Mr. Best's philosophical book, from which I have so largely quoted. Being a treatise on the principles of evidence, it is more adapted to the general reader than the more elaborate works of Mr. Pitt Taylor and the Right Hon. S. March Phillips.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

If a reader will give us some particulars of the objects and purposes of the new Religious and Scientific Society in Tavistock-place, we shall be happy to give them currency.

Several letters under consideration.
Erratum in our last.—Page 713 (3rd col.), for "to the complete explosion of a disgraceful accusation," read "to the complete explosion of a disgraceful organization."

THE PEDIGREE OF GREAT MEN.—One often hears the question, what kind of families have produced men of distinction, brought up in conversation. As we have said before, it is not always quite fairly put. For instance, when it is recorded that Milton's father was a "scrivener," it should be remembered that he was of ancient lineage. The families may claim among poets, Spencer, Dryden, Waller, Surrey, George Herbert, Beaumont, Byron, Shelley, Cowper; among great writers generally, Bacon, Boyle, Gibbon, Hume, Fielding, Smollet, Congreve, Swift, Sterne, Arbuthnot, Walter Scott, Goldsmith. These men were all what a herald would designate gentlemen. Doubtless, we omit others, for we quote from memory: but the opposite side has a formidable list:—Ben Jonson, Cowley, Prior, Jeremy Taylor, Dr. Johnson, Collins, Gray, Selden, Keats, Richardson, Franklin, Bunyan (by some, supposed to descend from the gypsies, a point worth searching into), Moore, Crabbe, all came out of the inferior strata of society.—*Westminster Review* for July.

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*.

DR. MACVICAR, whose *Enquiry into Human Nature* was briefly noticed, in a recent article on English Philosophy, in these columns, has written a very temperate and courteous remonstrance to us, on our "misrepresentation" of his views. We must confess to being as unaccustomed to such a remonstrance, as to the courteous tone in which it is conveyed. We have received very many intemperate letters from indignant authors whom it has been our infirmity not sufficiently to admire; but this is the first time, if memory serve us, we have had to bear the charge of misrepresentation. With whatever faults of judgment or of taste, we may have been chargeable, we think our readers will bear us out in claiming, at least, sincerity in the execution of a delicate, difficult, and thankless office. Adequately to represent the opinions of a book in the few paragraphs of a review, is scarcely possible; but misrepresentation, either from carelessness or malevolence, is inexcusable. We print Dr. MACVICAR's letter, therefore, as a matter of justice.

"SIR,—I am sorry that it was not till to-day that I have observed a notice in the *Leader* of a work lately published by me, for had I been fortunate enough to have seen it a week ago, and to have addressed you on the subject at a time when your remarks upon it may have possessed some interest to yourself, I am persuaded that I should not have urged upon you in vain to do my views somewhat more justice, at least in your statement to your readers, of what they are. It is true that I advocate a philosophy with which you appear to have no sympathies; but from a reviewer who is capable of writing the paragraph beginning with the word 'consider,' and setting forth what is regarded by him as 'the capital distinction between inorganic and organic matter,' I feel that I have a right to expect justice in the statement of my views, if my work is noticed at all.

"Now, you represent me to your readers as rioting among entities, as believing in will as a distinct entity superadded to mind, and also in inertia as an entity! I am quite at a loss to understand how such hasty statements respecting my views could be allowed to escape you. Far from rioting among entities, as you charge me, it will be difficult to show that I advocate the existence of more than one kind of finite entity altogether, or two at the most (see p. 32 *et seq.*). My views are equally simple with your own. They are, in fact, exactly the converse. You regard the phenomena of thought, and feeling, and conscious liberty, as products of a certain complex structure of material atoms. I regard inertia, chemical affinity, and the phenomena of matter generally, as products of a certain complex structure in elements, atoms, or monads, to which, when existing free and uncombined, thought, and feeling, and liberty, are more kindred; and which, when they possess a certain quantity of being, do actually possess these faculties. You insinuate that I am too ignorant of physiology to venture on what I have undertaken. I should be happy to know what you refer to. In Chapter VI. I have ventured some remarks on the Organization, its structure and functions; but I cannot help thinking that they are entitled to a different notice from the editor of the *Leader* than a mere insinuation of ignorance in the author. You also affirm that the reader slightly versed in such speculations, will recognise all my ideas as 'old familiar faces.' I am persuaded, however, that the analysis of the emotional system with the law laid down in page 120, and the whole of the synthetic part of the work, which begins at Chapter IX., are of such a nature, that it was only in haste that you characterized them as old and familiar, however much you may, on perusal, be still disposed to regard them as erroneous. To a total repudiation of them on your part I should cheerfully consent, if they were but stated fairly. And I cannot help thinking that a statement, by one of your talents and knowledge of the history of thought, of the philosophy laid down in the beginning of Chapter IX., would not be without interest to your philosophical readers.

"That I had not much worth saying by way of argument in favour of liberty, I will freely grant (for I have admitted it to be necessarily undemonstrable), and I could only have wished that, if you were disposed to allow so much space in so talented a periodical as the *Leader* to an extract from my volume, you had chosen some fresher part,—such as those I have referred to in these remarks. But perhaps I am expecting too much in supposing that you will refer to the subject again. I cannot see, however, why the doctrine of toleration should not be extended to philosophical as well as to religious differences."

If Dr. MACVICAR were a reader of this journal he would scarcely have reminded us of the necessity for toleration. To go no farther than the articles in which his work was mentioned, he may see Mr. MORELL, in spite of the widest differences, both of spirit and detail, receiving emphatic and unstinted commendation from us. If, therefore, it is not "philosophic intolerance" which has made us unjust to Dr. MACVICAR, what is it? or have we really been unjust?

On receiving his letter we were pained to think that very possibly we had done him the injustice of which he complains. For we remembered that the notice of his work was written long after the reading of it, and that, subsequent to the reading, we had been greatly and incessantly occupied in very different directions, so that, while a general impression of his work remained, many of the details had necessarily been forgotten. Our notice was of that general kind. On recurring to his work, after receipt of the letter, we do find that the analysis of the emotional system, to which he refers, is new, and, therefore, our sentence should have been modified from "the reader slightly versed in such speculations, will recognise them all as old familiar faces," into "will recognise most of them." Although not an acceptable analysis we willingly rectify our statement, and declare it original; but Dr. MACVICAR, it seems to us, strangely deceives himself, in claiming, as original, the "grand law," laid down at p. 120.

"That every Being in the universe which is truly individualised, while in virtue of its constitution it maintains its own specific form and characters, shall carry out this action to the limits of the sphere within which it can manifest itself; and

therefore, first, in maintaining itself as an individual, shall tend to liken all others to itself, more or less, according as they are originally more or less kindred and analogous; and secondly, shall of course tend itself also to be likened to them under the same law, by their influence upon it. This grand law can be here only announced. But let the reader study it for himself, he will find that all physics and philosophy is but a continued illustration of it, almost all the ascertained laws of nature but particular cases of it. In this place we have to consider it only in its bearing on the moral economy and sensibility of man. And what is this? Plainly, when viewed as operating upon a man from without, it is to the effect, that all beings and things which manifest themselves to him, shall, at all events, impress him with their likeness; and possibly not merely impress their likeness on him, but move his feelings also in harmony with their own, more or less, according as they are more or less congenial, or he more or less capable of a responsive movement. But to be thus impressed, what is it? In the lowest degrees of the affection, i.e., in reference to such objects as are most dissimilar to our own natures, is it not to obtain a concept, image, or representation of objects? And, in reference to those that are kindred to us, is it not to love them also? Not alarm, therefore, nor anger, is in the right order of emotive nature, but only love. Anger in the subject, to which alarm is the normal response in the object, is but the guardian and protector of love."

That Like tends to Like philosophy has asserted from the time of ANAXAGORAS and DEMOCRITUS, (with their *homœomeriæ*.) downwards; but Like also tends to Unlike, as acids to bases, man to woman, nervous to lymphatic temperaments, &c.; and an attempt to ground the emotions of alarm, anger, or love, upon such a "law," would be as fruitless as to explain chemical combinations, on the principles of DEMOCRITUS. The law is neither new nor true.

Further, we are said to have charged Dr. MACVICAR with believing in Inertia and Will as entities. He denies the charge, and we are bound to accept his own statement of his own opinions; nevertheless, we cannot reconcile it with his printed declarations, pp. 35, 139-40, 41, where both are as emphatically treated like entities as in any modern metaphysical work we could name. If we have misunderstood him, all that can be said is, that on such evidence we should do so again. Finally, as to our having "insinuated ignorance." This is a misapprehension of our words. "He endeavours to rescue Psychology," we wrote, "from its threatened absorption into Physiology; but, before he could hope to succeed in the attempt, he must learn more of Physiology than he has at present mastered." What is the insinuation there? Before so delicate a problem can be even partially solved, a profound and comprehensive mastery of cerebral physiology is indispensable, just as a profound knowledge of Chemistry is necessary to the Biologist who would rescue Physiology from its threatened absorption into chemistry; but it is no "insinuation of ignorance," to assert that Dr. MACVICAR has to learn more than he has at present learned, (judging from this work,) before he can hope to solve that problem.

We have devoted unusual space to this subject, but no reader can object to an injustice being rectified, and it is clear, from our admissions, that we were unjust to Dr. MACVICAR, although not to the extent he supposed.

French literature seems more and more relying on republications, but, as these are issued in a cheap form, and generally unite widely scattered material into compact volumes, we in England have no cause to complain. PROSPER MERIMÉE, for example, one of the few writers at once solid and sparkling, has republished his admirable *Etudes sur l'Histoire Romaine*, on the Social War and the Conspiracy of Catiline, and a volume of Dramatic Episodes, *Les Deux Héritages*, in which will be found an animated reproduction of his historical work *Demetrius the Impostor*, in a dramatic form.

MADAME EMILE GIRARDIN has also collected her *Nouvelles*, among them *La Canne de M. de Balzac*, which made so much noise in its day; and PAUL FÉVAL, the follower of EUGÈNE SUE, without his Socialism, has given us, via Brussels, a new novel, *La Forêt Noire*.

Of a very different order is the *Notions Générales de Chimie*, which the two celebrated chemists, PELOUZE and FREMY, have compiled, for popular reading. It is an elementary work, addressed to all the world, and is noticeable as one among the many modern indications, of a democratisation of Science, which would make churches tremble, if churches were farsighted. Popular works of Science have been too often left in the hands of superficial and incompetent writers, not to make the appearance of authoritative writers in this field a cause of congratulation. We have only glanced at the work of FREMY and PELOUZE, but have seen enough to recommend it as an excellent introduction to the study of chemistry.

BROWNE'S HISTORY OF LATIN LITERATURE.

A History of Roman Classical Literature. By R. W. Browne, M.A., Professor of Classical Literature in King's College, Bentley.

PROFESSOR BROWNE has given a lucid, compendious, and useful, but not a critical, not a philosophical History of Roman Literature. As a compilation it is carefully executed, and without ostentation; but the criticisms are too vague and general to be of much service to the student, and too traditional to afford any interest to the scholar. Those who desire a chronological survey of Roman Literature, in one volume, will find this work worth putting on their shelves, the more so because our literature is lamentably deficient in works of the kind. But the reader desirous of gaining some insight into the historical questions raised by such a subject, the influence of national life and character on the forms and spirit of the literature, the consideration of literature as "the expression of society," or into the æsthetical questions clustering round each of the remarkable names, the reader, we say, desirous of insight in these directions will be disappointed with Professor Browne's work.

"In every work regard the writer's end."

If the end of this "History of Roman Literature" be simply to furnish

the student with an accessible digest of facts and dates—a hand-book as it were—the end is accomplished; if to furnish such a work as the title proclaims, we must think it unsuccessful. While thus indicating the nature of the work, let us not forget to protest strongly against the culpable negligence which can permit a “History of Roman Literature” to appear *without an index*! We have frequently to object to the omission of an index, but here is a case where the omission is doubly reprehensible. Should the book reach a second edition, the publisher must repair this at any cost.

Roman Literature, after all, is in its history but moderately interesting; the fact of its being essentially a Literature of imitation takes away the great charm which the rise and development of spontaneous Literature always must have, as expressive of national life. Apropos of this imitation, considered a merit by the Romans, and almost equally so by their modern admirers, it is curious to compare with it the scornful feeling animating our critics when they speak of the same thing in modern writers. “Plagiarism” is a literary crime; not an image, not an incident must the poet borrow or steal without being arraigned at the bar of criticism. Yet Roman Literature was one immense plagiarism. And even the great Roman epic would in our day be called a *cento*. Read what Professor Browne says, and he by no means exhausts the subject:—

“The idea and plan of the *Æneid* are derived from the Homeric poems. As the wrath of Achilles is the mainspring of all the events in the *Iliad*, so on the anger of the offended Juno the unity of the *Æneid* depends, and with it all the incidents are connected. Many of the most splendid passages, picturesque images, and forcible epithets are imitations or even translations from the *Iliad* and *Odyssey*. The war with Turnus owes its grandeur and its interest to the *Iliad*—the wanderings of *Æneas*, their wild and romantic adventures to the *Odyssey*. Virgil’s battles, though not to be compared in point of vigour with those of Homer, shine with a reflected light. His *Necyia* is a copy of that in the *Odyssey*. His similes are most of them suggested by those favourite embellishments of Homer. The shield of *Æneas* is an imitation of that of Achilles. The storm and the speech of *Æneas* are almost translations from the *Odyssey*.

“The thoughts thus borrowed from the great heroic poems of Greece, Virgil interwove with that ingenuity which distinguishes the Augustan school by means of the double character in which he represented his hero. The narrative of his perils by sea and land were enriched by the marvellous incidents of the *Odyssey*; his wars which occupy the latter books had their prototype in the *Iliad*. Greek tragedy, also, which depicted so frequently the subsequent fortunes of the Greek chieftains,—the numerous translations which had employed the genius of Ennius, Attius, and Pacuvius—were a rich mine of poetic wealth. The second book, which is almost too crowded with a rapid succession of pathetic incidents, derived its interesting details—the untimely fate of *Astyanax*, the loss of *Creusa*, the story of *Sinon*, the legend of the wooden horse, the death of the aged *Priam*, the subsequent fortunes of *Helen*—from two Cyclic poems, the *Sack of Troy* and the little *Iliad* of *Arctinus*. For the legend of *Laocoon* he was indebted to the Alexandrian poet, *Euphorion*. The class of Cyclic poems entitled the *ποσειδωνία* suggested much of the third book, especially the stories of *Pyrrhus*, *Helenus*, and *Andromache*. The fourth drew its fairy enchantments partly from Homer’s *Calypso*, partly from the love adventures of *Jason*, *Medea*, and *Hypsypile* in the *Argonautica* of the Alexandrian poet, *Apollonius Rhodius*, which had been introduced to the Romans by the translation of *Varro*.

“The sixth is suggested by the eleventh book of the *Odyssey* and the descent of *Theseus* in search of *Pirithous* in the Hesiodic poems. But notwithstanding the force and originality—the vivid word-painting which adorns this book—it is far inferior to the conceptions which Greek genius formed of the unseen world. In the *Æneid* the legends of the world of spirits seem but vulgar marvels and popular illusions. *Tartarus* and *Elysium* are too palpable and material to be believed; their distinctness dispels the enchantment which they were intended to produce; it is daylight instead of dim shadow. We miss the outlines, which seem gigantic from their dim and shadowy nature, the appalling grandeur to which no one since *Æschylus* ever attained, except the great Italian poet who has never since been equalled.

“To this rich store of Greek learning Italy contributed her native legends. The adventures of *Æneas* in Italy—the prophecy, of which the fulfilment was discovered by *Iulus*—the pregnant white sow—the story of the *Sibyl*—the sylph-like *Camilla*—were native lays amalgamated with the Greek legend of *Troy*. *Macrobius*, in three elaborate chapters, has shown that Virgil was deeply indebted to the old Latin poets. In the first he quotes more than seventy parallel turns of expression from *Ennius*, *Pacuvius*, *Attius*, *Nævius*, *Lucilius*, *Lucretius*, *Catullus*, and *Varius*, consisting of whole or half lines. In the second he enumerates twenty-six longer passages, which Virgil has imitated from the poems of *Ennius*, *Attius*, *Lucretius*, and *Varius*, amongst which are portions of ‘The Praises of Rural Life,’ and of ‘The Pestilence.’”

Then again the Roman Drama, what was it but the very “adaptation” of Greek plays, similar to that which now furnishes our stage from the French drama? *Plautus* and *Terence* are classics—yet every one knows they did but adapt Greek comedies to Roman manners, translating the jokes when translatable, imitating them when imitable; doing in short what * * * and * * * do every year without being accounted classics at all!

While on this topic let us quote from the observations of Professor Browne on the metre of comedy as it was affected by the differences between pronunciation and writing:—

“If we consider attentively the manner in which we speak our own language, it is astonishing how many letters and even syllables are slurred over and omitted: the accented syllable is strongly and firmly enunciated, the rest, especially in long words, are left to take care of themselves, and the experience of the hearer and his acquaintance with the language find no difficulty in supplying the deficiency. This is universally the case, except in careful and deliberate reading, and in measured and stately declamation.

“With regard to the classical languages, the foregoing observations hold good. In a slighter degree, indeed, with respect to the Greek, for the delicacy of their ear, their attention to accent and quantity, not only in poetry but in oratory, and even in conversation, caused them to give greater effect to every syllable, and especially to the vowel sounds. But even in Greek poetry elision sometimes prevents the disagreeable effect of a hiatus, and in the transition from the one dialect to the other, the numerous vowels of the Ionic assume the contracted form of the Attic.

“The resemblance between the practice of the Romans and that of modern nations is very remarkable; with them the mark of good taste was ease—the absence of effort, pedantry, and affectation. As they principally admired facility in versification so they sought it in pronunciation likewise. To speak with mouth-ing (hiulce), with a broad accent (late, vaste), was to speak like a clown and not like a gentleman (rustice et inurbaniter.) *Cicero* admired the soft, gentle, equable tones of the female voice, and considered the pronunciation of the eloquent and cultivated *Lælia* as the model of purity and perfection: he thought that she spoke as *Plautus* or *Nævius* might have spoken. Again, he speaks of the habit which *Cotta* had of omitting the *iota*; pronouncing, for example, *dominus*, *dom’nus*, as a prevalent fashion; and although he says, that such an *obscuratio* argues negligence, he, on the other hand, applies to the opposite fault a term (*putidus*) which implies the most offensive affectation. From these observations, we must expect to find that Latin as it was pronounced was very different from Latin as it is written; that this difference consisted in abbreviation either by the omission of sounds altogether, or by contraction of two sounds into one; and that these processes would take place especially in those syllables which in poetry are not marked by the ictus or beat, or in common conversation by the stress or emphasis. Even in the more artificial poetry and oratory of the Augustan age, in which quantity was more rigidly observed by the Roman imitators than by the Greek originals, we find traces of this tendency; and *Virgil* does not hesitate to use in his stately heroics such forms as *aspris* for *asperis*, *semustum* for *semiustum*, *oraclum* for *oraculum*, *manipulus* for *manipulus*; and, like *Terence*, to make *rejecere* (*reicere*) a dactyle. A number of the most common words, sanctioned by general usage, and incorporated into the language when in its most perfect state, were contractions—such as *amassent* for *amavissent*, *concio* for *conventio*, *cogo* from *con* and *ago*, *surgo* from *sub* and *rego*, *mala* for *maxilla*, *pomeridianus* from *post-mediam-diem*, and other instances too numerous to mention.

“But in the earlier periods when literature was addressed still more to the ear than to the eye, when the Greek metres were as yet unknown, and even when, after their introduction, exact observation of Greek rules was not yet necessary, we find as might be expected these principles of the language carried still further. They pervade the poems of *Livius* and *Ennius*, and the Roman tragedies, even although their style is necessarily more declamatory than that of the comic writers; but in the latter we have a complete representation of Latin as it was commonly pronounced and spoken, and but little trammelled or confined by a rigid adhesion to the Greek metrical laws. In the prologues, indeed, which are of the nature of declamation and not of free and natural conversation, more care is visible; the iambic trimeters in which they are written fall upon the ear with a cadence similar to those of the Greek, with scarcely any license except an occasional spondee in the even places. But in the scenes little more seems to have been attended to, than that the verse should have the required number of feet, and the syllables pronounced the right quantity, in accordance with the widest license which the rules of Greek prosody allowed. What syllables should be slurred, was left to be decided by the common custom of pronunciation.

“Besides the licenses commonly met with in the poets of the Augustan age, the following mutilations are the most usual in the poetical language of the age of which we are treating:—

“1. The final *s* might be elided even before a consonant, and hence the preceding vowel was made short: thus *mālis* became *malī*, on the same principle that in Augustan poetry *audisnē* was contracted into *audin’*. Thus the short vowel would suffer elision before another, and the following line of *Terence* would consequently be thus scanned:—

Ut mā | līs gāū | dēat ālī | ēn’ātq’ | ēx īn | cōmmō | dīs.

“2. Vowels and even consonants were slurred over; hence *Librius* became *Lib’rius*; *Adolescens*, *Ad’lescens*; *Vehemens*, *Vemens*; *Voluptas*, *V’luptas* (like the French *voila*, *v’la*); *meum*, *eum*, *suum*, *siet*, *fuit*, *Deos*, *ego*, *ille*, *tace*, became monosyllables; and *facio*, *sequere*, &c., dissyllables.

“3. *M* and *D* were syncopated in the middle of words: thus *enimvero* became *en’vero*; *quidem* and *modo qu’en* and *mo’o*, *circumventus*, *circ’ventus*.

“4. Conversely *d* was added to *me*, *te*, and *se*, when followed by a vowel, as *Reliquit med homo*, &c., and in *Plautus*, *med erga*.”

We had marked other passages for extract, but these must suffice. They sufficiently indicate the quality of the work.

TWO NOVELS.

The Life and Death of Silas Barnstarke. A Story of the Seventeenth Century. By Talbot Gwynne, Author of *The School for Fathers*. 1 vol. Smith, Elder, and Co.

John at Home. A Novel. By Stanley Herbert. 3 vols. F. C. Newby.

Two novels didactic in spirit rather than in form, setting forth, in dramatic action, plainly legible “lessons.” *Silas Barnstarke* is by Talbot Gwynne, whose *School for Fathers* was a work of remarkable freshness and promise, also pervaded by a distinct moral. We read *Silas Barnstarke* with great expectations; they have not been realized. The work displays the same distinctness of purpose, the same quiet power, but it wants the freshness, it wants the interest of story and of character which made the *School for Fathers* so agreeable. *Silas* is a hard money-getting man, bent from his boyhood upwards in one direction, devoting life to the acquisition of money, growing less and less scrupulous as to the means, till he is led to murder his cousin to secure his estates. The contrast between this character and that of the prudent yet generous money-getter, *Benson*, is quietly and felicitously touched; you see the virtue and the vice, economy and miserliness.

For one who can so artistically shadow out a purpose without exaggeration, and without didactic preaching, there is surely something surprising in the want of art by which the denouement is missed? The opening shows the boyhood and life of a heartless egotist devoted to amassing wealth; now what is the real sequence in life, consequently in Art, of such a character as that of *Silas*? It is what is here faintly indicated,—utter loneliness of the affections, utter solitude of life! The gold is amassed, but enjoyment is not purchasable; the palate can detect no flavour. Thus, even as a matter of pure selfishness, the way of life pursued by *Silas* has been a mistake. The author indicates this, though faintly; but what he has altogether missed is the tragic denouement which must issue from such a condition; instead of drawing his denouement *ab intra*, from the elements of the drama, he draws it *ab extra*, invoking a *deus ex machina*, in the shape of the Plague. Thus the miser,

instead of dying lonely and wretched amid his money-bags, dies like any other man from an infection! It is doubtless true, that in life a miser is as liable to the Plague as any one else; but in Art, which, because it is a selection of typical elements, *that* is not the end of a miser. The author has not only evaded the real, though difficult denouement, but by the introduction of the actress with whom Silas falls madly in love, it seems as if some such idea had been in his mind, and subsequently abandoned.

With all drawbacks, however, *Silas Barnstarke* is a readable story, sometimes remarkable, and always displaying a strength in the writer greater than is put forth. As a specimen, we extract the scene where Silas murders his cousin:—

"The sky was covered by gray clouds: not a star was visible. A light fresh wind blew in the travellers' faces and whistled through the hedges above them.

"The bridle road now led them up a gentle rise, at the top of which spread out a large, sweet-smelling, healthy common; desolate, little frequented, and not having a house within two miles of it.

"The spot was well-known to Barnstarke, as, indeed, was every inch of that road so often passed over by him from his youth upwards.

"As they left the bridle road, he leant his hand on the crupper, and, turning his head, looked with piercing glance down the hill.

"My friend David Waller in doublet white,
Without any arms either dusky or bright,
Charged through them twice like a little sprite,
Which nobody can deny!"

"Thus sang Francis Lovell in his melodious bass voice, continuing the ditty as he went.

"Barnstarke's heart gave one dull, heavy bound; he raised himself up in his stirrups; drew forth one of his pistols; leant over the horse's head; stretched out his arm; and, pointing the muzzle between Lovell's shoulders, fired.

"Help, Silas, help!" cried Francis Lovell, and fell dying from his horse.

"The merchant dismounted, catching his cousin's horse by the rein; then with his remaining pistol he shot his own through the head.

"The fine creature, with a rear, fell dead at his feet.

"Barnstarke stooped beside his cousin.

"Torrents of blood were flowing from Lovell's mouth. He feebly lifted his hand, made an effort to raise himself and to speak, and then fell back suffocated by his blood.

"Barnstarke, avoiding the crimson stream, proceeded, with trembling hands, to rifle the dead man; turning his pockets wrongside out, and concealing the money he found therein on his own person. He then took the valises off the horses and scattered their contents about. He next discharged his and Lovell's pistols, re-loading one of his own and one of his cousin's; which last he placed beside the still warm body, whilst he returned his own to the holster. He then let Lovell's horse go free; and disarranging his own garments, to make them appear as though robbers had maltreated him, he laid himself down beside his horse to await the event.

"As he lay with head to earth, Barnstarke could hear the heath on the common rustling in the night breeze, as also the heavy beating of his own heart.

"The excitement of his murderous deed was still upon him. He tried to calm his hurried thoughts and to compose his trembling body, which shook as the body of a man tired and worn out by an over-long and over-rapid race. His teeth chattered, and the sweat broke out at every pore, whilst he felt the mute presence of his victim, although he beheld him not.

"Tush! tush!" quoth the murderer to himself. 'I have been strong to act, and the deed hath been well thought over and carefully planned. Shall I lose all, through quaking and terror? Shall I find but the gallows for the lands I have won?"

"By degrees the trembling passed away, and Barnstarke remained stretched on the ground as one stunned. Faint and sick was he, but well prepared to act the part he had cut out for himself.

"Like unto one who, receiving a shot in hot blood, feels not the pain at once, so Barnstarke's soul, wounded by sin in hot blood, felt not as yet the agony of crime. His thoughts were intent on so comporting himself that no suspicion should fasten upon him; and, that such might be the case, he felt that coolness and firmness of heart were above all things necessary. He therefore removed his thoughts from the deed he had done, to fix them on probable contingencies, and the manner in which such contingencies were to be met, reviewing them over and over again in all their various bearings, and fixing on the words and acts they might necessitate on his part. He had planned the murder before he left his home, had chosen the very spot on which to commit it, having intended to delay on the road that they might arrive on the common at night-fall. Poor Lovell's late rising had saved the merchant all trouble in that respect. As Barnstarke lay pondering, yet listening, the moon had arisen, and, shining through a thin cloud without being visible, gave light enough to distinguish objects near at hand.

"The merchant, raising his head, looked towards Lovell's body.

"There it lay in the dark pool of murderously-spilt blood, one leg drawn up, and the arms spread abroad. The face shone out in marble whiteness, and the rising, stormy wind, blowing a fold of Lovell's heavy cloak, the moonlight at the moment bursting through the clouds, caused the body to look as though moving to arise.

"Barnstarke, leaning on his hand, remained as one turned to stone; his mouth open and his staring eyes fixed upon the corpse.

"A thick mass of black clouds was driven by the wind over the moon, and darkness overspread the earth.

"A few drops of rain fell upon Barnstarke's flushing face, cooling and refreshing to his beating temples. He had been above two hours on the desolate common, alone with the victim of his covetous passions. It seemed to him days and days since he had fired, and had seen his cousin fall: he recollected Lovell's song broken off, and his cry to him for help; he thought of the struggling, distressed, expression of Francis's face as he had stooped at his side, and a chill sensation of horror crept over him.

"Presently, in the distance, he beheld lights drawing near. He composed his thoughts, and stretched himself out on his face. Two rough sheep-dogs ran up to him, sniffing him and loudly barking; then darted away, again to return and bark beside him.

"Voices sounded, borne to Barnstarke's ear by the rushing wind. Anon the

speakers were on the spot to be marked for years to come as the scene of murder. The merchant could hear the voice of Joyce, his servant, who, having been made uneasy by the non-arrival of his master at the appointed sleeping-place, had set out, with the landlord and others, in quest of him.

"The common was looked on as a bad place at night, on account of footpads and highwaymen, a fact well known to Barnstarke.

"The first object that met the eyes of Joyce and his party, on arriving at the place singled out by the barking dogs, was the merchant's horse lying dead and stark. They threw the light of their lanterns full upon him.

"'Tis master's horse!"

"Here be one lying dead in his own blood," said the landlord, kneeling down by Lovell and raising his arm, which had already begun to stiffen. "Taint Master Barnstarke, however," he added, as he held his lantern full in the ghastly face of Sir Francis.

"'Tis Sir Francis Lovell! He hath been murdered of thieves: look here how they have thrown things about," cried Joyce.

"Here be another lying dead too," said the hostler who had accompanied his master the landlord, and who now raised Barnstarke, turning him over, and calling for a light.

"The merchant let his head fall back, and uttered a moan.

"Joyce held the light in his face, calling out that it was his master, and telling the hostler to support his head.

"Barnstarke slowly opened his eyes, and fixing them on his servant, said in a voice so husky, tremulous, and unnatural, as even to strike himself with horror:

"Is that you, Joyce? methinks I have been stunned!"

"Were you set on of rogues, sir?" inquired Joyce, wrapping his master's cloak close around him to keep off the rain.

"Ay," replied the merchant, turning away his looks, as he said: "take your lantern away, it doth hurt and scorch my eyes."

"There was a silence: the men, not knowing whether Barnstarke was aware of his cousin's death, were doubtful what to say, and he, being afraid of compromising himself, held his peace, still lying supported by the hostler.

"The merchant shut his eyes and hung his head, affecting to be but half sensible of what was going on around him.

"Joyce and the landlord whispered together. After awhile, Joyce said to Barnstarke:

"Sir Francis Lovell hath not been at the 'Three Kings,' sir!"

"Where is he? What time is it?" returned Barnstarke, muttering: "Carry me to the inn, I am sick and shaken!"

"More whispering here took place, which ended in the hostler being sent with others to the nearest house for a cart.

"During his absence, Joyce by degrees informed his master of Sir Francis Lovell's death.

"On hearing of it, Barnstarke, pretending to be aroused by the tidings, asked where his cousin's body was, and if they had taken the murderer. Joyce replied that the body was *there*; the murderer untaken.

"The lanterns were held to Lovell's face, leaving Barnstarke in darkness to gaze on the sad work of his own murderous hand.

"No man *can* know, until he has committed it, the effect the commission of a crime may have on him.

"On seeing Lovell's blood-stained, ashy-pale face, with the long wet hair clinging about it—nought beside that face of death being visible in the darkness of night—Barnstarke's hardened heart felt a beginning of gnawing remorse. For a few minutes, he felt that he would give all his wealth to bring Lovell back to life again."

John at Home is apparently a first work, and has serious deficiencies betokening want of practice in this department. But it has some capital sense, and many lively passages. John Smith, the money-prizing, money-getting city man, to whom business is at once the end and aim of existence, to whom being "worth a plum," appears the goal of human perfection; John's place of business, and his suburban home, his weak-headed wife Annie, his commanding mother-in-law, Mrs. Brown, his highly valued son, his little regarded daughter, his convenient friend, Jack Thompson, and his maiden, but monied cousin, Miss Jobson, with other sundries, including a French refugee, and a low, but kindred family, make up the scenes and persons of the story. It is with the lessons, rather than romance, the author deals. We are told how John Smith prospered in commerce, how he married—how first a daughter, and then a son, were born to him; how the latter being his heir, his future partner, and the transmitter of his name, was spoiled by father, mother, and most of his other relatives, till a weak intellect and downward tendencies fulfilled their destiny in early vice and a disgraceful end; how the sins of John's youth came back upon him in the shape of an illegitimate neglected son, who, under the tuition of his vindictive grandmother, helps the merchant's heir into all kinds of mischief, and how the despised daughter Jane, eventually rises above circumstances, and turns out the only respectable person, saving the aforesaid Miss Jobson, in her family.

The Arts.

GERMAN PLAYS: OTHELLO.

TO-NIGHT the short season of German Plays is brought to a close. It was short, but, as Dr. Johnson said to the unhappy preacher, (who congratulated himself on the Doctor's not having found his sermon long,) "I feared lest I might be tedious,"—"Sir, you were *not* long, but you *were* tedious."

For a few nights I suffered myself to be dragged to the St. James's, by a compound of gallantry and duty—gallantry to fair friends, insanely desirous of seeing that mild mediocrity, Emil Devrient, and duty to kind and curious readers, wanting to know "what was going on at the theatres." But not even Julia's violet eyes, nor Jane's persuasive snub, not even the fear of insatiable correspondents, nor demands for "copy," could induce me to sit out the final performances of *Fiesco*, *Don Carlos*, and the *Braut von Messina*; so that all I can, this week, write about, is *Othello*, which was played last Friday, in a quiet dreary style.

Herr Dessoir, the leading tragedian, from Berlin, by his performance of *Othello*, proved what I suspected, from his performance of *Faust*, that he had a fine intelligence to conceive, and, in some respects, a mastery over the representative power, requisite in the portrayal of character under emotion, but he lacks the physical capabilities demanded by the part. He excels where Devrient is so deficient,—namely, in intelligence and emotion; but he is deficient in those indispensable qualities which constitute the whole of Devrient's claims,—namely, personal appearance, bearing, voice and diction. I never before heard the speech to the senate delivered with such thorough poetic appreciation and artistic execution; never saw any actor, not even Kean, so truthful and so tragic in the representation of emotion, during the early portions of the great tempting scene. The restrained feeling, struggling for utterance; the chilled and almost paralysed soul, trying to disbelieve, trying, also, to be calm; the convulsive shudders, which not only betrayed the suffering then racking him, but also indicated the apoplectic fit which was to come; the hoarse voice, and the intense quietness, conveyed a more truthful and tragic representation than any *Othello* conveyed to my mind before. Critics who are the dupes of Devrient may have seen little in it; but those who trusted to their own emotions, felt what Devrient never made them feel—that here was a passionate soul, depicted in its agony.

But, on the other hand, it must be noted first, that when the scene demands from *Othello* an exaltation of emotion,—when the inward suffering flames into passion, expressing itself with terrible vehemence and power, there where Kean was so terrific and lion-like, Herr Dessoir was not equal to the part. He was spasmodic and monotonous; and instead of rising to a climax, the successive phases left me disappointed and unmoved. The final scene was monotonous. *Othello*, when he murders *Desdemona*, should be calm, but terribly calm, with white wrath more perfect than any vehemence.

Secondly, it must be noted that *Othello*, above all other tragic personages needs great physical qualities in the performer. He must redeem his black complexion by dignity and power which outwardly express the greatness of his spirit. There must be something about him which makes us feel *Desdemona* could have loved him. Kean, in spite of his small stature, had that something. There was a lion-like grace about him; and his eye! who can forget that eye! Herr Dessoir is small, ungraceful, monotonous in his gestures, monotonous in voice, and his *Othello* was consequently neither grand nor powerful. I regard his performance, therefore, as unsatisfactory—but as the performance of a highly intelligent actor struggling against natural deficiencies.

If Herr Dessoir wanted power, Herr Pauli wanted everything in *Iago*—conception, power, finesse, truth. I never saw it so badly, so tamely played. As to *Cassio* and *Roderigo*, they were fully equal to the highest style of barn acting. Fräulein Fuhr played *Desdemona* with less discrimination and charm than I expected; her scene with *Emilia*, however, was excellent. What a scene it is! I mean the one after *Othello's* jealousy, where she talks, as she undresses, of *Ludovico*, of reputed false wives, &c., one of the most Shaksperian scenes in the whole drama, and always omitted on our stage!

VIVIAN.

SARDANAPALUS AT THE ADELPHI.

LET not churlish critics deny to the eminent antiquarian of the Princess's Theatre one rare distinction. He has touched nothing that he has not burlesqued. In other words, he has suggested the ludicrous side of all that is grand in art, and dignified in history. But the misfortune of it is, that after one has seen Mr. Charles Kean as *Macbeth*, it becomes impossible to realize a *Macbeth* more comic than that; and when we have once sat out those dreary five acts, in which the collaborateur of Layard presents the Assyrian voluptuary as an overloaded and demoralized old-clothes man, where shall we look for a burlesque of *Sardanapalus* with any hope of our sense of the ludicrous being stimulated to the same exhausting pitch again? It is by this happy combination of the solemn and the absurd that Mr. Charles Kean leaves the field for those literary contortionists, the burlesque writers, so narrow and so difficult.

Here is a case in point. We emphatically pronounce the *Sardanapalus* presented to us by Miss Woolgar, at the Adelphi, to be far more like Lord Byron's hero than that strange apparition in Oxford-street, which has lately taken ancient Prophecy into partnership, and shown us what a figure of fun an excavated descendant of Nimrod may be in 1853. True, Miss Woolgar, in that square-cut beard, which cannot for a moment spoil the fine, sensitive face, and in those voluminous robes, which seem only to suggest new poses of easy grace to the wearer, gives us a flesh-and-blood portrait of the Assyrian King, and converts him into a fast young man of our own epoch. And we are not sorry for the change. We wish "fast" young men in general would take a leaf out of *Sardanapalus's* (we mean Miss Woolgar's) book, and be only half as elegant, and half as delightful. If, however, Miss Woolgar and Mr. Charles Kean were to make an exchange of personations, Lord Byron would be the gainer, and Mr. Mark Lemon not all the loser by the exchange; for what could be more genuine burlesque than the *Sardanapalus* of the Princess's doing the "fast King of Assyria" at the Adelphi? On the other hand—who can doubt?—the *Sardanapalus* that Byron drew would, in Miss Woolgar's hands, resume all that prestige of poetry and passion—all that supreme tenderness, that fine insouciance, that grand weariness, which tradition supposes, and Mr. Charles Kean hideously contradicts.

But not to overwhelm our readers with hypothesis, we may as well state, without further circumlocution, that this ADELPHI version of *Sardanapalus*, is a smart and clever adaptation; and from beginning to end, as we can certify, keeps the audience excited and amused. It does not belong—need we say?—to that swell-mob family of burlesques, consisting of execrable puns torn by force from the dictionary, which condemn the perpetrator to be kicked out of any rational society. Nor is it, in respect of writing, one of the best specimens of its own kind. But it is bright, genial, and spontaneous: the table-talk of the day is

pleasantly struck off: the Cab Act and the Camp are turned to the best advantage; and every now and then comes a pithy word of shrewd sense lurking in a line of fun. Add to this that it is admirably mounted in quasi Assyrian style, and with a sumptuous prodigality of decoration; that the musical accompaniments are "seizing" and fanciful, the vocal parodies felicitous, the groupings carefully studied and elaborately reproduced from the Nimroud groups; that Keeley is a prodigious mother-in-law to a discarded Queen; that Paul Bedford, as the ambitious Mede, copies, with laudable conscientiousness, the familiar gestures which seem to have descended from Assyrian warriors to London street-boys, and looms, rigid and enormous, in complete armour; and that Miss Collins, the favoured and devoted *Myrrha*, is quite as statuesque as we could wish that "beautiful Ionian" (here translated into Irish) to be under such (or any) circumstances, and has the additional *vraisemblance* of youth and good looks. As *Myrrha* is surely not a part for eminent antiquarians, we find no fault with Miss Collins for restoring the *Myrrha* of Lord Byron in these respects. Altogether, we decidedly prefer the *Sardanapalus* of the Adelphi to any other of our contemporaries who have assumed that name; and we recommend all friends to pay him a visit. By the way, let not those who do so forget to stay for the farce of *The Camp at Chobham*. It is a success of apropos—just what a flying piece *de circonstance* should be, and acted *con amore* by all concerned. The heavy and the light dragon are real army men, and talk of stables and cigars, *et cetera*, as army men do. Leigh Murray's splendid and easy domination, his victorious and imperturbable assurance, is to the life; and Keeley, as the terrified and bamboozled bourgeois, is "more easily imagined than described."

C. H.

A LAST LOOK AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

THE closing day of the Royal Academy was the hottest we have had, or are likely to have, this summer, and the crowd within the building, from a little after ten until nearly dusk, was a sight to see. There is much difference of opinion as to the merits of the exhibition as a whole. Such gaps among the R.A.'s, and quasi R.A.'s, have not occurred for seasons out of mind; and the absentees had each a public, certain to lament its missing favourite. MacIise, Mulready, Leslie, Frith, John Martin, quite extinct; Dyce and Herbert only just showing, each in a hasty study; and Webster repeating his Dame's School with rather diminished effect, and doing nothing besides. All this, it must be confessed, is a great detraction of attraction, particularly for those who go with the *Blackwood* and *Times* critics, and regard sceptically the innovating genius of the younger men. For our own part, in spite of great disappointment at some cases of absence, we hold the merit of this exhibition to have been above the average. "Historical" painting was certainly more remarkable for academic propriety (ten-foot-high Art not being anywise rampant this year) than for numbers or ambition. But something more than the conforming merit belonged to Ward's "Execution of Montrose," to Armitage's "City of Refuge," to Johnston's "Edward the Fourth and Elizabeth Woodville" (Johnston is the most promising of the Scotch painters), to Egle's scene from the Cloister Life of Charles the Fifth, and to Cross's "Death of Thomas à Becket." This last we might condemn for its tameness and conventionality, and consistently defend against our own judgment. The adherence to certain rules of "High Art" is itself ambitious, and in the very tameness of the design there is evidence of discipline. It is in *genre* painting only that there was a decided falling off. It would not do to think of Frith's "Pope and Lady Mary" while looking at the spectator scene, "Phyllis and Brunetta," cleverly painted too, by Mr. Solomon, or at Rankley's less attractive picture of "Dr. Watts visiting his little friends."

Among the portraits, Gordon's were conspicuous for their general life-like appearance, and their personality. This is not the universal attribute of portraits. Indeed, it seems that most painters object to committing themselves to personal views. They have an abstract expression which relieves them from such impropriety, as it fits every sitter; for though the proverbial difficulty always holds good about material, which can only be modified, and not changed, and you can't make a Silk Buckingham out of a John Parry, it is possible to substitute for Parry's habitual expression an ideal loftiness and profundity quite as imposing in its effect as the veritable expression of a Buckingham.

It is among the drawings and miniatures that the best portraits are to be found. The merit "hidden in this conspicuous place" has a new importance, since miniature-painting has, by accident, become associated with the great movement in Art, begun by Hunt and Millais, while the practice of multiplying crayon drawings, by improved machinery, is making the public body familiar with the features of its leaders. By the bye, it is a pity that so few of our artists are lithographers. When one sees the admirable effects produced by men like Baugniot and Léon Noël, far inferior as artists, or even as draughtsmen, to half the exhibitors in the miniature-room at the Royal Academy, it becomes a matter of gigantic speculation as to what Richmond or Laurence might do by direct application to the stone. The engravings after their studies are very insufficient re-productions.

The landscapes appeared more glorious than ever, on that hot Saturday, when we were shouldered along through the stifling rooms. After kneading Fleet-street mud for six weeks and over, it was pleasant, now that July had come indeed, to stand before such pictures as those by Thomas Sydney Cooper,—

"With a pant for woodlands dim."

Cooper's landscapes (he was always the soul of the picture when he did the cows to the landscape of Lee) were positively the best things of their kind at the Royal Academy. He has a way of getting at the nett value of a piece of grazing land, that no man has had since Berghem. One of his scenes, with a light breeze sweeping gently over it, flattening the branches of the trees and stirring the tails of the cattle (a wonderful touch), deserves a separate notice. We must say more about the landscapes, which have been the mainstay of all the galleries this year. Q.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

The total number of deaths registered in the metropolitan districts in the week that ended last Saturday was 971. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1843-52 the average number was 1049, which, raised in a certain proportion according to increase of population, gives an estimated amount of 1154. Last week's registration therefore shows that the actual mortality is less than the corrected average by 183.

The deaths ascribed to zymotic diseases are 226, about the same number as in the previous week. In the two weeks fatal cases of small-pox were respectively 2 and 2, of measles 26 and 11, scarlatina 27 and 26, hooping-cough 37 and 30, typhus and other fever 51 and 58. The only fact particularly attracting notice is the increase, usual at this season, of diarrhoea. The numbers referred to this complaint in the last four weeks are the following: 28, 34, 54, and 73. It appears that the last few days have witnessed a decided increase both in diarrhoea and summer cholera; and though typhus contributes nothing more than the usual proportion to the weekly mortality, local reports show that it is prevalent in some parts.

Last week the births of 819 boys and 741 girls, in all 1560 children were registered in London. In the eight corresponding weeks of the years 1845-52 the average number was 1336.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.745 in. The reading of the barometer increased from 29.72 in. at the beginning of the week to 29.79 in. by 9h. P.M. on the 17th; decreased to 29.70 in. by noon on the 18th; increased to 29.83 in. by 9h. P.M. on the 19th; remained at this reading nearly till 3h. P.M. on the 20th; decreased to 29.59 in. by 3h. P.M. on the 22nd; increased to 29.85 in. by noon on the 23rd; and decreased to 29.81 in. by the end of the week. The mean temperature of the week was 59.6 degs. or 2.2 degs. below the temperature of the same week on an average of 38 years. The mean daily temperature was below the average on every day of the week. The highest temperature was 73 degs., and occurred on Saturday; the lowest was 50.7 degs., and occurred on Monday. The greatest difference between the dew point temperature and air temperature was 15.4 degs. on Saturday; the least was 1.9 degs. on Wednesday; the mean difference of the week was 7.8 degs. The wind blew on six days from the south-west. The amount of rain was 0.29 in. The highest temperature of the water of the Thames was 64.1 degs.; the lowest 59.7 degs.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 6th of July, in Canada West, Lady Poore: a son and heir.
On the 21st, at 17, Thurloe-square, the Countess de Zuylen de Nyevelt: a son.
On the 21st, at Ickworth, the Lady Arthur Hervey: a daughter.
On the 21st, at Northchurch, Herts, the wife of the Rev. Sir John H. Culme Seymour, Bart.: a son, stillborn.
On the 22nd, at Tortworth-park, Wootton-under-Edge, Gloucester, the Hon. Mrs. Percy Moreton: a daughter.
On the 22nd, at Blithfield, the Hon. Mrs. Bagot: a daughter.
On the 23rd, at 14, Berkeley-square, the wife of John Martin, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.
On the 23rd, at Cranley Rectory, Surrey, the Hon. Mrs. Sapte: a son.
On the 25th, at No. 12, Grosvenor-square, the Lady Anna Gore Langton: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 7th of June, at Candy, Major Franklin Lushington, C.B., 37th Regiment, son of Sir Henry Lushington, Bart., of Aspenden-hall, Herts, to Anne Dobrée, eldest daughter of Major-General Bainbridge, C.B., commanding the forces in Ceylon.
On the 19th of July, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Captain Granville Leveson Proby, Seventy-fourth Highlanders, second son of Admiral the Hon. G. L. Proby, and nephew of the Earl of Carysfort, to the Lady Augusta Maria Hare, eldest daughter of the Earl of Listowel, K.P.
On the 20th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Richard, Viscount Dungarvan, grandson of the Earl of Cork and Orrery, K.P., to Lady Emily de Burgh, second daughter of the Marquis of Clanricarde, K.P.
On the 20th, at Kew, Thomas Robert Evans, Esq., of Coltishall, Norfolk, second son of the Rev. H. Evans, rector of Lyng, Norfolk, to Elizabeth, youngest surviving daughter of Sir William Jackson Hooker, Director of the Royal Gardens, Kew.
On the 26th, at Marylebone Great Church, Abingdon Compton, Esq., Bombay Civil Service, youngest son of the late Sir Herbert Compton, of Hyde-park-gardens, to Louisa Gray, daughter of the late Richard Bridgens, Esq., of the island of Trinidad, and adopted child of the late Robert Gray, Esq., of the same place.
On the 26th, at St. Mary Magdalene Church, Munster-square, Charles Longuet Higgins, Esq., of Turvey-Abbey, Bedfordshire, to Helen Eliza, third daughter of Thomas Burgon, Esq., of Burton-crescent.
On the 27th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Right Hon. Lord Amelius Wentworth Beauchamp, R.N., to Frances Maria, only daughter of Charles Harrison, Esq., of No. 7, Cambridge-square, Hyde-park, London.

DEATHS.

On the 18th of April, 1853, suddenly, at Young Daeng, near Shewgheen, Burmah, Captain Edmund Disney Byng, of the First European Bengal Fusiliers, and late A.D.O. to General Sir Charles Napier, in the thirty-first year of his age, second son of Rear-Admiral the Hon. Henry and Mrs. Byng.
On the 21st of May, at the Burdwan Dik Bungalow, near Calcutta, Lieutenant F. A. Hook, Seventy-third N.I., eldest son of the late Theodore Hook, Esq., aged twenty-nine.
On the 17th of July, at Paris, Louisa, widow of the late James Kenney, dramatic author, in her seventy-sixth year.
On the 18th, at his residence, 23, Church-road, De Beauvoir-square, Kingsland, London, John Arthur, Esq., M.D., Deputy-Inspector-General of Army Hospitals, in the seventy-first year of his age.
On the 19th, at Bantry-house, Bantry, the Countess of Bantry.
On the 20th, at Redbury-grove, Sydenham, Martha, wife of Professor Hoppus, of University College, London, and daughter of the late Matthew Devenish, Esq., of Bulford, Wilts.
On the 21st, at Birmingham, in his 49th year, Clement Cottrill, eldest son of the late Joshua Scholefield, Esq., M.P.

On the 23rd, at Lucerne, in her forty-first year, Catherine, the wife of Henry Cowper-Marshall, Esq., and second daughter of Lord Montagu.

On the 24th, at 3, Stanhope-street, Hyde-park-gardens, Margaret, widow of Lieutenant-Colonel Lee Harvey, of Castle-semble and Mousewold, North Britain.

On the 24th, in Chester-square, aged seventy-six, Lady Whatley, widow of the late Sir Joseph Whatley, K.C.H., and of Thomas Champion de Crespigny, Esq., and last surviving sister of Peter, first Lord Rendlesham.

On the 24th, at Shirehampton, near Bristol, Williamina, wife of Gilbert Elliot, Dean of Bristol.

On the 25th, Charlotte, wife of the Hon. George King, of Fryern, in the county of Sussex.

On the 26th, at Aldenham-Abbey, Herts, in her fifty-fourth year, Henrietta Maria Sarah, the wife of William Stuart, Esq., and last surviving daughter of Admiral Sir Charles Morice Pole, Bart., G.C.B.

On the 26th, at York, Lieutenant-General Sir William Warren, C.B., aged sixty-nine.

On the 26th, at Estcourt, Thomas Grimston Bucknall Esq., late M.P. for the University of Oxford, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

Commercial Affairs.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday, July 29, 1853.

The supplies of all grain during the week have been moderate. Notwithstanding heavy rain during the week, a return of fine weather has caused the wheat trade to be dull to-day, and only a small amount of business has been done at the prices current this day week. The value of wheat continues to advance in the northern continental ports. Danish barley is very scarce here, and brings full prices. Several cargoes have arrived recently from the Mediterranean, and this description meets a slow sale. Oats are fully 6d. cheaper than this day week.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.
(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	229	229	228	228	229	229
3 per Cent. Red.	99½	99½	99½	99½	99	99½
3 per Cent. Con. Ans.	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
Consols for Account	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½	98½
3½ per Cent. An.	101½	101½	101½	102	101½	101½
New 5 per Cents.						
Long Ans., 1860	515-16	515-16	5½	5½	511-16	
India Stock	275		257½	257	256	227
Ditto Bonds, £1000	28	28			26	25
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