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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
Birmingham Gaol	866
Funeral of Sir Charles James Napier	867
Mr. Roebuck at Sheffield	867
A Scotch Review of the Session	867
Letters from Paris	868
Continental Notes	868
American Art and Science	870
Critical Words from the West, on the Social Experiments of America	870
Transatlantic Cunning	871
Corporation of London	871
Wesleyan Reform	872

The Working Classes	872
The Yellow Fever at New Orleans	872
The Murder of Eliza Grimwood	873
Curiosities of Justice	873
Criminal Record	873
Miscellaneous	873

PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

Turkey Deserted by her Allies	875
Spain the Defaulter	876
The Truth about the Roman Dis- closures	876
A Monument to Napier	876

An English Gaol	877
A Decanter of Wine on every Table	877
The Governing Classes.—No. II. The Earl of Aberdeen	877
Picture of the Dublin Exhibition	879
A Lay View of Medical Tests	879

OPEN COUNCIL—

Spanish Filibusterism	880
-----------------------------	-----

LITERATURE—

History of the Chinese Rebellion	882
Unnoticed Errors of the "Vestiges"	883

PORTFOLIO—

Letters of a Vagabond.—XVI.	884
----------------------------------	-----

THE ARTS—

The Theatres	885
A Sight to be Seen	885

Health of London during the Week ...	886
Births, Marriages, and Deaths	886

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS—

City Intelligence, Markets, Adver- tisements, &c.	886-888
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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1853.

[PRICE SIXPENCE.]

News of the Week.

THE peace of Europe now hangs in breathless suspense on the decision of the Czar; for to such a point it appears we have come, after all the brave assurances about controlling that headstrong and irrational Potentate! The Turkish modifications in the Vienna Note have been followed by an authoritative statement of the reasons which animated the Porte in requiring those modifications. These reasons are stated in singularly calm, argumentative language, without elaboration, as it is without irritating pungency. The power of the statement is derived entirely from its appealing to the rational and correct feeling of all men, without regard to country, party, or sect. The purpose is expressed by its own writer, thus—

"The paragraphs that the Sublime Porte might, with regard to religious privileges, insert in the Note she will sign, ought, as it has always been declared either verbally or in writing, to express nothing but assurances calculated to banish the doubts put forward by the Government of Russia, and which have formed the subject of these discussions. But to fortify by now ties the religious identity already existing between a great community of the subjects of the Sublime Porte and a foreign power, to give to the Government of Russia a motive to pretend to exercise a right of surveillance and interference in such matters, would be, in some sort, to admit a participation in sovereign rights, and to endanger the existence of the empire. It is, therefore, totally impossible for the Government of his Majesty the Sultan to assent to such a proposition without being forced."

The objection here enforced is exactly the same in substance with the objection which Turkey made to the note proposed by Prince Menschikoff, namely, —the recognition of Russia as exercising a distinct and effective influence in Turkey, and directing the acts of its sovereign power. The position of our Ministers at the present moment is unintelligible. Having supported Turkey in resisting certain demands, they now support Austria in repeating the same demands. The *Times* cries out at Turkey for the delay, and, at the same time, describes the question of peace or war as depending upon Russia; a position which implies that the mediating Powers really surrender the settlement of the question to the principals between whom they intend to mediate, or, rather, to the aggressor whom they combined to resist. That strange position which we noticed last week, subsists in all its perilous ambiguity.

On the other hand, Optimism supposes that the position of England or France is not finally determined by that of the Four Powers. The Four Powers have proposed an accommodation; if it were accepted by Turkey, well; England and France would be glad; but if either one or other of the conflicting States refuse the accommodation, the whole affair is again thrown loose—the function of the Four Powers has ceased, the constituent members of the Conference are once more separately free; and in that case, it is averred, France and England would revert to their original support of Turkey.

Rome appears to be more or less mixed up with the other remarkable movements in Europe. Rome itself, indeed, is the seat of one—a grand razzia of patriots connected with the party of Italy. There is no concealing the fact of the detection. The men who have been arrested are known for their patriotic feelings, as some of them are for their distinguished ability. That there have been traitors at work is also evident, but that there was any movement in preparation which is arrested by this detection, is a mistake, and we explain the nature of the mistake in another place. The traitors, if such they are, do not properly belong to the patriotic party; they are what we in England should call "outsiders." Nevertheless, the fact remains, that more devoted patriots have been added to the thousands who now languish in the prisons of Italy.

While Rome is pursuing those who desire to restore independence and nationality to Italy, the Emperor of Austria is encouraging reports that his rule in the North of Italy is about to become one of lenity and of ordinary civil Government—after five years of siege! The reason is, that he anticipates some hazardous consequences from the dearth which is beginning to show itself in all parts of Italy, as well as in other countries; and dreading lest the population of his most productive province—for the Lombardo-Venetian kingdom, with one-eighth of the population, has returned one-fourth of the Imperial revenue—should be stung to a universal revolt by the want of bread, he is taking steps to prevent abstractions of supplies, and to lull the people with the promise of his benevolence.

While the Church is contending with the efforts of civil liberty in Italy, the same struggle is proceeding in Geneva, though, there, it is complicated with other questions. The old quarrel of the

Sonderbund has never been thoroughly laid to rest—it is that quarrel which in America is represented by the conflict between Federalism and Nullification. But it happens that the Swiss, who stand up for State rights—that is, for the independence of the Canton in Cantonal affairs—are allied with the Jesuits and the tools of Absolutism, while those who have for many years carried on an overbearing policy of central authority, are the Protestant side. A new society has been formed to protect the rights of the Protestant Church, and it is to be regretted that sectional divisions amongst the Swiss and Jesuit intrigues should so far twist the relations of parties in that Republic, as for a time to avert partially the natural alliance between Protestantism and Constitutionalism on the one side, Absolutism and dogmatic tyranny on the other. Switzerland, however, by no means secure, has too keen an insight into her own dangers to revive the disputes which divided her before, and their most recent manifestations have been suppressed.

From America we have scarcely any intelligence worth note. The rumours of war with Mexico we noticed, when the probability was first known to us. The despatch of Lord John, which angers the American journals, we discussed weeks ago, and it is entirely an affair of the past. The most notable event is that decision of Judge M'Lean, of the Supreme Court, on the fugitive slave M'Quirry—an able judicial exposition, in which the judge shows that slavery is not an affair of the Union, but is entirely dependent on the local law—the law of states independent and sovereign within their own jurisdiction, which the federal authorities are bound by the Constitution to respect.

The dearth which we have noticed in Italy begins to be felt, also, in Belgium, Holland, and France, and, in all these countries, some steps have been taken to tamper with the export and import of corn; here the export is prohibited, there the import is set free.

In France the Emperor has fixed a maximum for the price of bread, and doubled the duty on the export of wheat. In England export and import, price of bread and all, are perfectly free, and, the consequence is, the largest portion of the grain of the world is coming into our ports. This partly accounts for the tightness in our money markets, and that, again, accounts for the fall in the funds, which has continued, now, for some time, so that whereas consols were above par in May, they are

now at 96 $\frac{3}{4}$. We have already alluded to the effect of this condition of things at home on wages. Several advances have recently been yielded, a continuance of the previous movement, as in the Thames and other tidal rivers, the stream is seen to be still setting up the mid channel, after it has begun to ebb along the shore. But there is another reason for the depreciation of the funds, and, consequently, for part of the general pressure in our commercial world,—it is, that the confidence in Ministers, in their straightforward, bold, and resolute conduct, which maintained the funds above par, during the height of the Menzschikoff dispute, appears to have given way. Ministers vacillate, and Consols scarcely touch 97.

Queen Victoria's progress is now ended for the present, and she is safely secluded among the hills of Scotland. Before she sailed from Dublin, the young Prince of Wales made his first essay in public life. He presented a pair of colours to the boy soldiers of the Royal Hibernian Military School, and made a neat little speech on the occasion, telling these young warriors that they were soldiers' sons, and would know how to value their flag.

Of course her Majesty's transit through Great Britain was not less marked than usual by the hearty cheers of the groups of spectators who thronged the stations on the line. At Preston her Majesty was within an hour or so of a terrible accident. It appears that the "points" conducting the trains on to a siding were so foul, that instead of closing after a temporary use, they remained open, so that the train that followed in the wake of the Queen dashed into the siding and narrowly escaped complete destruction. Resting one night at Edinburgh, the Queen arrived, on Tuesday, in perfect safety at Balmoral; but she owes the Railway potentates no thanks for this. As far as they were concerned, England might have been deprived not only of a Queen, but of an heir to her throne.

Beside the Queen's passage to the Grampians, we have had a feast at Sheffield, bringing Mr. Roebuck once more before the public; a dinner at Gloucester to an Indian hero, Sir Joseph Thackwell; and a funeral, at Portsmouth, of a greater hero, Napier. The Sheffield dinner was notable for the tone of the speeches, all trumpeting, and justly, our present prosperity; and for the warlike spirit of a letter from Lord Fitzwilliam. Mr. Roebuck, fired by the Earl's letter, made some just comments on our foreign relations. He enforced the doctrine, that England, like a gentleman of the olden time, must go armed, must maintain an attitude of tranquil strength, like that taken at what he called the "Peace Meeting"—at Spithead, the other day, and be ever ready to assert public law, and avenge national insult. He warned his hearers that the continuance of prosperity depended on their caution in speculation; and the way they manifested the national force abroad, in permitting no public law to be violated. The citizens of Gloucester gave a dinner to Sir Joseph Thackwell, because he was a gallant soldier and a Gloucester man; and they caught up and echoed the spirit of the Sheffield banquet, which Mr. Roebuck expressed. It was the same at Portsmouth. Thousands left their homes to catch a glimpse of the funeral procession in honour of Charles James Napier; and all stood uncovered while the corpse, followed by the war-horse of the old General, passed along. Next to Wellington's obsequies those of Napier most express the national feeling; and all will be proud to know that the body of the hero was followed by public mourners, by the Commander-in-Chief, the Lords of the Admiralty, and Lord Ellenborough. General Sir William Napier tried to speak a few last words to the troops, before the earth closed over his beloved brother; he had barely pronounced a brief but comprehensive eulogy of immortal services, and said, with a broken voice, "God is just," when his voice failed him. But, to our minds, that brief

and true farewell is more eloquent, more affecting—sublime even—than many orations which have gained the world's applause. Nor must we refuse a word of praise to the common soldiers who lined the streets, and stood round the grave of their chief. Theirs was a voluntary attendance; more, they came at some personal expense, and it is well that this proof of their true-hearted soldier instincts should be known. Sir Charles James Napier may not have been so conspicuous, but he was a more hearty, more sympathetic, and, therefore, a better man than Wellington.

Among public calamities let us rank the inquiry, still proceeding, at the Birmingham Gaol. So far as the examination has yet proceeded, the untested evidence discloses acts of cruelty which we thought no longer disgraced our gaols, and acts of illegality which visiting Justices were put in office to prevent, and which show that stringent measures of precaution are not needless.

Another public calamity is Cholera. One report insists that it has reached our shores at Newcastle; but we still doubt. The news from abroad is more consolatory than usual, and we do not think there is any cause for alarm, although there is cause for preventive measures. The third calamity is the standing one of railway accidents. The inquiry into the Hornsey transaction is still pending; but Captain Wynn has shown by actual experiment that there is plenty of distance between the danger signal and the station to bring an express going at fifty miles an hour to a dead stand some yards short of the station. Two accidents have happened, one near Holyhead, and one at Preston. How narrowly they missed being fatal!

BIRMINGHAM GAOL.

STRANGE facts come thickly out in the evidence touching the Birmingham Gaol. The boy Andrews was put, first, on three days "bread and water," afterwards got the punishment jacket, in which he moaned, and was restless, subsequently was "deprived of his bed for seven days." On the 27th he was again put into the jacket, and he committed suicide the same night. It was admitted, by the Governor himself, that this boy had frequently done more than his share of work at the crank.

The admissions of the Governor himself convey sufficient information. The following is the main portion of his evidence.

The boy Andrews was received at the prison for the third time on the 28th of March in this year. He was thin, but appeared healthy and able to do his work. He was put to the crank labour on the 30th of March with a 5lb. weight. The prisoner did not do his work, but, having broken his crank, he was put on bread and water for two days; that food being given to him at night at ten o'clock, at the time he was removed from the crank cell. On the 17th of April he was shouting in his cell, for which offence he was sentenced to bread and water on three successive Sundays. The witness was asked by the Chief Commissioner under what authority that punishment was inflicted: the reply was that it was a practice to prisoners guilty of prison offences.

Captain Williams rejoined that there certainly was no legal authority for any such thing; and Lieut. Austin went on to say that the prisoner continuing lazy and disorderly, he was sentenced to the strait jacket as well as bread and water on the Sunday. He (witness) did not put the jacket on, but he saw the boy in it when it was on.

Mr. Welsby—Is that jacket here?

Witness—It is.

[This contrivance for punishment and torture was produced. It consists of a strong linen jacket, fastened behind by a series of straps; a strong leather band is passed over the arms, which are held as if they were pinioned. In addition to this, there was produced another contrivance for torture, in the shape of a collar. The one placed under Andrews's chin measured 3½ inches in depth; it is made of stiff leather, a quarter of an inch thick, and is unbound at the edges.]

Examination of Lieut. Austin continued—On Sunday the 17th April had on the jacket for five hours. On the 19th, as he did not do his work, I ordered that he should again have on the jacket, and bread and water diet. He said he couldn't do his work, and as I thought he could if he would, I ordered him to be strapped to the wall. There would undoubtedly be considerable pain round the arms from the compression caused by the straps. The boy moaned a good deal, but I thought that was his dogged manner.

Mr. Welsby—Was he on bread and water diet at this time?

Witness—He was. As he had not done his task he would not get his bread and water until ten o'clock at night.

Mr. Welsby—Do you think that with such diet his strength and constitution would be uninjured?

Witness—I do. On the 22nd of April the prisoner

again broke the crank, and was put on bread and water diet. On the 23rd I forgave him the punishment of bread and water on the two remaining Sundays, and promised him if he would be a good boy that I would send him to the reformatory school.

Mr. Welsby—Was he always respectful to you?

Witness—He was. I never heard him shout violently as if he was in pain.

Mr. Welsby—Why, the witnesses have said that he shrieked violently. Was no report made to you of the fact?

Witness—I don't recollect. On the 26th of April he broke the bar of his cell window; I told him that I should report him to the visiting justices, and ordered that he should be deprived of his bed for seven nights until ten o'clock. On the night following he destroyed himself.

Mr. Welsby—Have you formed any judgment of the cause which induced him to commit suicide?

Witness—I have not; only last week a man in the gaol made a determined attempt to commit suicide.

Dr. Baly—It appears to have been a thing of frequent occurrence that in consequence of prisoners working at the crank in the dark they did more work than was required. It was so in the case of Andrews; did it never occur to you that that excess should be a set-off against a deficient day?

Witness—No.

Capt. Williams—Have you been in the habit of sentencing boys to bread and water simply because they have not completed their crank labour, without hearing their defence?

Witness—Yes.

Capt. Williams—And are you not aware that that is contrary to law?

Witness—I am now aware that it is.

Capt. Williams—Are you aware that you have not complied with prison regulations in this particular?

Witness—Yes.

Capt. Williams—Was that strait jacket ever used before you were governor?

Witness—The same sort of jacket was; but that kind of punishment has increased since I became governor. The offences, too, have increased since the introduction of the hard labour crank. The regulations in reference to that labour are that 10,000 revolutions shall be made each day: 2000 before breakfast, or breakfast is not given; 4000 more before dinner, or no dinner is allowed. The whole must be done before six, or the prisoner is left in the dark in the crank labour cell; and if the work is not completed by ten o'clock, the allowance is bread and water.

Mr. Welsby—Can you explain how it is with regard to the 22nd of April, when, though the prisoner had done his work, he had still only bread and water?

Witness—He had damaged his crank.

Dr. Baly—Suppose a man was 700 or 800 revolutions short, would his diet be bread and water?

Witness—Yes.

Dr. Baly—Would a prisoner receive his dinner if he had done 6000 revolutions by six o'clock.

Witness—Not as a rule, though I have relaxed that rule.

It further appeared in the evidence given before the commission, that the officers of the prison were divided into two parties—the party following Lieutenant Austin, and that considered favourable to Captain Maconochie, the former governor. Mr. Austin is accused of using his power unjustly and harshly towards the officers supposed to be friendly to his predecessor. Captain Maconochie's own evidence is worth attention. He was examined at great length. He deposed that he became governor of the Birmingham Gaol at the opening of the prison, and continued in that situation for two years. The punishments for prison offences adopted were the ordinary punishments of bread and water, flogging, and standing with the face to the wall. Flogging was not ordered without the sanction of the justices. In one instance, however, he had inflicted the punishment, and reported afterwards to the justices.

Mr. Welsby—Let me ask you whether you ever applied the strait-jacket? Witness—He had on the ordinary plan, chiefly to women, for contumacy and violence; but never gave direction for any man to be strapped against the wall. He did not give directions that Howard and Scott should be put in the jacket and strapped against the wall; he never heard of that accusation until he came there. The magistrates authorised him to carry out his own system.

Captain Williams—Is that system according to the act of Parliament, regulating the discipline of gaols? Witness—No; it is not.

Captain Williams—Then it was decidedly acting against the law? Witness—It was.

Captain Williams—Did you not know that the act of Parliament does not confer upon the governor of a gaol the power of flogging? Witness—But I obtained the authority of the visiting justices.

Captain Williams—Did you not know that, even with such general authority, that flogging was contrary to law? Witness—No; I thought that the justices had the power.

Captain Williams—Did you undertake the government of the gaol without consulting the act of Parliament? Witness replied that he was acquainted with the act of Parliament, but it was scarcely possible that it could be adhered to in all points. He, moreover, admitted that in the cases of Collins, Bedford, and others, he had applied corporal punishment without first asking the sanction of the justices.

Captain Williams—If you adopted the mark system, it would be impossible, would it not, to carry on the discipline of the gaol according to the act of Parliament? Witness—it would.

Captain Williams—How many cranks had you in the gaol? Witness—At first only two, but about four months before he left the gaol, against his will, they increased the number to twenty-two. Had once sentenced a man to 10,000 rounds on the crank. Witness said that in consequence of the visiting justices, for some reason which he did not understand, prohibiting his wife and daughter from visiting the female wards, and instructing the prisoners, he found his moral agency much deteriorated, and the prisoners became more violent. I have put men to work on the crank in the dark. On one occasion I ordered a man to perform 15,000 evolutions on the crank, but I did not expect that all the task would be performed in one day. I never ordered water to be thrown over any prisoner. I think it a very improper punishment. At an early period Mr. Austin wished to make the punishments more severe, and he got directions from the visiting magistrates, much to my annoyance, to effect such. Before my leaving the gaol I requested from the magistrates a public investigation of my conduct, but I did not obtain it.

Mr. Welsby—Did not the visiting justices give directions that a system of close separation should be established? Witness—They did.

Captain Williams—What was its effect upon the prisoners? Did it improve the prisoners in the juvenile ward? Witness—I found it did considerable injury. The hopes of the prisoners were diminished, and their stimulus to exertion destroyed.

Dr. Baly—Do you think that Lieutenant Austin had any other motive in increasing the severity of punishments than the reformation of prisoners? Witness—I think he had a direct gratification in their punishment.

Respecting the crank at which the prisoners worked, the following evidence was given:—

Mr. Underhay, from a metropolitan engine factory, swore that his firm received an order from Lieutenant Austin for a dozen cranks for the use of this gaol. The order was for the cranks of the construction which was very defective. This was pointed out to the governor, who however persisted in having them without the improvement, so that a five pound weight on the handle of the old crank was equivalent to twenty pounds. Any persons working a five-pound crank as in use in this gaol would have to exert a force four times greater. Was of opinion that with such a crank 10,000 turns a day would be excessive for a boy; with our new crank, a strong, healthy man would be able to do 15,000 turns a day.

Alfred Webb, a boy fifteen years old, but, judging from his appearance, not more than twelve, was put on bread and water, and sentenced to the strait jacket for saying "good bye" to a boy in the next cell. He had a leather collar on his neck, and his legs were strapped together.

Mr. Welsby—Are you sure you had nothing to eat all day?

Witness—No; nothing.

Dr. Baly—How much bread did they give you when you were taken from the cell at night?

Witness—Sometimes six and sometimes eight ounces.

Dr. Baly—And you had nothing to eat all day?

Witness—Nothing.

Mr. Welsby—No gruel, little boy?

Witness—No, none.

Mr. Welsby—Did you ever have the strait jacket put on after you had been at the crank till ten at night?

Witness—Yes; it was put on by two of them.

Mr. Welsby—Did they pull it tight?

Witness—Yes; my arms were strapped, but I was not strapped to the wall. I lay on the floor on my bed; it was on all night, and in the morning they took it off and sent me to the crank. I had had no sleep. I was "in such agonies and pains," and was so hungry: they had given me nothing to eat all the day; they put eight ounces of bread in the bed. My arms were bound. I bit at the bread as well as I could.

Dr. Baly—Are you quite sure you had had no food before that day?

Witness—Not a bit. They would not give me a drop of water.

Capt. Williams—Most monstrous and shocking!

Mr. Welsby—It's the most diabolical thing I ever heard of in my life.

Capt. Williams—Here's one day he does all his work but five hundred turns, and they give him bread and water at night.

Other facts of the same kind were proved. We select the cases exemplifying the general treatment of the prisoners.

FUNERAL OF SIR CHARLES JAMES NAPIER.

THE last march of the fine old soldier has been taken, and with fittingly simple and solemn rites he has been borne to his home by his brother, his friends, and the soldiers he led and loved so well. The funeral took place at Portsmouth, on Thursday. From the mansion to Portsmouth is seven miles, and as the hearse was borne along the road the peasants lined the ways, and silently uncovered their heads as the corpse of the General passed by. On arriving at the Landport of Portsmouth a procession was formed. Because he was a faithful "Mason," the brethren of the Portsmouth Lodges were there; his civic nobility was testified by the attendance of the mayor and corporation of Portsmouth; the united family of the Napiers, the Vice-Admiral, the Lieutenant-General, and the ladies of the family, came as mourners, while Lord Ellenborough, Lord Hardinge, Colonel Kennedy, Major Travers, and other companions in ser-

vice of the dead warrior, swelled the train. The Lords of the Admiralty, with Sir James Graham, also joined the procession. All the shops were closed, and in the streets of Portsmouth there was silence, save the measured tramp of feet, and the slow booming of the death bell. The coffin was borne into the plain garrison chapel. On the lid were the General's hat, with plume, &c. of the deceased. There were two swords upon it also; one of them was worn by the General for many years, and memorably in the last India campaign. The guard was torn up and bent backwards towards the blade from the hilt. This was the work of a musket or ginjal ball at Hyderabad. The second was a *sabre d'honneur*, a very richly mounted and handsome weapon, presented to the General by Lord Ellenborough when Governor-General of India.

When the coffin was lowered into the grave—a plain bricked-up pit, some five or six feet deep, by the side of the path from the gate to the church—and the solemn words, "Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust," were pronounced, not a few of the old soldiers present were unable to restrain their emotion. As soon as the service was concluded, Sir W. Napier, standing by the side of the grave, turned round to the soldiers, who formed three sides of a square around it, and, as well as we could hear, said:—

"Soldiers! There lies one of the best men—the best soldiers—the best Christians—that ever lived! He served you faithfully, and you served him faithfully. God is just."

The gallant brother could proceed no further. He had evidently intended to speak something at greater length, but was unable to command his words, and slowly and sadly the group around the grave broke up, and the military filed away.

MR. ROEBUCK AT SHEFFIELD.

EVERYBODY will be glad to greet the appearance of Mr. Roebuck again in public life. We have greatly missed him in Parliament, where, in a session like the last, he would have been of much use. On selfish considerations alone, and setting aside the wide public sympathy with his recovery, we are heartily glad to see him in his right place once again, the chief guest at the Cutler's Feast, which took place at Sheffield, on Thursday, September 1. This happy and annual festivity not only elicited a speech from Mr. Roebuck, but brought forth speeches from Lord Wharncliffe, Mr. Denison, M.P., and others. Lord Wharncliffe felt it a relief to "tell gentlemen to their faces that they were prosperous," and referred with laudation to the friendly manner of present strikes in comparison with such movements of old. Mr. Denison stated an eloquent fact: the exports of hardware and cutlery have been one-third more in 1853 than in 1850, an increase mainly contributed by Sheffield. And the agriculturists are equally prosperous. "I am in one of the happiest families in the world—the population of the West Riding of Yorkshire." He added with special pleasure, that in the militia enrolled at Doncaster, no men behaved better than the men from Sheffield. Mr. Roebuck, "not as a death's head at a feast," but as a sincere friend, warned his hearers that the present prosperity may cease, either through our own conduct or the conduct of parties abroad.

"I was present at the great peace meeting the other day—the meeting of the fleet of England. Depend upon it that meeting had more to do with the maintenance of peace than all the meetings you can collect of persons who profess to be the promoters of peace. (Cheers.) The man who bears an injury tamely, is he on whom all the bullies around him will fasten, and if you give the world to understand that you will submit to insults and injuries, every bully in Europe will heap them upon you. (Cheers.)"

He added, with emphasis:—

"On England, at the present time, are centred the hopes of liberty throughout the world. (Cheers.) In this corner of Europe liberty now has its refuge and home. If England were broken down, Belgium would follow, Sardinia would be nothing. The despots of Europe would walk over the whole, and liberty, freedom, and constitutional government would take refuge in that great Republic which emanated from you. But having confidence in the spirit of our country—believing that you are what your ancestors were, I believe in the future of England. I look to it as the great harbinger of civilization. The world looks to it for the benefit of mankind; and depend upon it that it requires you to maintain the glory—though that is a hard word to use—the honour, and the liberties of England. If her liberties were broken down, Europe would be prostrate; civilization would be hurled backwards instead of progressing, and we should not be what we are, worthy descendants of our great predecessors. I told you I was weak, and I feel so. The few sentiments I have uttered have shaken me with emotion. It is not simulated; it is what I deeply feel. I will act on these principles; and in your name I will endeavour to maintain the power, the honour, and the integrity of this great country." (Cheers.)

[In a letter from Lord Fitzwilliam, read at the beginning of the feast, there was strong warning as to

the necessity of meeting Russia, without compromise or weakness.]

Mr. Peto was the last speaker of note, and he was very peaceful and commercial in his anticipations:

"They saw in France indications of a desire on the part of the Emperor to consolidate his own power by making freedom of exchange contribute to the prosperity of his empire. What would be the effect upon the trade of Sheffield if files, iron, and cutlery, should be admitted at a nominal duty into France, and the wines of France on similar terms into England? Europe was becoming indoctrinated with the principles of free trade, and when they looked at the fact that the United States contained a third less people than France, he need not point to the great hope it afforded to Sheffield when France should consult her true interests."

A SCOTCH REVIEW OF THE SESSION.

MR. MONCRIEFF, Lord Advocate of Scotland, has been down among his constituents, speaking of himself and of the House of Commons in the usual style of members meeting once more the old familiar faces of their friends, the electors. The Lord Advocate's speech has some judicious remarks, and conveys some interesting information. Like a lawyer and a Scotchman, he praised Scotch law.

"Although our system has, like all other judicial systems, need of reform, and although, like all other systems of law, expenses and delay must accumulate, and do accumulate to an extent that requires to be remedied and checked, yet we have in Scotland, so far as the machinery of it goes, and so far as the principles and philosophy of it go, an infinitely superior system to what they have on the other side of the Tweed. The English system is a system artificial to the last degree. It is a great system of law in the way in which it is administered—in the way in which it is worked, it is a system full of the spirit of liberty, which takes care of the freedom of the subject; but for all that, it has grown out of very barbarous materials; it is full of strange, odd, and inscrutable fictions, and is altogether different from the simple philosophic system which Scotland possesses. The result of this is, that the law of Scotland can be reformed very easily, without necessitating a judicial change in its principles, while in England they cannot even obtain the local jurisdiction of County Courts without the introduction of a new tribunal. In Scotland, on the contrary, we have had for years and generations our local jurisdictions, which, whether well reformed or not, are infinitely superior to what formerly prevailed. The reforms in the law of England which have been going on so rapidly for the last twenty years, are in a great measure founded on the principles which characterised Scotch law; and there is one great principle that I hope to see adopted in England before long—namely, the conjoining of law and equity, which in that country are divided, but which in Scotland have never been so divided, and, in my opinion, never should. The Sheriff Courts Bill has been called but a miserable modicum of reform, and for this reason, that it does not go so far as the County Courts in England. It should be remembered, however, that the English County Courts have yet to be tried to see how they work. What is wanted is a combination of economy, rapidity, and soundness of decision. These are the three things required. England is now provided with economy and rapidity, but the real vice of the system—and a vice which I believe will bring it down—is this, that suitors have to depend on the judgment of one man, and that, too, of a man removed from the courts of law, while their only appeal lies with the courts at Westminster. Now, by the Sheriff Courts Bill, there was an appeal at once to the sheriff-principal."

In this style Mr. Moncrieff proceeded to compare English with Scotch law, very much to the advantage of the latter.

Then, after describing the harassing duties of a member of Parliament in such a session as the last—there being, with the exception of Saturday, no breathing time during the week, and asking if it was a wonder that, under such circumstances, things would sometimes slip out of mind, the Lord Advocate said:

"After all, it is a noble thing to look at the House of Commons. People may talk about the bribery and corruption of the constituencies, but in that House is to be seen a sight that can be seen nowhere else in Europe, or in the world. You will see there a man not an aspirant to office—not a man looking out merely to see what he can get for himself—not a man, a mere delegate, paid by the day—but you will see a man with everything that station, wealth, and rank can purchase for himself, and who may spend his days in luxury—yet there he will be seen, from winter to dog-days, toiling from day to day, and spending laborious nights, scoring all the case he might otherwise enjoy—and you will see a man do this, not from any aspiration of a personal kind, not from a wish to aggrandise himself or to obtain any pecuniary reward, but for nothing except that he might do his duty to his constituency and be of use in his day and generation. This is the glory of our constitution, and long may it remain so. It is this which distinguishes us from every country in the world; and, while we have men of station and of wealth who spend their time and devote their services to the laborious business of the country, without reward, and without the wish or hope for it, I, so long as this is the spirit of England, Scotland, and Ireland, have no fear of the British Constitution." (Great applause.)

Mr. Moncrieff was then asked some questions, and his replies gave general satisfaction. He said that he had purposely absented himself from the Nunneries Bill debate; he wished to hold himself quite clear to judge the question should another occasion arise.

LETTERS FROM PARIS.
[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LETTER LXXXIX.

Paris, Thursday Evening, Sept. 8, 1853.

WE are in the thick of a bread crisis. Riots at Rennes, riots at Reims, riots here, there, and everywhere. At Rennes the women (always terrible customers in bread riots!) proceeded *en masse* to the Préfecture and demanded that the price of bread in Brittany should not exceed the price in Paris. Some say the Legitimist influence may be traced in that disturbance. Now, at Paris the state of the corn market required that the price of bread should be fixed at 50 centimes the two pounds. Unfortunately at that price the Government would have been upset in no time. So poor Persigny (the *âme damnée* of Bonapartism, the only genuine Bonapartist in fact now left in France, as I have more than once told you) was compelled, under pain of rejoining the ex-governments, and of going *ad patres*, to maintain the price of bread at ten centimes below the nominal price—at 40 cents, instead of 50. To obtain this result he sent round to all the bakers of Paris to assure them that he would reimburse them the difference. In doing this he seems to me to be singularly like Cadet Roussel, good fellow that he is! The Paris bakers will naturally declare an imaginary selling price, assured of the difference being made up to them. They will put down ten loaves to one sold. At that rate our good Cadet Roussel-Persigny, whom I find tripping for the first time (and after all, poor man, he is fighting against Heaven as well as earth this time) will have to reimburse the bakers fabulous sums daily. Now of two things one—either he will be faithful to his engagements, and in that case he will have to pay from 400,000 to 500,000 francs daily for Paris alone; or he will forfeit his engagements, and then all the bakers will shut up their shops, and we shall find ourselves once more in '89, plus all the experiences of the last sixty years. In the latter case the account will be settled fast enough. This is just our situation at Paris, and so clear, so simple, so self-evident is the crisis, that the funds have been falling steadily for a week.

The Provinces demand, as a matter of equality (for we are living under a regime of equality), to be treated on the same footing as Paris. The towns are insurgent, demanding to have bread at eight sous, as at Paris, instead of ten sous. This has been the case at Reims, and at Rennes. At the latter town it was the women who were the ringleaders, at the former the disturbance was confined to a few noisy gatherings in the streets. Only on this occasion the *Champenois* have belied themselves. We have a proverb in France that ninety-nine sheep and one Champenois make a hundred beasts. This time they have proved themselves as quick-witted as the rest. In their "incendiary" proclamations (official style) they have declared that *la faim justifie les moyens*, and incited their countrymen to upset a Government which begins by giving them a famine. And really we are exposed to something like a famine in this fair land of France. In my last letter I was cautious enough to put the probable deficit in the harvest at one eighth, now there are many who reckon it at a fourth, or about 2,000,000 of tons. Yet, for all this, everybody is gay and happy. Fêtes and felicitations everywhere. It is the poor functionaries, who have staked their all on the present Court cards, who are to be pitied. They are already beginning to doubt whether Providence does not indeed govern the world!

Meanwhile the Government has been losing its wits. I told you that the journals were forbidden to discuss the scarcity. Left to itself, the Government has fallen into its natural courses, and has committed an enormous folly. It has considered it an act of supreme wisdom to interfere with the regular freedom of commercial operations. It has come down upon all the corn-markets of France with a host of *Commissaires de Police* (it had created 2280 instead of 360 of these officers—one per canton, instead of one per *arrondissement*), and has declared the merchants to be caught in the act of a coalition to raise the prices of grain. This clever act of vigour of our infallible and paternal rulers was followed by the natural consequences. All the merchants disappeared: 850 *Commissaires de canton* drew up reports (*procès-verbaux*), by order of Persigny, against them. Now, after a fortnight's suspension of the markets, the Prefects are obliged to lower their tone. The Government journals are full of Prefectoral decrees, dismissing *Commissaires de Police* for "abuse of authority," for having endeavoured to interfere with the freedom of commercial transactions.

To relieve you of the possibility of doubt as to this fact, I subjoin at full length the decree of the Prefect of Montauban (Tarn and Garonne) against the *Commissaire de Police* of the canton of *Lafrançaise*:

"Considering that the Sieur Lespine, Commissaire

de Police of the canton Lafrançaise, has on several occasions infringed his duties and the instructions of the higher authorities; that notably, on the 24th instant, at the market of Lafrançaise, he did, contrary to the distinct orders of the higher authorities, interfere with the freedom of transactions in the corn market, by drawing up a report (*procès-verbal*) against the persons offering corn for sale, because they demanded a price above the preceding price current.

"Attendu, &c. &c.

"Decrees. Art. I. The Sieur Lespine, *Commissaire de Police*, is suspended from his functions."

Poor public functionaries! If they don't arrest the rise of prices, they know they will be swept away by the rising tempest. If they do arrest the rise of prices, they find themselves liable to be deprived of their functions by their own immediate chiefs. I am sure they must be all chanting in chorus just now—

"Ah! quel plaisir d'être—fonctionnaire!"

All this time *Le Roi s'amuse*—I beg pardon, *L'Empereur*. On the 15th, after the Venetian fêtes at Dieppe, Bonaparte goes to Boulogne, where he is to give us (and you, too) a second edition of the famous Boulogne camp of 1804. From Boulogne he proceeds to St. Omer, and thence to Lille and Dunkirk, where he is awaited with the greatest impatience. In the two latter towns, citizens who are known Republicans have been appointed officially by the Prefects and Sub-Prefects to erect with their own hands triumphal arches in honour of their Majesties—under pain of being sent to Cayenne! I pledge you the truth of this. S.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

THE Turkish spirit is being roused. Some excitement prevails owing to the modifications which the Divan has introduced into the Viennese note. Relying on the support of France and Great Britain, and finding itself at the head of an army of 200,000 men, Turkey is inclined to go to war. The warlike preparations are continued. Fresh troops are daily pouring in. The army in Asia numbers 80,000 men.

All the accounts from Constantinople concur in stating that the Porte will make a sort of *ultimatum* of the modifications which it has prepared in the note of the Conference of Vienna, the state of public feeling in Turkey being such that the Sultan could not withdraw any of them without the risk of an insurrection of his people and a revolt in the army.

The last accounts from Malta state that Admiral Dundas had sent in the invalids of his fleet, the physicians having declared that a change of air was necessary for their recovery. The British squadron being anchored along the coast, and being exposed to the miasma from the shore, had several seamen attacked with the fever of the country, but there was no danger. The French fleet was more healthy, being anchored further to sea, and the number of sick did not exceed the usual average amongst such a number of men confined in so small a space.

The Paris Correspondent of the *Times* writes:—

"There is reason to fear that our apprehensions as to the nature of the reply given by the Emperor of Russia to the Vienna note will be realized. I understand that, if the official answer has not been received to the note itself with its accompanying modifications, we yet have intelligence of the manner in which the Czar received the fact transmitted to St. Petersburg, that such modifications were appended, and that the Porte accepted the note on condition that they were granted. Indeed it was positively stated this day at the Russian Embassy in Paris, that the Emperor has refused to accept them. It is added, that when he was informed that the Porte had modified the note of the Conference of Vienna before accepting it, he observed, in a tone of much moderation, that he would willingly make concessions for the express purpose of meeting the wishes of the European Powers, but that he would not humiliate himself in the eyes of the world by submitting to propositions proceeding direct from the Sultan. If it turn out to be true that the Emperor thus expressed himself with respect to the allies of Turkey, there is still a hope that, out of deference for them, and, it must be said, for public opinion, the peace of Europe will not be disturbed, though so much valuable time has been lost."

We learn from Bucharest (August 23), that the Russian troops are practising and manœuvring every day. No fresh troops have marched in for some time past, for the Principalities are already completely overrun with soldiers. Fieldworks and fortifications are thrown up and constructed with the greatest activity, especially on the banks of the Danube.

A letter from Shumlah, of the 15th instant, states that the army of Omar Pasha consists of 65,000 men and 180 pieces of cannon. He was daily receiving reinforcements, whilst the Russians, it was said, had lost 13,000 men by typhus and diarrhoea since their entrance into the Principalities. The Russians, to the amount of 5000 men, pitched their tents on the 10th at Totragom, on the left bank of the Danube, so that the sentinels of the two armies are within musket-shot of each other.

The following note, dated the 19th of August, has been sent by the Ottoman Government to the representatives of England, France, Austria, and Prussia:—

"The draft of note which has been recently made at Vienna and sent to the Sublime Porte, has been read and examined at the council of ministers. The one previously composed at Constantinople and forwarded to the Great Powers under a form adapted to put an end to the differences existing between the Sublime Porte and Russia, ex-

cited hopes of a satisfactory result. The Government of his Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, is therefore greatly grieved to see that this draft has not been taken into consideration. Although the draft of note written before by the Sublime Porte in order to be forwarded to Prince Menschikoff, has been used as a basis as regards the paragraph of the draft received from Vienna touching the religious privileges, the question has not been circumscribed in this circle. Certain paragraphs superfluous and incompatible with the sacred rights of the Government of his Majesty the Sultan have been introduced, the Sublime Porte is again placed under the painful necessity of making some observations on the subject. The Imperial Government has for a long time past been accustomed to receive testimonies of friendship from the high Powers, its august allies. It is particularly grateful for so many efforts abounding in good-will which they have constantly received since the commencement of the present question. It is evident, therefore, that it must feel a repugnance, on account of its particular respect for these Powers, to hesitate on a point which has obtained their common consent. But the Government of his Majesty the Sultan, which at the commencement of the affair was declared to be competent judge of questions relative to its rights and its independence, unfortunately not having been consulted upon the composition of the new draft, is placed in a difficult position.

"It may be said that the Government of Russia, also, has not been consulted on the composition of this draft; but the rights to be defended are those of the Sublime Porte, and it is the Porte which will have to sign the note which will be given in relation to this. It belongs to the Great Powers themselves, in the exercise of their acknowledged equity, to judge whether it is just to treat the two parties on an equal footing in this respect. It has in consequence been thought proper not to enlarge upon this point.

"The first of the points which cause the Sublime Porte to hesitate is the following paragraph:—

"If at all times the Emperors of Russia have manifested their active solicitude for the maintenance of the immunities and privilege of the orthodox Greek Church in the Ottoman Empire, the Sultans have never refused to consecrate them afresh by solemn acts."

"That the Emperors of Russia should manifest their solicitude for the prosperity of the church and the religion that they profess, is natural, and calls for no observation; but according to the paragraph quoted above, it might be understood that the privilege of the Greek Church in the states of the Sublime Porte have only been maintained by the active solicitude of the Emperors of Russia.

"It must be remarked, however, that the fact of placing in a note to be given by the Sublime Porte the paragraph above mentioned, as it is found in the draft, touching religious privileges which have been granted and maintained without the participation of any person whatever, would imply and would offer pretexts to the Russian Government to advance pretensions to mix itself up in such things.

"No one would consent to draw down upon himself the blame of his contemporaries, as well as of posterity, by admitting the establishment of a state of things as hurtful for the present as for the future.

"No servant of the august imperial Ottoman family would dare, would be capable of placing on paper words which would tend to weaken the glory of institutions which the Ottoman Emperors have founded by a spontaneous movement of personal generosity and innate benevolence.

"The second point to be touched upon is the paragraph in the draft of note relative to the treaty of Kainardji. As no one can deny the existence of this treaty, and as it is confirmed by that of Adrianople, it is abundantly evident that its precise stipulations will be faithfully observed.

"If in inserting the paragraph mentioned there was any intention of considering the religious privileges as the natural result and the spirit of the treaty of Kainardji, the real and precise stipulation of this treaty is limited to the single promise of the Sublime Porte of itself to protect the Christian religion. The paragraphs which the Porte might insert, as regards religious privileges, in the note it may sign, ought only to express, as has been at all periods declared, either in writing or by word of mouth, assurances proper to remove the doubts entertained by the Russian Government, and which form the subject of the dissensions.

"But to give to the Government of Russia motives for pretending to exercise a right of surveillance and intervention in such matters, by strengthening by new bonds the religious identity already existing between a great community of the subjects of the Sublime Porte and a foreign Power, would be in some measure to share the sovereign rights and endanger the independence of the empire. It is therefore utterly impossible for the Government of his Majesty the Sultan to give its consent thereto, unless compelled to do so.

"If, nevertheless, the intention is merely to obtain a renewal of the treaty of Kainardji, the Sublime Porte might do this by a separate note.

"The imperial government, therefore, attaches the greatest importance to these points, either that the paragraph relative to this treaty, in the note sent, be suppressed, or else that, if it is maintained, the promise of protection contained in the treaty of Kainardji and the question of religious privileges be separated in an explicit manner, so that it shall be understood, at the first glance, that they are two distinct things.

"And the third point relates to the permission conceded to the Greek rite to share in the advantages conceded to the other Christian rites. There can be no doubt that the imperial government will not hesitate to permit the Greek rite to share not only in the advantages which the government has of its own will granted to other communions of the Christian religion professed by communities of its subjects, but also in those which it may concede to them in future. It is superfluous, therefore, to add, that the Porte will be justified in not admitting the employment of ex-

pressions so equivocal, as particular conventions or stipulations in favour of a great community of so many millions of subjects professing the Greek rite.

"Such being the points which present inconvenience to the Sublime Porte, it cannot, notwithstanding the greatest respect for the advice of the high Powers its allies, and its sincere desire to renew its relations with the imperial government of Russia, its friend and neighbour; it cannot, I say, resist trusting to the equity and the justice of the Great Powers the consideration relative to its rights of sovereignty and independence.

"If, however, the last draft of note composed by the Sublime Porte is accepted, or if that of Vienna receives the desired modifications, the Ottoman cabinet will be ready to sign either of these two drafts, and to send immediately an Ambassador Extraordinary, upon condition of the evacuation of the Principalities. The government of the Sublime Porte expects moreover a substantial guarantee on the part of the Great Powers against any future interference, and any occupation from time to time of the Principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia; and the object of the Ottoman government in arming itself beforehand with such excessive precautions is to prevent any occurrence that might bring back misunderstandings between the two empires after the Sublime Porte has renewed its relations with the court of Russia.

"The points of the draft of Vienna relative to the affair of the Holy Places, and the construction of a church and hospital at Jerusalem, have met with the complete sanction of the Sublime Porte.

"A copy of the Vienna note, containing also some modifications which the imperial government has thought fit to make, has been transmitted to your Excellency.

"The Sublime Porte, wishing to give another proof of its particular regards for the Powers whose signatures were affixed to the treaty of 1841, is ready—although the draft it composed lately would naturally be preferred—to accept the draft of Vienna, with the modifications it has made, and hopes that the Powers, which have always recognised from the very commencement of the question the rights of the imperial government, and made manifestations of their good feeling, will, appreciating these modifications, act accordingly.

"His Majesty the Sultan having ordered me to communicate the above to your Excellency, as well as to the other representatives your colleagues, I acquit myself of this duty, and beg your Excellency to receive on this occasion, &c.

(Signed) "RESCHID."

The "brush" at Smyrna between Austria and the United States is a forcible application of a musty proverb. It has blown good at all events to the officers of the ships concerned. The Austrian Government has promoted the commander of the *Ussaro* brig to the rank of captain. It can scarcely be doubted that the American Government will do as much for Captain Ingraham, whose decisive and independent conduct has won the respect of Europe for the American flag.

Russia has sent to Canton a frigate and a brig, which will bring up the Russian squadron on that station to five sail. It is also stated that a *corps d'armée* of 6000 men had been assembled at Irkutsk, the *entrepot* of the Russian trade with China in Siberia.

The *fête* of Napoleon was celebrated with great solemnity at Broussa, on the 15th ult. Abd-el-Kader and his suite were among the company.

The *Moniteur* has recently published a decree to regulate the "alimentary régime" of the Lycées, or colleges under State control; in other words to give the boys more to eat. Think of the advantages of a paternal government, hungry boys! Fortunately our royal colleges of Eton and Westminster do not require the intervention of alimentary decrees. Unless indeed the colleges at Eton should pray for a decree to give them less mutton, and more beef. This memorable decree, signed Fortoul, divides the pupils into three categories—the big boys, to whom 70 grammes of meat are allowed per head, and per meal; the middle-sized sixty; and the "little uns" 50 grammes. On these paternal regulations *La Presse*, from its accustomed point of view of a régime of unrestricted liberty, remarks:—"Under a régime of liberty, as we understand it, we should have said—Bread, meat, and vegetables in the colleges shall be of good quality. No quantity is prescribed; it will regulate itself naturally according to the hunger of the pupils." But what a mad notion to think of giving boys an unlimited liberty of eating à discrétion. Can one think of such a proceeding seriously without a shudder? Why! it would be indigestion on permanence." This decree we have noted particularly as a fair specimen of what is called an "enlightened despotism," which not only pretends to regulate the march of trade, to restrict and extend at pleasure the operations of commerce and the prices current of markets, but descends, as if it were a second Providence, into the minutest details of life.

Baron de Richmond, one of the many *soi-disant* Louis the Seventeenth, has just died in an obscure corner of a distant department of France. He was, however, the most notable of all those modest pretenders, and his claims were recognised by a considerable portion of the Legitimist party. Ten members of the old noblesse were so convinced that he was really the Dauphin of France, that they clubbed together to assure him an annuity of 12,000 francs, which he regularly received up to the day of his death.

The *Sole*, the three-masted vessel which we spoke of last week as having reached Paris, to the astonishment of the natives of the capital, who are at once convinced that Paris is to be what Napoleon the First declared it should be, a *port de mer*, is only a small *chasse-maree* of 80 tons. But it appears that a company had been formed previous to the revolution of 1848, for the purpose of establishing a direct steam communication between Bordeaux and Paris. This scheme was proposed in 1842 by M. Arman, an eminent shipbuilder at Bordeaux, and was then treated as a chimera. In 1846, however, it was again started, and M. Arman's persevering enterprise was on the point of being actually carried into effect by a joint French and

English company. After the revolution the scheme was again set on foot, and arrested by the objection on the part of the Government, that the steamers employed on the river Seine would be useless for war purposes. But Louis Napoleon, on his visit to Bordeaux, took up the idea warmly, and encouraged the projectors to proceed. This steamer, the first of the line, is called the *Lamoriguière*, was launched from M. Arman's yard during Louis Napoleon's visit to Bordeaux. She is 1000 tons burden, and 200 horse-power. Her engines were made in England, at the cost of 11,000*l*. She will carry about 900 tons of coal, and a cargo of 700 tons, or about 2800 casks of wine. She is built like a steam-frigate, admitting for the difference of construction requisite for her peculiar services, and will be propelled by screw, carrying a good spread of canvass. She is expected to make the passage from Bordeaux to Paris in ninety hours. Her first trip will be made next month. She will carry freight at 35 francs a ton, and at this rate will, it is thought, be able to defy the competition of the railway. As however, speed, regularity, and cheapness, are the eventual conditions of success, a vessel of a smaller size could not possibly be made to pay. The projectors of this line of steamers are mainly indebted to the patronage of M. Ducos, now Minister of Marine, and, as is well known, himself a native and banker of Bordeaux. It is fifty years since the Emperor Napoleon first thought of making Paris a "seaport," but the war diverted his attention from the project, of which indeed, as subsequently in 1827, the difficulties were found to be almost insuperable under the then existing conditions. The utmost that has been effected within the last twenty years is the deepening of the channel of the Seine between Rouen and Paris. The success of the present scheme deserves attention, and will be watched with interest by the commercial world.

The Belgians are unwearied in getting up marriage fêtes. At Antwerp there has been a splendid street pageant and procession in honour of the Duke and Duchess of Brabant. The *Times* correspondent speaks of "the human interest of the scene." "The thousands of robust, healthy peasantry—those Flemish figures and features with which the immortal artists of Antwerp have familiarized the whole civilized world—those clear complexions, blond tresses, with old-fashioned gold and silver ornaments taken from their family cabinets, where they have reposed from generation to generation, with the clean fine lace caps hanging over the shoulder."

The schoolmaster is indeed abroad. The King of Bavaria, who, as *La Presse* reminds us, is no free-thinker, but, on the contrary, the Catholic Sovereign of the most Catholic State in Europe, has lately delivered, with extraordinary emphasis, the following reply to an address of certain schoolmasters who had sent to thank him for having increased their stipends. This royal reply deserves, says the *Augsburg Gazette*, to receive universal publicity:—"I thank you, gentlemen, and I rejoice in what I have done you recognise that I am the friend of schoolmasters, that I honour and esteem their profession; not only do I esteem it, but I love it. Your mission is, I acknowledge, hard and difficult, and to fulfil it you have need of an angelic patience. Attend to the education of the people, for it is in a great measure in your hands; disseminate everywhere useful knowledge, for it is that which forms a moral and believing people (*fidèle*). Tell your brethren that I love them, and" (placing his hand upon his heart) "the King gives you his word that he will do everything in his power for you."

This address is no doubt interesting as an indication that one King at least on the Continent of Europe discerns the signs of the times. But it may be, without unjust susceptibility, doubted whether the hug of a Catholic Sovereign is in all respects the best guarantee for the life and liberty of popular instruction. It is difficult not to suspect that this King may be endeavouring to discount the labours of his schoolmasters to the profit of kingcraft and of its ally priestcraft. When the King talks of a *faithful* people, we are in doubt whether he uses the word in the strictly Catholic sense, or generally in the sense of a *loyal* people. In the former case, taking the general position of Bavaria into account, we cannot help detecting a pre-occupation of kingcraft; in the latter, of priestcraft. The whole address, indeed, reads more like one of those fiery and mystical harangues which occasionally fall from the King of Prussia, under the influence of "Rhenish" and champagne. Bavarian beer is scarcely to be credited with such a display of royal enthusiasm.

At the grand military manoeuvres of the Prussian army, about to take place at Berlin, it is said that the British army is to be represented by Lord Hardinge and other Generals.

A great many natives of the Tyrol, who have become converts to Protestantism abroad, were, on their return to their own country, anxious to possess the freedom accorded to native Protestants. They petitioned for the *Indigenat*. The local authorities forwarded the petitions to the Government, which rejected them.

Love at first sight is not often a royal experience. But according to a continental paper the Emperor of Austria saw the Princess Elizabeth of Bavaria at a ball at Ischl, was charmed, requested to be allowed a few minutes' conversation with her after the ball, and returned with the Princess leaning on his arm, presenting her to the company as the future Empress of Austria.

In Berlin, boots for Australia are being extensively made. Boots are one of the few articles which are made undoubtedly better in Berlin than in England, and at half the prices, best men's boots costing only 12*s*. to 13*s*. 6*d*.

At Berlin the deaths, in consequence of the heat, have amounted to twenty in the day.

The Emperor Francis Joseph arrived at Salzburg on August 31. Shortly afterwards the Duchess Maximilian and her daughters the Princess Elizabeth (Empress elect) and the Princess Helena likewise arrived there.

The *Presse* of Vienna announces that the Emperor of Russia is to be present at the grand manoeuvres of the

Austrian camp at Olmutz. Other reports state that he is going to Warsaw. The annual reviews of the Imperial Russian Guard terminated on the 26th ult.

A Franciscan monk named Marcus Gasparich has been executed at Presburg. He was accused of correspondence with Kossuth and Mazzini. After having been "desecrated," he suffered death on the gallows; and this has given great umbrage to the ultra-Catholic party.

The *Times* correspondent at Vienna writes:—"On the 14th of last month two persons knocked at the door of a room inhabited by Padovani [a refugee] in the High-street of Pera, and on opening it he received two wounds in the breast, which are supposed to be mortal. Whether the unfortunate man really was a spy or not we have no means of knowing, but it is probable enough. The refugees are on the whole "a bad lot," for within the last six months three of the leading men have by letter offered their private services to the Austrian Government for a valuable consideration."

At Ravenna, an attempt has been made to assassinate the Legate, but fortunately without success.

The establishment of a line of steamers between Genoa and North and South America, is definitively arranged. The law authorizing the Government to treat with the proposed company for the concession of the line, is published in the official journal at Turin.

The *Messenger de Modène* publishes some details of the arrests recently effected at Rome. Among the arrests are included an advocate of Bologna, an employé of the Government, a priest of San Lorenzo, a member of the Rospole family, a jeweller, &c. This is sufficient to prove that the projected movement, if it existed, comprised all classes of society, Government officers, and priests.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* of the 3rd instant has advices from Naples, stating the names of the twenty-two persons whom the Criminal Court of Naples has condemned to death in *contumaciam* for the part they took in the revolutionary movement of the 15th of May, 1848.

The King of Naples has ordered the railway from Naples to Brindisi to be commenced, but he has directed that no Englishman, either directly or indirectly, is to have any connexion with its making, or in the manufacture of the *matériel* to be employed.

Lord Howden, our ambassador at Madrid, has arrived in Paris, en route to England. Probably Madrid is getting too hot for him after his sharp skirmish with the ignoble Government to which he is accredited, on the subject of Christian burial of English Protestants. Add to this, Lord Howden is the warm personal friend of Narvaez, now, it is known, enjoying an "honourable exile" at Paris, and supposed to be studying, by the order of his Government, military archives at Vienna. When Lord Howden succeeded Sir Henry Bulwer, at Madrid, it was believed that he would bring the two Governments to the most friendly terms. It has been found impossible to maintain decent terms with so profligate and shameless a Government of rogues and harlots; although Lord John Russell is anxious to bring the might of England (which he suffers to be the mockery of Russia) to the support of Spain against the United States, in order that Queen Christina may grow more and more rich upon the unholy gains of that slave dealing which Spanish Governors are sent to Cuba to protect, in the face of solemn treaties, and under the flag of Spain.

The London journals have frequently been stopped at the Madrid post-office of late; but a Royal order appeared on August 29, addressed by Senor Egana to the governors of provinces, by which the *Times* is excluded altogether from the Spanish dominions. It is as follows:—

"Ministry of the Home Department.

"The enemies of the peace of Spain, not finding in our noble soil elements disposed to break daily the laws of decorum, and offend that which is venerated here almost as a worship, have sought in foreign lands pens which might serve their criminal designs, and for some time back there have been seen, with indignation, articles of an English periodical, entitled the *Times*, the sole and base object of which seems to be to wound and ridicule systematically the object most dear to Spaniards. Such a scandal cannot longer be tolerated. The public decorum forbids it; the monarchical sentiment of the country repels it with horror; liberty itself is ashamed of it as of a repugnant spectacle which stains and compromises its fair cause. To put a stop to it immediately, and to do so in a public and solemn manner, which may attest at all times how lively the stimulus of offended national dignity is in Spain, is not only now to fulfil a high duty of Government, but also to satisfy a great and generous aspiration, without which we should seek in vain for respect for the constituted powers, stability and repose for the States.

"In virtue of these reasons, which I have had the honour of elevating to the sovereign knowledge of her Majesty the Queen (whom God preserve), she has deigned to command that the entry, circulation, and reading of the English periodical entitled the *Times*, be not permitted in Spain, its adjacent islands and possessions and colonial dominions; which measure shall be equally extensive to whatever other journal or foreign publication which should exhibit the same want of consideration for the highest objects which this specially catholic and monarchical nation has venerated for ages by law, by gratitude, by instinct, and even by a chivalrous sentiment, proper to, and worthy of, the noble Spanish race.

"The which I communicate to you by royal order, for your knowledge and opportune effects. God preserve you many years.—San Ildefonso, Aug. 27.

(Signed) "EGANA.

"To the Governor of the province of ———."

The late articles in the *Times* on Spanish repudiation and bigotry account for this exclusive honour.

It appears that the Swiss Federal Council is desirous to bring its conflict with Austria to an arrangement, and to that end it proposes to sacrifice the canton of Ticino, and, contrary to all precedents, to consider the question between that canton and the Austrian authorities a merely can-

tonal dispute. In a letter to the administration of that canton the Federal Government says, that while it will continue to urge upon the Austrian Government the maintenance of the treaties respecting the exportation of corn and the raising of the blockade, it has reason to apprehend that Austria will refuse to accede without concessions on the part of the canton. While, therefore, on the question of the refugees the honour and dignity of the Confederation are in the keeping of the Federal Government, it recommends the cantonal administration to consider whether with regard to the expelled Capucins it may not be for its interest to make directly or indirectly such offers of concessions to Austria as may lead to the renewal of negotiations, in which the Federal Government would lend its mediation. This unexpected retreat of the Federal authorities has caused great indignation in the canton of Ticino, and the cantonal administration has, it appears, returned a very sharp reply to the proposals of the Federal Government.

It is probable that the canton of Ticino, abandoned by the Federal Government, will have to yield to Austria, whose rigorous blockade of the frontier, rendering the exportation of grain for the subsistence of the canton impossible, in spite of the formal treaties of 1818, will literally starve the Ticinese into submission. Austria is supported in these measures by Wurtemberg and Baden, and Switzerland can expect no supplies from France under present circumstances.

Some stir has been made by a Genevese society, organized to propagate Protestantism on the Continent. They have published the following as an extract from the regulations of the society:—"Art. 1. The Genevese Society for the Furtherance of the Interests of the Protestant Church is composed of such as have at heart the defence and the propagation of the Protestant faith. Each member pays a contribution, the amount of which is voluntary. Art. 2. The society proposes (a.) To stimulate religious life in the Protestant church. (b.) To carry the principles of Protestant faith among those who do not profess them. (c.) To protect the religious interests of new Protestants. Art. 3. The measures employed are publications, oral teaching, and every other means calculated to diffuse the teaching of Holy Writ, and to strengthen adhesion to its divine doctrines."

The consecration of the new English Protestant church at Geneva took place on the 30th ult., the Bishop of Winchester officiating, the Bishop of London having deputed him to go over in his place. His lordship preached on the occasion, and after referring to the circumstances of the day, alluded to the asylum afforded to the English Protestant exiles in the time of Queen Mary, and showed that the same kind feeling had prevailed between the two churches from that time to the present.

Generals Changarnier and Bedeau arrived at Lucerne on the 31st of August. The Queen of Holland was expected there.

The *Revue de Geneve* (August 17) has a leading article reviewing with great clearness the antecedents and present position of the Federal Assembly. We give the opening portion:—

"Truly the last session of the Swiss Federal Assembly may be criticised like everything appertaining to man, in whom, alas! good and evil are always united; but nevertheless in the actual political state of Europe, it is very interesting to see a republican assembly calmly deliberating, without allowing itself to be disturbed by the rumour of exterior reaction, and above all occupying itself in consolidating its new institutions by preserving them from the invasion of sophisms and reactionary influences. In this latter point of view the two councils of the Federal Assembly present one of the most instructive spectacles."

"Once again we have seen in the world the federal form brought to a state of perfection, which has already been adopted by the United States of Northern America, and which they have experimentalized with such success during a period of more than sixty years, showing its excellence in a smaller sphere, but where the obstacles were perhaps greater. It is true that in Switzerland we were already prepared, as were also the United States, for the federal life, but we were less accustomed than America to make use of it as a means to enforce respect for the individual rights of citizens. We had carried the federative form to a great length in the shape of an alliance of the different sovereign states, confederating together so as to insure their territory and their reciprocal independence in the minds of foreigners, but in the primitive form which had also been that of protecting the rights of citizens against the encroachments of their own governments, our federative institutions administered imperfectly. It was in vain that we stipulated in the Treaty of 1815 for certain guarantees of equality of rights and against all political power exercised by certain classes, and against all inheritance. In fact these guarantees were found to be of no value, the reactionary Constitutions of 1814 and 1815 had sanctioned numerous inequalities, reestablished subjected counties and districts, and consecrated an hereditary princely power in one of the confederative cantons."

"The Treaty of 1815 had shown itself quite powerless in its efforts to make all these constitutions enter into the general principle which had been pointed out as the general guide, from which, not a single one ought to have strayed. Thanks to that failure, what might have been legally reformed, had no longer a chance of entering again into the common right, but by cantonal revolutions, which were doubtless to be crowned by a state revolution, or rather by a federal reform. This is what those would not absolutely understand, whose reactionary stupidity applied itself in Switzerland, as well as in so many other countries, to the reconstruction of the past as it was previously, and often to add to it even a weightier sense. In the past, there were certain precautions which sprung up in the privileged classes, in consequence of the sentiments of usurpation which they had successively exercised upon the rights of citizens."

"After the restoration of 1814 this sentiment no longer

existed, it had given place to that of a protracted resentment for all that the revolution had caused the privileged classes to lose. From that time all their efforts were bent solely on reconquering all they could; and, but too often, what remained of the new forms, introduced by the unitary regimen and mediatorial act, only served to render them more determined to return to the past. The cantonal government, which prevailed from 1814 to 1830, was neither a return towards the past, in a really good and ancient Swiss spirit, nor a step towards the advancement of new Switzerland to the position which modern civilization had given her in central Europe. It was no other than a painful trial to re-establish old abuses, without offering, in compensation, the old Swiss spirit. To the efforts of oligarchical reaction and citizen aristocracy, the people who felt hurt opposed a powerful resistance. In this struggle the individual rights of citizens were often forgotten. The treaty proved quite unable to make these respected, and revolutions very soon broke out in every part of the cantons. A remarkable phenomenon was then to be seen. The treaty, which did not know what to do, in order to force the reaction to respect the general prescriptions of equality of the rights of citizens, on which the Swiss Alliance ought to have been founded, was also unable to do anything to support the reactionary governments which had tried to establish themselves. In reality the revolutions were far nearer the federal legality than the governments which they overthrew."

"All these revolutions were anxious to re-establish the equality of rights, to efface the distinctions of territory, and the outrageous conditions of the quit-rent, which, in fact, had re-established subjected counties and privileged classes. Besides political rights these revolutions gave the people guarantees, without which the exercise of liberty is but an empty word; they tried to establish the separation of executive, legislative, and judiciary power; they accorded the liberty of the press, religious liberty, the right of assembling and associating together; they endeavoured to render individual liberty a thing not quite devoid of sense; in a word, they granted the Swiss people that which the Treaty had promised, and what the reactionary cantonal governments had tried to confiscate. The revolutions entered into the spirit and the letter of the Treaty, and gave to the federal alliance its primitive meaning, which had been to guard the rights of citizens against all oppression. It was in this strain that the first alliances, composed of the Waldstetten men, ingeniously expressed themselves. Not only to defend their independence from the exterior did they found a confederation, but also to insure their liberty, was the alliance contracted between the citizens and not between the states."

The *Moniteur* contradicts the assertion, that the French Government is disposed to make purchases of corn. "Far from opposing the regular course of commerce," says that journal, "the Government interposes only to assist it by general and equitable measures which secure its liberty, and the security of its operations, and which promote the importation of grain and its distribution throughout the country." An imperial decree has been published, granting to the railway companies which shall lower their tariffs for the transport of grain, breadstuffs, and potatoes, from this date to the 31st of December next, power to raise them, after that date, within the limits of the *maximum* authorised by their books of charges, without waiting for the delays stipulated therein. Another decree provides that all French or foreign vessels, loaded entirely with grain, breadstuffs, rice, potatoes, or dried vegetables, shall pass on all the rivers and canals free from all navigation dues from this date up to the 31st of Dec. next.

The Council General of the Herault, over which M. Michel Chevalier presides, has unanimously passed two resolutions—one expressing a desire to see a general reform of the customs tariffs effected, and the second relating to the system of the sliding scale as applicable to the imports and exports of corn.

In Prussia, a favourable report on the harvest has been made by the Berlin College of Political Economy. It is said that Prussia will propose in the Zollverein conferences to admit corn duty free; but whether this is to be a permanent or only a temporary occupation is not at present clear.

The Gonfaloniere of Forli has been threatened by the populace on account of the high price of bread. He has taken flight into Tuscany. The official *Gazette* of Venice contradicts certain rumours which have gone abroad respecting the harvest, and announces the arrival at Venice of so large a quantity of corn that the authorities are at a loss where to stow it.

On Wednesday there was a fall of nearly one franc in the corn market of Brussels.

In Greece the Ministry have forbidden the exportation of corn, and have suppressed the, till now, existing system of the sliding scale for the importation of grain, substituting a fixed tax.

The cholera has increased in Berlin. Since the beginning of August there have been 143 cases, 93 of which have ended fatally. The personal precaution used by the men of the fire brigade and policemen deserves note; they wear a warm woollen waistband, and are provided with cholera drops. At Hamburg the cholera is said to have an epidemic form. By late accounts from Copenhagen we find for that city attacks 7287, and deaths 3046, out of a population of about 200,000. At the same rate of mortality the deaths in London would amount to 40,000. Cholera is increasing rapidly at Dantzic: 41 cases were reported from the 25th to the 26th. The deaths already noted amount to 138. The cases also increase at this place; 21 were reported yesterday.

It is said that the cholera is making great progress in Russia, especially in the southern provinces, where large bodies of troops are stationed. The disease has made its appearance on various points of the frontier of Eastern Galicia.

In Jutland the cholera makes progress, and the accounts from Sweden are gloomy.

AMERICAN ART AND SCIENCE.

IN the wide domain of science and in the national pursuit of art, the Americans still push on. The coast survey carried out by the United States officers is making steady and rapid progress. This survey has now been in operation for several years, mostly under the superintendence of Professor Bache, a very accomplished scientific man. It is the most scientific work the American Government has ever undertaken. Talent and industry have been lavishly bestowed on it. *Savants* in Europe have made many and minute inquiries on the subject. The draughts are artistically beautiful, and the nautical and astronomical calculations have been traced with interest and commendation. Lord Ross, Mr. Ward, and Dr. Waters have bestowed unmeasured praise on the plan and the execution. But more solid things have grown out of it. It has given security to the commerce of the world, clustering on the eastern coast of America. A large corps of naval officers and citizen volunteers have been thoroughly trained in the practical duties of their profession. Professor Bache has now an enviable reputation from his sagacious management, his learned papers, and the practical advantages all navigators on the American coast have experienced.

The glass manufacture and the wine-growing of America, as shown in their Crystal Palace, are well described by the *Morning Chronicle* correspondent:—

"In the United States department, there is an enormous mirror, the glass of which is clear, thick—in fact, a lake of crystal—containing a hundred square feet. I may here remark that America excels in the manufacture of glass. Immense quantities are made, especially in the New Jersey Woods, which supply an abundance of charcoal. A short time since, I passed through a cleared forest in New Jersey for nearly nine miles, all the wood of which had been cut down to be converted into charcoal for the glass manufacturers. Some of the glass displayed is superior, but not equal to plate glass; yet I cannot help thinking that ere long this country will rival France and Venice in the finer article. And here this is a source of extravagance; for in the best houses of New York and Philadelphia, the ends and sometimes the sides of drawing-rooms and parlours are literally sheets of looking-glass, making morning visitors abashed by the frequent reflection of their own beloved image, east, west, north, and south. Still I complain not of the luxury; for though it may engender an anti-republican pride on the one hand, yet it encourages manufactures and feeds the family of the industrious artisan on the other. Still there is a disadvantage in half-acre mirrors, in silken couches and Turkey carpets, in gilded wall-papers and gold cornices. They are sometimes too grand."

"There is no reason in the world why this country should not become as celebrated for wines as France and Italy. Nowhere does the grape ripen with more delicious flavour and richness, and whether on the Moselle, the Garonne, the Rhine, the Po, or the Adige, we are sure that, with cultivation, their vinous products may be fully rivalled in America. Mr. Longworth, of Cincinnati, has produced superb champagne, under the name of 'Sparkling Catawba;' and at a recent 'Wistar party' we heard a late French Consul to the United States pronounce a specimen equal to French champagne, and only wanting age. It was sparkling, clear, rich, bright, and was really wine—without adulteration. Then we tasted a sherry from Georgia, which was superior, and wines from Berks county, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, fully equalling a capital Hock or Rhine wine when new. It is impossible that the grape can grow more luxuriantly anywhere than in America, and there can be no doubt of the success of this country at no very distant age as a wine region. But this is a digression. Many wines have been exhibited at the Crystal Palace, but as their excellence depends upon taste and flavour rather than upon appearance, it is impossible to say anything about them."

CRITICAL WORDS FROM THE WEST,

ON THE SOCIAL EXPERIMENTS OF AMERICA.

Tinton Falls, Monmouth County, N.J.
July, 1853.

MY DEAR "ION,"—I spent some five months at the North American Phalanstery, and entered sufficiently into its industries and social arrangements to acquire an intimate knowledge of its workings. Looked at from a Fourierist point of view it is a complete failure. In its attempted organization of labour there is not yet, after a strenuous and persevering attempt of ten years, after the first glimpse of anything like "attractive industry." I never saw any set of people go about their work in a more uninterested, or in a more slipshod manner, than the members of the North American Phalanx, with, of course, some few exceptions. A com-

pany of New York mechanics, house-builders, for example, present an appearance of infinitely greater animation.

In regard to social relations, you find precisely the same evils as elsewhere, with a considerable intensification in several respects. The young people are, in general, *intensely unhappy*. Education can hardly be said to exist, and there seems to be a studious avoidance of all inculcation of Fourier's doctrines, the major portion of which are absolutely *proscribed*.

On the other hand, it would be difficult to exaggerate the bright side of the picture; and it is this which is the first to strike the attention of the stranger. The organization of domestic industry, although very imperfect, has accomplished all that the most sanguine social reformers have anticipated in this direction. So far from the prognostications of the political economists as to the universal level of *misery* being accomplished, it is proved practically that *the miseries of poverty are purely artificial*. For five months I lived with my family at a public table spread with necessities, and even many luxuries, superior to those enjoyed by the average of the middle classes in England, and yet at prices within the means of the mechanic, and even of the agricultural labourer. Moreover, the spacious and even elegant dining hall of the association was, many a time during the winter months, converted into a ball and assembly room where, at a cost within the means of the poorest, entertainments were enjoyed, such as in real, significant, beauty, I have seldom seen surpassed.

The followers of Charles Fourier, who are in this country very numerous, seem to be chiefly of two classes—those who regard the failure of this attempt and its forty defunct predecessors as owing to their material poverty, and those who attribute it to the inherent vices of the organization. Facts are entirely on the side of the latter. Both regard the assumption of the name of "Phalanstery" by this little association with feelings akin to indignation, and certainly not without reason; for the general course of life at the North American Phalanstery is a miserable caricature of the fairy-like conceptions of the *materialist Fourierites*; while the more rational social reformers may well be irritated at the public odium brought on reform in general by the absurdities and inconsistencies practised in its name.

There is a sort of medium party now springing up, destined, doubtless, to have a considerable run of success. More destitute of what I can call by no other name than *spiritual* views than any other section of reformers, they set about the execution of their plans in a thoroughly business-like and practical way. Their views are bounded by the one idea of securing certain undefined personal advantages of material wealth, on accessible terms, to such as may wish for them. They have formed a company, on ordinary joint-stock principles, the basis of which is that capital is to be secured its interest—the most that can be got. They have purchased a very eligible site, and are proceeding to set up machinery, workshops, and residences—the latter on a unitary plan, with the view of securing an economical organization of domestic labour. Their intention is carefully to adapt the supply to the demand—in a word, to do the business of the company in a thoroughly business-like manner; and the business of the company is, at present, simply to build up the village; when the population comes it is supposed that it will be able to manage its own affairs,—the organization of industry is to grow up naturally, in obedience to laws of supply and demand, under the general providence, merely, of the company. Conceiving the great error of the Phalansterian movements to have been the attempt to force society into an artificial mould, they determine, at least, to steer clear of that error, and be guided by natural indications as to what circumstances may, from time to time, demand.

This movement, as compared with the forty odd so-called Phalansteries, is doubtless one in advance, and not, as the people at the North American pretend, one, in comparison with themselves, retrograde. The personnel of the new movement being made up chiefly of seceders from the others, it naturally excites, in the adherents of the latter, some jealousy. But, in the want of broad general views, both parties are alike, although the new movement is evidently more philosophical, notwithstanding the complete innocence of its promoters of any taint of truly philosophical views.

The intelligent portion of social reformers are nearly all looking in the direction of "Modern Times." The identity of this movement with the *Phalanstery of Charles Fourier*, in the most essential principles, is beginning to be recognised by the most advanced social reformers here. The essential conditions of associative industry, as conceived of by Fourier, either exist, or may be reasonably expected to grow up spontaneously, in the "Equitable Village." The organization of domestic industry, and the various *economies* which constitute the

very staple of the previous reformatory attempts, will here be based on their natural—perhaps only possible—foundation; while, in regard to the social relations, this movement has advantages which must inevitably give it the predominance over all narrower schemes.

The fact is, that in this country it is just here where the real difficulty lies. In the United States, generally, labour is well paid—abundantly paid. Although I have never visited the southern states, I am well satisfied that even including them, there is no country in the world where the men and women who actually do the hard work of society receive for their own consumption so large an amount of its produce. And, further, in no country in the world do those into whose hands society commits the charge of its vast masses of accumulated wealth, employ those masses more for the general welfare and progress of humanity. And although the few may conceive of a more perfect ideal constitution of society, the masses of the people here are utterly unfit for any higher industrial organization. They are satisfied with that which exists; they will not hear of any other. From time to time effecting practical ameliorations, many of which contain, too, the germs of grand ulterior developments, they feel themselves already the most highly-favoured people in the world, and flatter themselves, not without good reason, that they cannot better serve humanity than by seizing every occasion for extending the area over which floats proudly the banner of the stars and stripes—emblem of freedom, industry, and plenty.

The field, then, of industrial organization, is almost closed against the Reformer. But turn your glance towards social relations, and the picture will be very different. This is in reality the dark side of American life. I have been here now over two years, and I know strangers cannot penetrate so far. I do not hesitate to say that nowhere in the world is there so wide-spread domestic unhappiness as here in the United States of America, especially among the more wealthy classes. True, I judge mainly from what I know of the great cities, not being acquainted personally with the country in the great states of the West. The more general symptoms, however, are not confined to any locality. The Women's Rights Conventions are attended as well in Ohio as in any Eastern States. And they are not the only symptom; *spirit-rapping* itself is, I am well assured from what I have seen, indicative of social disease, especially in relation to the domestic circle.

Social reforms, then, which limit themselves to industrial organization, and studiously ignore the existence of the deepest and most wide-spread social disease, and the social want thereby indicated, may well be failures. They have been, they are, they will be. It is upon this rock that the North American Phalanstery has split; the same will shatter the Raritan Bay Union, with all its business-like management and practical talents. The Modern Times Reform alone attempts to grapple with this master difficulty, and it does it in the way at once manly and philosophical—of boldly guaranteeing to woman her natural right and highest duty: that of supreme sovereignty in her own legitimate domain—that of the affections.

This is the central idea of Fourier's speculations, the identity of which with the Modern Times movement is again very remarkable. A movement which starts by eliminating altogether the idea of *association* or any combination of interests whatever, is coming to effectuate the very reforms which have in this country gone generally by the name of Associationism, while the associations are themselves sinking into inanition.

A want of profound sincerity is, I believe, the essential cause of these associationist failures. Commencing by an attempted expurgation of the *immoral portions* of Fourier's doctrines, the movement only drew upon itself a double suspicion; the imagination supplied the *untranslated portions* of Fourier's works, while the attempt at concealment became an inefficacious impeachment both upon the manliness and integrity of the entire cause. The incipient vice propagated itself through all the subsequent stages; and the most striking feature in the history of all these associations, down to the incidents of my five months' stay at the North-American Phalanstery, is the want of manly sincerity in the leading men.

But the vice is general throughout American society. It seems to me a natural consequence of the too-much prolonged attempt to "believe in the incredible," succeeded by a public profession of what the mind is ultimately compelled to recognise as "inconsistent with known facts." The decay of real religious faith, indeed, is, I am convinced, at the bottom of much of the social misery existing in this country. The people have lost their old faiths, and with them the basis of their moral sentiments, and have found no new ones. Hence the general decay of the moral sentiment; for it is Mrs. Grundy alone who keeps society together

here! The moral *sentiment* is low indeed; an unbridled selfishness rules over all. Personal interest is, in these days, coming to be regarded—and not in this country alone—as the sole motive worthy of a rational man. I am well assured that a man who pretended to be actuated by any other, would be distrusted throughout all *commercial circles*.

Is it any wonder, then, that woman suffers?—woman, our *moral providence*? With the moral sentiments the human affections fall to a discount; and Women's Rights Conventions are naturally the order of the day. If the Modern Times Reform did nothing but utter its protest against the rampant selfishness which disdains all considerations but that of individual interests—material interests, too—it would merit our sympathy, and prove itself something far other than the merely disorganizing influence for which Henry James has mistaken it.

H. E.

TRANSATLANTIC CUNNING.

A STRANGE story appears in the Manchester papers. Mr. William Chadwick, a Lancashire gentleman, living in Rochdale, died on the 5th of February last. In a few months after, an American letter, addressed to the deceased gentleman, arrived at Rochdale. It was delivered to his brother, Mr. John Chadwick, of Broadfield, Rochdale, who having opened and read it, found that it purported to be a letter from a prisoner, dated "Jail Hospital, April 28, 1853," but without naming the town or place, and the only signature was "E." It commenced "Dear and Honoured Benefactor,—It is some time since I last wrote; nor should I do so now, had I not been sick and in great distress." The writer continues that he had been ill for four months, says his affliction has changed him, and like the repentant prodigal he would gladly return to his "noble, beloved parents;" who, however, are never to know of his crime and shame. He asks for "all the news of home," and then comes to the real object of the letter—"Do not be offended, generous benefactor, if I again beseech you to send me a small sum more. What you last sent is all expended. 5*l.* or 10*l.* will do. * * Be assured, my dearest friend, I would not have written again, had you not insisted I should do so, the very moment I had further need of your assistance." He asks for a Bank of England note; "for they pass current here. And direct as below. The doctor is the physician of the institution, and has been very kind to me indeed; kindly consenting that your answer to me may be addressed to him. Therefore please address, post paid, 'Dr. Miles H. Ellis, Easton, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, U.S.' " He adds, that as he cannot send that letter as his former ones, he signs "only with the initial, in case of accident;" and concludes by stating that he has still "one year longer to remain in this awful place."

Mr. Chadwick made inquiries of all his relatives as to his deceased brother's connexion with this correspondent, but he could find no clue. He then wrote to America to Dr. Ellis, but the answer was not satisfactory. He next wrote to the postmaster of Easton, Pennsylvania, and through his agency the whole affair was exposed.

It would seem, so far as the circumstances have been elucidated, that a person calling himself "Dr. Miles H. Ellis," and living at Baltimore, is carrying on a very artful begging-letter business with England, by writing to persons of respectability, who, he learns by the latest English papers, have recently died in this country. He writes as a prisoner, who has before received benevolent aid from the deceased; and his terms of grateful veneration for his benefactor are well adapted to move surviving kindred to carry out what they may regard as the secret benevolence of him of whom they have just been bereaved. The elaboration of the plan, the dexterous hints that the prisoner himself had fallen from a position of high respectability, the reference to the physician of the prison, and especially the contrivance, that letters directed to Dr. Ellis, at Easton, should be forwarded to him at Baltimore,—all these things show such craft, blended with a shrewd knowledge of human nature, that we have thought it right to put our readers, and (through republication in other papers) the public generally in this country, on their guard against this very clever and refined attempt to obtain money, by some accomplished swindler on the other side of the Atlantic.

CORPORATION OF LONDON.

EARLY next month, the Commission of Inquiry into the Corporation of London will commence its sittings. The 3rd or the 10th of October will, in all likelihood, be the first day for taking evidence. The inquiry will be conducted at the Guildhall, probably in the court appropriated to the sitting of the Common Council. It will be an open court; and it is understood that the commissioners have determined on hearing all the

evidence that may be tendered to them, either for or against the corporation. From the terms of the commission, the inquiry will of necessity be a most extensive one, and it will naturally divide itself under some or all of the following heads: 1. The relation of the City to the metropolis at large, and the proportion which it bears, in respect of population, property, and extent, to London properly so called; 2, the limits of the corporate jurisdiction; 3, the constitution of the corporate body; 4, the constitution and machinery of the governing bodies, including the election of mayor, aldermen, common-councillors, &c.; 5, the number, duties, salaries, and mode of election or appointment of the corporate officers; 6, the courts, civil and criminal, within the jurisdiction of the corporation; 7, the division of the city into wards; 8, the management of the police, state of the prisons, &c.; 9, the regulations of the port of London and the conservancy of the Thames; 10, the appointment, functions, and privileges of city brokers and porters; 11, the markets, their condition, sufficiency, and revenues; 12, the constitution and management of the Irish Society; 13, the property of the corporation, their annual revenue and the mode of its disbursement; 14, the jurisdiction of the corporation in the borough of Southwark; 15, the constitution, functions, income, and expenditure of the various livery and other companies. The ordinary income of the corporation, as estimated on an average of three years, ending 1832, amounted to the enormous sum of 148,000*l.*, and the average annual expenditure during the same period was 133,000*l.* It is not too much to assume, looking at the rapid increase in the value of all property in the city (a piece of ground the other day, at the corner of Finch-lane, was sold at the rate of half a million sterling per acre) that that income has augmented during the 20 years that have since elapsed, by at least 50 per cent. The Commissioners of Inquiry are Sir John Pattison, Henry Labouchere, Esq., and G. Cornwall Lewis, Esq.

WESLEYAN REFORM.

A PARTY of Wesleyan Methodists are making vigorous efforts towards the reform of the body, and its release from the dictation of the Conference. The numbers united with Conference have become reduced by 10,000 in the last year. There is now a war going on within the walls which will further the reform movement, and in the end, it is hoped, bring it to a successful issue. The reformers are determined to carry the war throughout the whole of the 252 circuits, in which no reform organization has yet been effected, and for this purpose they have determined to appropriate 5000*l.* a year.

At a meeting of the reform party, on Wednesday evening, the secretary brought forward the resolutions adopted by the delegates at Bradford, the principal of which were, to persevere in their principles, adopting the motion, "No secession, no surrender, and no supplies," to organize the movement in the 252 districts at present deficient of such organization, to extend it to Ireland and to Canada, and to set aside 5000*l.* a year, for ten years if necessary, in promotion of their object, towards which the delegates at Bradford had subscribed 900*l.* in about half an hour, and which object was in effect "not to destroy rule and order in the Wesleyan Church; but, acknowledging Christ the head, to give the government of the Church to the Church itself." A Mr. Chipchase also made a speech. He deprecated amalgamation with any of the branches broken off from the Wesleyan stock; but urged perseverance in their reform principles, maintaining the organization and order which they already had, but offering the right hand of fellowship to all who would come in and join in the movement. "Mr. Shiel, in a debate on the Maynooth grant, once said, that, whenever a piece of ecclesiastical tyranny was proposed to be perpetrated by any Minister, the Wesleyan parsons would pat him on the back. But the laity of the Wesleyan connexion are like the laity of the Church of England, as described by Lord Shaftesbury—no longer content to be mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, but determined to assert their freedom from ecclesiastical domination and tyranny."

THE WORKING CLASSES.

THE "strikes" still accumulate. At Manchester 3000 looms have been stopped by strikes, and the stoppage of 2000 more is anticipated. The local papers and the *London Times*, in reporting one of the district movements, say:—"In Ashton and Bolton the operatives have transmitted their ultimatum." "This is a stately style indeed." The senders of this ultimatum are the weavers of domestics by power loom; and their final demand is ten per cent.—a phrase that has become a war-cry in the Lancashire factory district. The hat-makers of Denton, Ashton, and Stockport are also "on the move," and the letter-press printers of Manchester ask for the advance lately given to their brothers in Liverpool. The Devonport shoemakers on strike are

getting a large amount of public sympathy. The London seamstresses have refused to work any longer for the poor wages hitherto given: the exact extent of their demand we do not know. London carpenters employed on some public buildings have asked 6*d.* a-day advance: and some London bricklayers have made the same demand. The Wigan Collieries demand another advance, which, with three late advances, will make a total of sixty per cent. The dyer's strike at Manchester continues. Some men at the Hull flax and cotton mills having left work without the stipulated month's notice, have been fined by the magistrates.

The successes of the week are few in number, but remarkable. The common policemen of Sunderland have got an advance from 18*s.* to 20*s.* a-week; and their officers' salaries have been proportionately increased. The workers in the Nottingham trade of "handmade hosiery" respectfully demanded an advance. A few of the leading firms consulted together, and agreed to give the workmen advances on all hose, half-hose, &c., varying from 2*d.* to 1*s.* a-dozen—the largest and most general advance we have ever had to record, and without either a strike or an angry word being exchanged. The farm labourers of Scotland are getting better wages. The workers at this harvest are getting 2*s.* an acre more than was obtained last year. The London lightermen have gained their demand—5*s.* for Sunday work, the previous payment being only 2*s.* 6*d.*, and 3*s.* 6*d.* for night work, being 1*s.* more than they obtained up to the strike. Common farm labourers in Ireland have obtained 1*s.* 4*d.* per day, and expect to rise to 2*s.* 6*d.* per day. The Dowlais strike seems ended, but things have not returned to the old state. Some of the men have returned, but the majority have migrated to other places. This is a new and most suitable move on the part of operatives.

Industrial prosperity and improved circumstances for craftsmen are shown in many quarters. The price of building ground in our great towns is on the increase: at Manchester, ground for a warehouse was sold at 10*l.* per square yard; and in Birmingham, at 14*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per yard. A great number of new factories are being built at Birmingham. (It is boasted, that in trades peculiar to the town of Birmingham there has been no strike; masters have granted advances on friendly demand.) As a full *Gazette* betokens decadent or disorganized trade, so the idleness of the Bankruptcy Courts now indicates the reverse. The business of the Birmingham District Court of Bankruptcy is reduced almost to *nil*, and the various offices attached to it fast becoming valuable sinecures. Seeing the great expenses attached to two courts, and the very few cases brought before them, it has become a question whether one would not be amply sufficient. If trade progresses as it does, the present business of the court, consisting chiefly of old fiats, will be completely worn out, and the County Court itself sufficient for all purposes of law in connexion with bankruptcy as well as insolvency. A Belfast paper tells a singular story of Irish life:—"All around us are to be witnessed the most pleasing indications of enterprise and happy industry. Merchants are very busy, capital finds ready channels for its successful investment, manufacturers push production to its extreme point, and mechanics, artisans, and labourers rejoice in an extended market for their exertions." The keen competition thus at work in old paths induces a trial of new lines of labour, as we note from time to time. A silk manufactory has been recently established in Helston by an enterprising gentleman, and is now in operation; several experienced weavers have arrived from Spitalfields, and some beautiful pieces of silk, satin, and velvet have been already worked. The factory will afford great employment for young persons, and its novelty in the county excites great interest. Railway trade also indicates the general advance: the English railway traffic for the last week of last month, compared with the same for the last week of August, 1852, shows an increase of 49,271*l.*, or 14·8 per cent. The money receipts on all English railways for the first eight months of this year show an increase of 13·3 per cent. Another sign of railway prosperity is the opening of the Lord Warden Hotel, at Dover. Its opening was celebrated by a convivial ceremony. The building is very large and very handsome; and in its costliness and convenience is more a palace than a hotel. As direct means for making workers happier, we note that in Edinburgh the haberdashers now close their shops at five o'clock, a great boon to their assistants. In another Scotch town, Glasgow, we see that the health of the people is being cared for. The Glasgow Agricultural Society has offered premiums for "essays on the best means for collecting, storing, selling, conveying, and distributing as manure for land, the sewage of the city." As a London fact, we note that the ground for the park at Battersea is being cleared, promising a new supply of fresh air for our city workers.

Our trade proceeds in a course of prosperity, dull to record, but of solid interest to many. The exports of our manufactures and other produce amounted in value to 7,995,086*l.*, being an increase over the exports for the corresponding month of 1852 of 1,405,918*l.*, and an increase, as contrasted with 1851, of 1,576,883*l.* On an analysis of the return, as regards the value of the goods exported, there appears to be an increase in butter, coal, cotton manufactures, earthenware, haberdashery and millinery, leather, linen manufactures, metals, salt, silk manufactures, thrown silk, and woollen manufactures; but there is a decrease in cotton yarn, linen yarn, thrown silk, and sheep's wool.

With regard to the Import trade there appears to have been an increase in the supply of animals, coffee, corn of nearly all kinds, but of wheat and barley in particular, and Indian corn, dyes, glass manufactures, gnanio, leather manufactures, metals, potatoes, provisions, both salted and fresh, butter, cheese and eggs, rice, seeds, rum, silk, and silk manufactures of Europe; both raw and refined sugar, tea, timber and wood, tobacco, wine, and cotton wool; whilst there is a decrease in oats, flour, cotton manufactures, and cotton yarn, flax and hemp, hides, oil, spirits, tallow, and sheep's wool.

THE YELLOW FEVER AT NEW ORLEANS.

THE statistics this year of this annual visitation at New Orleans are very startling. The *Times* quotes the New Orleans papers, which give full accounts. The *Delta* writes:—

"Deducting our native population and those who have had the fever and become acclimated, we should regard it as a large figure to fix the unacclimated at 30,000 at the breaking out of the fever. Of that number at least 3000 have already been buried, and every day adds 200 more to the ghastly record. Should it continue in the same ratio, this frightful number will be swelled to 5000 by the 1st of September, which is usually the date when the epidemic begins its ravages in our city. For the week ending on the 7th of August its victims were 1000. That for the week now passing will be as large, and thus, unless some sudden and unlooked-for change occurs, the month of August will be held ever memorable in our annals for the largest proportionate mortality which has ever occurred in the history of pestilences. It will equal the violence of the Black Plague of the 14th century, and exceed that of the Plague of London in 1665. The latter has been regarded as the severest pestilence of modern times; and yet, out of a population of 500,000, it only slew 60,000 in one year, whereas the present epidemic is destroying at the rate of 4000 per month, out of a total population of not over 80,000, and of a population liable to the disease of not over 30,000!"

The *New Orleans Crescent* describes the ghastly funeral marches and the burials of the dead:—

"At the gathering points, carriages accumulated, and vulgar teamsters, as they jostled each other in the press, mingled the coarse jest with the ribald oath; no sound but of profane malediction and of riotous mirth, the clang of whip-thongs and the rattle of wheels. At the gates the winds brought intimation of the corruption working within. Not a puff but was laden with the rank atmosphere from rotting corpses. Inside they were piled by fifties, exposed to the heat of the sun, swollen with corruption, bursting their coffin lids, sundering, as if by physical effort, the ligaments that bound their hands and feet, and extending their rigid limbs in every *outré* attitude. What a feast of horrors! Inside, corpses piled in pyramids, and without the gates old and withered crones, and fat huckster-women, fretting in their own grease, dispensing ice-creams and confections, and brushing away, with brooms made of bushes, the green bottleflies that hovered on their merchandise, and which anon buzzed away to drink dainty inhalations from the green and festering corpses.

"Long ditches were dug across the great human charnel. Wide enough were they to entomb a legion, but only fourteen inches deep. Coffins laid in them showed their tops above the surface of the earth. On these was piled dirt to the depth of a foot or more, but so loosely, that myriads of flies found entry between the loose clods, down to the cracked seams of the coffins, and buzzed and blew there their *ova*, creating each hour their new hatched swarms.

"But no sound was there of sorrow within that wide Gehenna. Men used to the scent of dissolution had forgotten all touch of sympathy. Uncouth labourers, with their bare shock heads, stood under the broiling heat of the sun, digging in the earth; and as anon they would encounter an obstructing root or stump, would swear a hideous oath, remove to another spot, and go on digging as before. Now and then the mattock or the spade would disturb the bones of some former tenant of the mould forgotten there amid the armies of the accumulated victims and the sturdy labourer with a gyvo would hurl the broken fragments on the sward, growl forth an energetic *d—n*, and chuckle in his excess of glee. Skull bones were dug up from their long sepulture, with ghastliness staring out

"From each hucklusto, eyeless hole," without eliciting an "Alas, poor Yorick," and with only an exclamation from the digger of "Room for your betters."

"Economy of space was the source of cunning calculation in bestowing away the dead men. Side by side were laid two, of gigantic proportions, bloated by corruption to the size of Titans. The central projections of their coffins left spaces between them at their heads and heels. This was two much space to be filled with earth. How should the space be saved? Opportunely the material is at hand,

for a cart comes lumbering in, with the corpses of a mother and her two little children. Chuck the children into the spaces at the heads and heels of the Titans, and lay the mother by herself out there alone. A comrade for her will be found anon, and herself and babes will sleep not the less soundly from the unwonted contact.

The fumes rise up in deathly exhalations from the accumulating hetacombs of fast coming corpses. Men wear at their noses bags of camphor and odorous spices—for there are crowds there who have no business but to look on and contemplate the vast congregation of the dead. They don't care if they die themselves—they have become so used to the reek of corruption. They even laugh at the riotings of the skeleton Death, and crack jokes in the horrid atmosphere where scarcely they can draw breath for utterance.

"The stoical negroes, too, who are hired at five dollars per hour to assist in the work of interment, stagger under the stifling fumes, and can only be kept at their work by deep and continued potations of the 'fire water.' They gulp deep draughts of the stimulating fluid, and, reeling to their task, hold their noses with one hand while with the other they grasp the spade, heave on the mould, and rush back to the bottle to gulp again. It is a jolly time with these ebon labourers, and with their white co-workers—as thoughtless and as jolly, and full as much intoxicated as themselves. And thus, what with the songs and obscene jests of the gravediggers, the buzzing of the flies, the sing-song cries of the hukster-women vending their confections, the hoarse oaths of the men who drive the dead carts, the merry whistle of the boys, and the stifling reek from scores of blackened corpses, the day wears apace, the work of sepulture is done, and night draws the curtain."

In the same papers which record this terrible mortality, and its attendant horrors, we find notices of regalias and balls. The *Times* stupidly denounces this as improper. It does not know that amusement is the best counteraction to the fatal fears of an epidemic. We also note with gladness that a brave Presbyterian minister is among those who face the infection that they may minister to the sick.

THE MURDER OF ELIZA GRIMWOOD.

ELIZA GRIMWOOD, an unfortunate woman, was murdered in May, 1838. A man, named Hubbard, with whom she cohabited, was taken into custody at the time, and underwent a number of examinations at Union Hall, but was eventually discharged. Since then a foreigner was suspected of committing the murder, but no clue up to the present time has been obtained of the murder, although every exertion has been used by the police to do so. It appears, however, that Lameschal, a Dane, aged forty-three, a bootmaker of Bishops-gate-street, has been in the habit of keeping company with a woman named Jennings, whom he greatly ill-used. When drunk he used to beat her and swear that he would serve her as he had served Eliza Grimwood. He would murder her as he had murdered that unfortunate woman. This threat he uttered several times. The woman had repeated this in various directions. On one occasion she stopped West, a bootmaker, a perfect stranger in the street, and told him all about it. The following was his evidence, given before Mr. Coombe, the magistrate at the Southwark Police Court, on Monday:—

"She said she had quarrelled with the prisoner last Saturday night week. I spoke to the constable on the beat about it, just after the prisoner had run after her in Aldersgate-street with a knife. I told the officer, just after he had moved them both on, that the prisoner was reported to be the murderer of Eliza Grimwood. The constable said something about it had been heard at the station, but he did not know the man. I told him he lived with Jennings, when we went up to her and asked her all about it. She told us that the prisoner had said to her, 'I'll murder you as I murdered Eliza Grimwood.'"

Lameschal was apprehended, but protested his entire innocence. He never said he would murder Jennings as he had murdered Eliza Grimwood; "but I said I would serve her as the woman Grimwood over the water was." Jennings stated that she kept the prisoner, who beat her if she did not bring him money. Goff, formerly a detective officer, who gave evidence as to the murder of Eliza Grimwood, said positively that the deed must have been committed by a foreigner, but that the description given of the supposed murderer did not tally with the prisoner as respects height. Jennings further said that the prisoner was always talking about the murder in his dreams. Goff said that there was a Cuban who knew something about the matter, who could probably be produced. He intimated that all the documents relative to this mysterious murder were in the hands of the Commissioners of Police, and could be produced on a future day. The prisoner was then remanded. After two examinations, Lameschal has been released—his height not answering to the reported height of the man seen with Grimwood on the night of the murder.

CURIOSITIES OF JUSTICE.

The new law as to receipt-stamps will take effect from the 10th of next month. On all receipts for the payment of

2l. and upwards, the new duty is 1d., and may be denoted either by a stamp impressed upon the paper whereon any such instrument is written, or by an adhesive stamp affixed thereto, and the Commissioners of the Inland Revenue are to provide stamps of both descriptions for the purpose of denoting the duty. The stamp is to be cancelled by the initials or other writing of the party using it.

The new act to regulate the admission of professors to the lay chairs in the Universities of Scotland, which attracted a good deal of attention in its progress through Parliament, is now in force. From and after the passing of the act on the 20th ult., it is declared not to be necessary for any person who shall have been, or shall be elected, presented, or provided to the office of Professor Regent, master or other office in the Universities or Colleges in Scotland, such office not being that of principal or a chair of theology, to make and subscribe the acknowledgment or declaration mentioned in an act passed by her Majesty Queen Anne, entitled an act for securing the Protestant Religion and Presbyterian Church Government. The declaration substituted is to the effect that the person will never endeavour, directly or indirectly, to teach or inculcate any opinions opposed to the Divine authority of the Holy Scripture, or to the Westminster confession of faith, as ratified by law in the year 1690; and that he will not exercise the functions of the office to the prejudice or subversion of the Church of Scotland as by law established, or the doctrine or privileges thereof.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

A "gentlemanly man, of dark complexion," has been detected in stealing silver spoons. He entered Anderton's Hotel, and while the waiter turned away, put the silver fork and spoon into his pocket. The waiter saw him in a mirror. Other evidence was brought up against this "gentlemanly man." The head waiter of the Portugal Hotel stated, that the prisoner had visited that house several times during the last twelve months, and plate was always missed after those visits, except on the last occasion. He then suspected the prisoner's appearance, and, accordingly, when he served him with a glass of brandy-and-water he substituted metal spoons for silver, which the prisoner observing, thought he was recognised, and made a precipitate retreat, without even tasting the beverage he had ordered. The head waiter of Simpson's, in the Strand, said he had lost about 40l. worth of plate within the last two months by such robberies. Sir Peter Laurie asked, who bore the loss? The head waiters present said, they were responsible for all the plate, and such was the general practice in hotels and taverns.

A young man, named Crisp, son of a clergyman at Bristol, returned from Australia. The climate of that country, the disappointment in his expectations there, and the excitement of the return home, seem to have affected his mind. He hanged himself, on last Friday, behind his bedroom door.

At Stockport a factory worker seemed very fond of his two stepchildren. He took them out to walk, and was seen with them going near a canal. A woman who lived near the canal said:—

"I know Thomas Moore. Before his marriage he lodged with me for between two and three years. About twelve o'clock on Friday he came to my house. I was poorly, and had bolted the door, and was going to lie down. I opened the door when he knocked, and he came in. I have a clock in the house, but did not look at it just then. It might not be twelve o'clock, but it was very nearly so. When he came in, I said to him, 'Thou art a stranger.' He said he was wet. I said, 'wherever hast thou been?' When he spoke I looked at him, and saw that he was wet. Before he spoke about it, I had not noticed that he was wet. He said that he had come by the river wall up Chertsgate, and a woman who was down the steps called him down to help her to lift a can of water upon her head. He said that he stood on the bottom step, his foot slipped, and he fell backwards into the river. I said, 'It is very strange that they should be fetching water from the river now that there had been so much wet.' I thought a bit, and then said, 'Would it be an Irishwoman or an Englishwoman?' He said, 'No; it was not an Irishwoman; it was a little stiff woman;' and he thought that she was an English person."

Moore has been committed for trial. Two facts turn up, showing some cause for the act: the stepfather was needy, and, on the deaths of the children, he was entitled to 11l. 12s. and 7l. 12s.

A post-office clerk and letter-carrier at Southampton have been detected in stealing letters containing coin. The letters were concerted, and the coin was marked.

Among the records of English offences we may note any change in the punishment of criminals. The Duke of Brunswick has lately set us an example. He has decreed that henceforth criminals shall be beheaded with an axe, and in a closed place, in the presence of the public prosecutor, a deputation of the Tribunal, a priest, the prisoner's counsel, and twelve persons chosen from amongst the representatives of the commune.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Dublin on Saturday evening, passing through the streets lined with cheering crowds. Staying at Holyhead on Sunday, they started on Monday morning, and travelled with their usual speed northward. They arrived at Edinburgh on Monday evening, slept at Holyrood Palace, and started in the morning for Balmoral, reaching their home at seven o'clock on Tuesday evening. The Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred accompanied them.

The Queen has purchased the six sketches of the "Grand Naval Review at Portsmouth," painted by J. W. Carmichael.

During the last few days of the Queen's stay in Dublin, she devoted herself, mainly, to a very careful examination of the articles in the Exhibition. She paid particular attention to the Irish lace and poplins, and gave some very large orders for many articles of Irish manufacture. On Friday, the boy Prince of Wales presented a set of colours to the little regiment of soldiers' sons, trained in the Hibernian Military School. He made a neat speech on the occasion. On the same day the Queen paid a visit to Lord and Lady Howth, at Howth, the hill of which commands one of the finest views about Dublin. On Saturday the Queen visited the National Schools, and witnessed a brief examination of the children. On that evening she left Kingstown, amid the cheers of the people.

The *Freeman's Journal* states, "on very good authority," that the Queen, previously to her departure, gave directions to have the principal apartments of Dublin Castle newly decorated, and other material improvements made in the internal arrangements, preparatory, as it might be inferred, to a repetition of her Majesty's visit to the country. The Royal inspection on Saturday of the dingy brick pile gives an air of truth to this statement.

The disclosures before the Barnstaple Commission deserve note. The Tories have tried hard to fasten a charge of bribery on Lord Ebrington, but have failed. It is evident that promises of money were scattered widely, by agents, at both sides, and that money and beer were the only passports, even to a voter's conversation. One instance of a man bribed to vote for Lord Ebrington is proved, but no authority from Lord Ebrington can be traced. The Tory corruption is admitted and extensive; Mr. Featherstone, with a regularity worthy of a better cause, kept a list of bribed voters. The general plan adopted was delicate and effective. Some days after the elector had voted for the Tory party, one of the committee came into the house, "asked the time of day," said a few civil things to the wife or children, and, when he had left, six sovereigns were found on the table. One man met a Tory committee-man coming out of his house, and, on entering, found but five sovereigns. He asked, and obtained "the other sovereign," as he wished to get what every one else got. Mr. Carnsey, the Conservative solicitor at the Commission, let out a little bit of Coppockism—quite touching. When first he had any communication with the borough, he saw Mr. Coppock in the lobby of the House, and said to him, "What are you going to do with Barnstaple; are you going to disfranchise it?" Mr. Coppock said, "It is too nice a place to lose; all we wish to do is to get rid of the freemen." The evidence of a Mr. Horne is interesting. "On the morning of the election he told his servant to place a ham on the table, as some of his friends might call. Was afterwards told that three gentlemen wanted him. Went into the room, and found three freemen named Smith there, whom he had never seen before. They said they were going to vote for Ebrington, and he said they would do well. Was called out to his shop. Found on his return, in about half an hour, all the ham was gone. Witness did not wish to bribe them. They were three notorious poachers, and said if they could have the same money from Lord Ebrington as from the other party they would vote for him, as they had poached so many hares on his father's property. They voted for Bremridge and Fraser."

The "busy and flourishing port of Hull" is still more gay and busied in entertaining the learned gentlemen and lady visitors of the British Association, whose peripatetic philosophy cultivates local spirit as well as national knowledge. Since the first meeting at York in 1831, under the presidency of the Earl Fitzwilliam, the association has held its meetings twice in Oxford, Birmingham, Edinburgh, and Cambridge, and once in Dublin, Bristol, Liverpool, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Glasgow, Plymouth, Manchester, Cork, York, Southampton, Swansea, Ipswich, Belfast, and for the present year Hull has been selected. On Tuesday a General Committee meeting was held, and a report was read. The chairman congratulated the committee that the Association had this year, for the first time for many years, not only paid off some debt on another meeting, but lived 200% within their income. The address of the President, Mr. William Hopkins, was delivered in the evening. It gave with clearness and detail the usual summary of scientific achievements during the year. About forty communications are already announced, many of them relating to the Humber, the sea-coast, and Yorkshire. Excursions are planned to the fast disappearing sea-shore near Ald Ravenser, of melancholy memory, to the bright cliffs, caves, and island rocks of Flamborough, to Thornton-Abbey, and Brocklesbury-park, to Grimsdon-hall, and Beverley. A local journal says:—"The meetings are held in streets as quiet as the most secluded nooks of Belgravia; for the territory of the Association is not on the island of Hull. This expression will perhaps surprise the Southrons; among whom indeed, the nature of Hull and its trade is little understood. But it is also necessary to say, that if the Queen should come to the "King's town" upon Hull, she might pass in her *Fairy* yacht steamer the broad Humber, covered with sails, into a semi-circle of docks of amazing extent (which environ the busy streets of Hull, and constitute it an island), and return to the same great estuary without once quitting her vessel. It is on the outside of this semicircle of water,

in the brighter and more fashionable part of the place that the general meetings and sections are accommodated."

Mr. Disraeli is "to meet his constituents," or at least a portion of them, at Aylesbury, on the 14th. On that day the Royal Bucks Agricultural Association are to assemble; a public dinner and several other matters will be discussed.

The new Commissioners to inquire into the administration of Charitable Trusts are, Chief Commissioner, Mr. Peter Erle; two paid commissioners, Mr. James Hill, and the Rev. R. Jones; secretary, Mr. Henry Vane; two inspectors, Mr. Thomas Hare, and Mr. Walker Skirrow.

Some time ago, Mr. Lawson, of Bath, offered 10,000*l.* worth of scientific apparatus, on condition that a sufficient sum was subscribed within a given time, to found a Midland Observatory at Nottingham. The time expires on the 1st of October; and the *Nottingham Guardian* points out that 5000*l.* is still wanting, and urges the claims of the project, so magnificently begun, on the attention of the wealthier classes. An observatory committee sits at Nottingham—Mr. Alderman Birkin chairman; and active efforts are made in Nottingham to increase its share of the subscription.

Lieutenant-General Sir William Napier writes to the papers to correct an error. Some journalists said that it was Soult who liberated Sir C. Napier, when taken prisoner in the Peninsular war. It was Ney who acted so:—"The circumstances deserve to be repeated, as showing the generous temper of Ney. His aid-de-camp, Captain Clouet, reported that a frigate had sent a flag of truce to inquire 'if Major Napier was living?' 'Tell them yes! and that he is well—let him be seen.' Captain Clouet looked expressively at the Marshal, and said, 'He has an aged mother—a widow.' 'Let him go himself then to tell her he is alive,' was the response; and with Major Napier he sent twenty-five English soldiers, who had been badly wounded and left behind."

The Scotch towns are disposed to pay honour to Ministers. Lord Palmerston is to get the freedom of Perth, and Mr. Gladstone the freedom of Inverness.

Mrs. Beecher Stowe left this country for America on Wednesday morning. She started from Liverpool. Many friends saw her off, and many parting honours were paid her.

A "social and friendly entertainment" was given at Gloucester, on Tuesday, to General Sir Joseph Thackwell. In returning thanks for the honour and for the special toast of his health, the general spoke with soldier-like point and substance. Amongst other things he said: "If on any future occasion the services of my country should call me again into active service" [the conclusion of the sentence of the gallant officer was drowned amidst the enthusiastic cheers of the company]. Lord Fitzhardinge also spoke; his chief saying being, "the most practical members of the Peace Society are the crews of the Agamemnon and the Wellington."

On Monday the Scotch express from Edinburgh, going at from 35 to 40 miles an hour, went into a siding (the points being wrong), instead of continuing on the main line when past the Euxton Station. The driver felt the jerk, instantly shut off the steam, blew the whistle for the guards to apply their breaks, and then leaped off the engine followed by the fireman. In another moment the express came in contact with the carriages on the siding, and a fearful crash took place; the danger of the collision being enhanced by the close proximity of a steep embankment. The front part of the engine was demolished, but, marvellous to state, the carriages of the express sustained little or no injury, the passengers being found almost unscathed, although, of course, in a state of great consternation. The empty carriages on the siding were shivered to atoms, two wheels belonging to one of them being subsequently discovered in the smoke-box of the engine. Baxter, the driver of the express, was found lying by the side of the line, covered with blood and dirt, and in a state of insensibility, having several severe cuts about his head and back. The fireman escaped with comparatively little injury. It appears that the points were in so dirty a state as to prevent their closing of themselves, as they ought to have done, when the empty carriages were turned. The Queen had passed only a short time before!

The afternoon train from Holyhead on Tuesday arrived near Chester as a short luggage-train was crossing *both* lines of rails to reach a shunting. The latter was completely capsized. Happily, however, there was no harm done to life or limb, all the damage being confined to the upset vans and the fittings of the foremost carriages of the passenger train.

No one knows what may be found in the Thames, that grand repository and *edax rerum*. A labourer lately found "a rod of gold, coiled by a curious process of workmanship." It may have been an "Auron's rod" dropped from Lambeth Palace, crooked and golden, like modern Church-craft.

Camock Chase, a new coal field in Staffordshire, was formally opened on Thursday, the Marquis of Anglesey acting as president of the ceremony.

The little Aztecs, mysterious to some, and interesting to nearly all who see them, are about to leave London, for a country tour. Next week is their last week in town.

London extends over an area of 78,029 acres, or 122 square miles, and the number of its inhabitants, rapidly increasing, was 2,362,236 on the day of the last census.

"Between twenty and thirty cases of Asiatic cholera have occurred in Newcastle and the immediate neighbourhood within the last few days, all terminating fatally. It appears to have broken out at a place called Bill Quay, on the south bank of the Tyne, towards Shields, the first case reported being that of a woman residing there, who was seized on Thursday, and died the day following, shortly after she had been brought to Newcastle. Since then five more cases have occurred at Bill Quay. Diarrhoea is very prevalent in the district. *Morning Chronicle*, Sept. 9. We find this in a part of the *Chronicle* usually devoted to matters of no weight. A statement so important should be received with caution.

We are privately informed that many deaths from "something like cholera" have occurred at Newcastle, and that there is much local alarm.

From Liverpool there is a cheerful account. The *Liverpool Times* quoted, without date, in the *Chronicle* of yesterday, says:—"There is no reason at present to apprehend an outbreak of epidemic cholera in this town. During the last five months the mortality has been below the average, and in fact, the health of the town has seldom been so good as at present. No epidemic prevails, and diarrhoea, in particular, which always increases in prevalence and severity before an outbreak of cholera, is now less frequent and fatal than it has been at any time during a similar period within the last five years."

What the new National Gallery is to be is foreshadowed by the *Morning Chronicle* (Monday, Sept. 5):—"It appears to be distinctly understood that we are to have a Gallery and Museum, not a mere collection of pictures. Art is to be illustrated; all schools are to be represented; we are to trace the infancy and youth of art—its decrepitude too, as well as its vigour. We are to begin at Ciam-bue and Giotto—we are to learn what fresco is—what Byzantine art is. England will at last have a chance of knowing that Germany has had a great school of art—that painting existed before Raffaele, of whom, by the way, we have next to nothing in the Gallery—that there were such painters as Van Eyck and Memling—that Spain has produced a vast series of most important artists—and that Ruysdaels and Claudes are not the only things in the world to be admired. The religious aspect of the art will at last be presented, in due proportion, in a collection which has hitherto consisted of landscapes, and of works which are either sensations, satiric, historical, or portraits."

Mr. Thomas Daniels was in receipt of a quarterly allowance from Government. On his last quarterday he went home drunk. On the next morning very early a fire broke out in his room; people rushed in and found Daniels' wife in the midst of the flames, screaming terribly. They removed her, but where was the man? They searched, and at length found him in the cupboard nearly burned to death. He had either mistaken the cupboard for the doorway, or had shut himself up thinking he was safe there. Both are since dead. "Nothing is known of the cause of the fire." Then, of course, it is a case of Spontaneous Combustion.

Roman Catholics have got a new saint, Father John, of Britto, martyred in India in 1693.

While Mrs. Beecher Stowe was at Leeds she was presented with an address from the Anti-Slavery Society of Leeds, a silver fruit-basket by the ladies of Leeds, and 100 sovereigns from readers of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

A death from Asiatic cholera has occurred in Liverpool. The deceased was a German emigrant, and had imported the disease from Hamburg, and the death occurred in a crowded lodging-house in one of the inferior parts of the town. The attention of the Health Committee has been drawn to the case, and also to the dangerous over-crowding of these emigrants' lodging-houses, which are numerous in Liverpool.

A railway bridge of great magnitude is being built across the Tamar at Saltash. Extensive workshops and smithies have been erected. Steam machinery of every description for planing, rolling into shape, cutting, drilling, and punching the masses of iron to form parts of the bridge, is in full operation. The smiths' shop contains eight forges, worked upon the principle of exhaustion, or what is commonly called fan-bellows, driven by steam. A long slip, similar to that used for shipbuilding, has been laid down for the construction of the cylinders, intended to be sunk in the river for raising the centre pieces of the bridge. The one now being built is to be 36 feet in diameter, and 80 feet deep; when completed it will be launched, and sunk into its position, and being closed at about thirty feet from the top, will, in fact, be a huge diving-bell, and the men working within it supplied with air, on the same principle as that adopted with the ordinary bell.

From an official return to Parliament it appears that last year the net revenue of the see of Salisbury was 2744*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* The Ecclesiastical Commissioners of that year made several payments.

A few days ago a gentleman obtained at one of the banks in Liverpool a draft for 9000*l.*, which he placed in his side coat pocket, neglecting, in the hurry, to put it in his pocket-book, which he had taken out for the purpose. When he had gone about ten yards from the bank he discovered that an expert thief had extracted the book, but the draft fortunately remained at the bottom of the pocket.

The "largest piece of pottery" of Terra Cotta, "in an entire piece," has been produced by Mr. Bell and Mr. Blashfield, the designer and modeller of the statue of "Australia" in the gardens of the Crystal Palace at Sydenham. The firing occupied three weeks at the melting-glass heat. The statue weighs 25*cwt.*, and is "including its plinth, about 8ft. 6in. high."

An emigrant ship—the *Rebecca*—has been wrecked on the west coast of Van Diemen's Land, between Sandy Cape and Arthur River, while on her passage to Sydney, from London. Out of thirty men, only eleven were saved—reaching the shore. They found themselves in a wild country, and were bare of provisions. After enduring great privations and suffering for nearly a fortnight, they were surprised at the appearance of a dog, which was hailed as the harbinger of their deliverance. Fearing he might run away, they wrote an account of their situation, and tied it round his neck. The dog; it appeared, belonged to a gentleman named Burgess, who, with a party, was exploring the country to the southward. The moment they heard of the wreck, which was by the return of the dog, they set out, and came up with the survivors of the *Rebecca* on the twenty-third day after the ship's loss. The poor fellows were fast sinking when the exploring party came up, and through their attention and kindness their lives were preserved.

The people of Plymouth ask for a local debtor's prison. At present, they send their prisoners to Exeter.

An Agricultural Society (the "Manchester and Liverpool") had a meeting at Warrington on Wednesday. The Society's district is South Lancashire and North Cheshire. The show was very successful. Lord Derby was present, but looked very ill.

The *Rhadamanthus*, steam-vessel, ran into a merchantman in the Channel, on Monday night. A number of passengers were on the deck of the merchant-vessel, and after the collision they called out:—"We are going down; lower your boats." Afterwards the merchantman was seen to continue her course.

Three houses in the Strand fell on Thursday morning. They had been undermined by the workmen, in removing some adjacent houses. Three persons were killed, and others dangerously wounded.

Mr. John Francis Maguire, having been charged with having promised his support to the present Ministry, on condition that Mr. Hayter would cause the withdrawal of the petition, has partly admitted the charge, but repudiates any corrupt motive. "It is quite true that I had frequent conversations in reference to the petition pending against me with Serjeant Murphy, and it is quite true that he volunteered, fully as often as I solicited, his interference on my behalf. It is quite true that he did speak to Mr. Hayter on the subject. It is also true that, more than once, he said, 'I'll speak to Hayter about it; he'll put an end to it.' It is quite true that I did ask the hon. and learned gentleman to do what I have a full recollection of his volunteering to do—to speak to the Duke of Newcastle, as he was supposed, erroneously or otherwise, to have most influence with Mr. O'Flaherty. More than that is true—I asked Mr. Fagan to speak to Mr. Hayter; and Mr. Fagan did so."

The *Lancet* Commissioners have reported on tobacco. It appears that considerable differences exist in the proportion of the various constituents on which its quality depends, but that in not one of the forty samples of manufactured tobacco submitted to examination was there found any foreign leaf or any solid extraneous substances of any description.

A bankrupt tailor, Calcutta, examined on Thursday, accounted for his failure by saying that his losses were very heavy "during the casualties of the Affghan, Chinese, and Punjab wars. In the battle of Moodkee alone customers of the bankrupt owing upwards of 30,000 rupees were killed, and by the battle of Ferozeshah and Sohraon 50,000 rupees were lost in the same way."

The Norton controversy has been revived, but merely on minor points. Mr. Norton re-asserts that Sir William Follett advised the action; but Mrs. Norton shows, by letters from the solicitors, that Sir William Follett expressly declined the responsibility of such counsel. Mr. Norton produces letters from Sir John Bayley, expressing his opinion that if Mr. Norton consented to live with Mrs. Norton after the action, it would be "the lowest depth of degradation." Mrs. Norton asks, in retort, why then did her husband ask her afterwards to live with him? "The question 'prominently before the public' is not whether Mr. Norton should allow his wife an income, or even the amount of that income; but, first, whether a gentleman barrister and magistrate, daily sitting in judgment on poor men's offences, should himself break a formal covenant, to which, for his own advantage, he urged a solicitor to obtain his wife's signature."

On Thursday, Charles Renelle, a policeman, was brought up before the Honourable Mr. Norton, charged with having "assaulted his wife." The husband defended the assault on the ground that his wife had kissed another man; and the magistrate having elicited this fact, discharged the husband.

The peers of Scotland met on Wednesday, at twelve o'clock, in the ancient picture gallery of Holyrood Palace, to elect one of their number to represent them in the House of Lords as one of the 16 Scotch representative peers, in the room of the Earl of Sutherland, deceased. There were 16 peers present, of whom 15 voted, and 6 who were absent voted by signed lists. The choice fell unanimously on Viscount Strathallan, who was accordingly declared elected. Another vacancy in the Scotch representative peerage has been created by the death of General Lord Saltoun.

The late mail for India and Australia sent by the *Indus* (Peninsular and Oriental Company's vessel), was very heavy, comprising no less than 380 boxes, of which 260 are for Australia, the whole occupying a bulk equal to 45 tons measurement, or 1800 cubic feet. The overland route being now the most certain and speedy method of communicating with Australia, the principal correspondence is despatched by this means. We not long since remarked upon the fact that last year the Peninsular and Oriental Company earned in postage nearly the amount of their annual subsidy for conveying the mails. Present appearances seem to indicate that the system is now almost a self-supporting one, and that if the mails continue to augment in number and in bulk the Post-office will speedily be receiving as postal revenue a sum far in advance of the annual payment to this company.

California sends us her usual miscellany of news. The papers record the capture and decapitation of the celebrated robber-chief, Joaquin, together with several of his followers. The wheat crops in most parts of California were suffering from rust, which it was said would make the yield 25 per cent. less than it would otherwise have been. Murders were still very rife throughout California. Two persons had been hung at Calaveras—one for murder, and the other for horse-stealing. Lynch-law had also become pretty general. New gold diggings had been discovered at Port Oxford, on the Umpqua River. Five persons had taken 1000 dollars per day out for several days. Provisions were very dear, pork selling for 45*c.* per pound. Gold had also been discovered in large quantities at Santa Cruz, near the San Lorenzo Creek. The San Francisco market of every material, and in the face of very heavy importation of every description of merchandise, there had been a reaction in almost every branch of trade.

Postscript.

SATURDAY, September 10.

"THE situation is still the same." Europe waits on the Emperor Nicholas. At Vienna and at Constantinople, expectation is on tiptoe for his final reply. It should have reached Vienna to-day. The Vienna despatch of September 5th says:—

"The Russian Cabinet is not likely to object to any of these modifications, excepting the one referring to the treaties of Kainardji and Adrianople. To prevent further complications, the Austrian Government, supported by the Ambassadors of the Great Powers, has proposed the opening of direct negotiations on the points in dispute. These negotiations are to be conducted by the Count Nesselrode and the Ottoman Ambassador, who is to be sent to St. Petersburg. This proposal, it is thought, will be accepted by the litigant parties. The Russian Ambassador asserts that the evacuation of the Principalities will shortly commence, and that in any case the Russians will not pass the winter in those provinces."

The Turkish preparations for war proceed, and the troops are still marching on Varna. "It is said that the Sultan has considered the representations of the Hospodars of the Danubian Principalities, inasmuch as he will confine himself to the protest he has made in support of his rights. He will not insist on the recall of the two Princes, and he has not pronounced against them a sentence of suspension."

The *Times* of this morning resumes its old tone. Its "league, offensive," with Russia, is carried out by hearty abuse of the Emperor's foe:—"The policy of England and of the Great Powers of Europe with whom she has acted, and is acting, on this question, is not to be governed by the turbulent passions of the Turkish Divan, nor are we to be plunged into difficulties of which we do not see the end, merely because the Ottoman army is eager for war on the banks of the Danube."

Austria still rules her people with an iron rod. The *Wiener Zeitung* of the 6th inst. contains a list of eight unfortunates condemned to two or three weeks' imprisonment, some with, some without irons, or beating with a stick, for offences which London policemen would have passed over without notice. Among the delinquents is a female—the wife of a journeyman combmaker, Mrs. Anna Schwarz. Mrs. Schwarz's offence is not specified, but her punishment is fourteen days' imprisonment in the House of Correction "in chains."

The cholera in Norway makes way. At Christiania the cholera seems neither to spare age, sex, or condition, nor is it confined to any one quarter of the city or suburbs. The number of victims is not very numerous, but the disease is most severe, death ensuing after a few hours' illness. From the 25th July to the 31st August the total number attacked has been 393; deaths, 250.

The Queen stays quietly at Balmoral, her family circle increased by her mother, who has dined with her more than once this week.

The annual exhibition of the East Suffolk Agricultural Association took place on Thursday. At a dinner in the evening, Lord Stradbroke and Sir Fitzroy Kelly spoke—hinting a memory of Protection, but urging on the farmer a manly self-reliance and a dependence on their own energies and skill. Lord St. Leonards and Sir E. Gooch was also present.

We understand that Lord Elphinstone has been appointed Governor of Bombay; and Mr. Thomson, late governor of the North-west Provinces, has been appointed to the Government of Madras.—*Standard*, Sept. 9.

Sergeant Murphy reiterates his charge against Mr. John Francis Maguire. "Mr. Maguire requested me to crave the interference of Mr. Hayter, and authorized me to assure him that he would not oppose the Government." This seems to settle the question.

The cruelties at Birmingham gaol have been further exposed. But the facts elicited on yesterday were of the same kind and colour as those brought out on the previous examinations.

Three more deaths from cholera have occurred in Liverpool.

Yesterday's "police" presented one of the usual cases. A blacksmith, named Merryfield, was charged with kicking his wife in the stomach. He has done this frequently. "Six weeks ago he seized hold of a razor, and said that he would cut the child's head off with it. Last Sunday I and my child had no dinner, and but for my mother we would starve. Last Whitsuntide he one day, when intoxicated, cruelly used her. He left her wallowing in her blood. He then took a razor and said he would cut off her head, and roll it about the floor." He was sent to gaol, with hard labour, for six months.

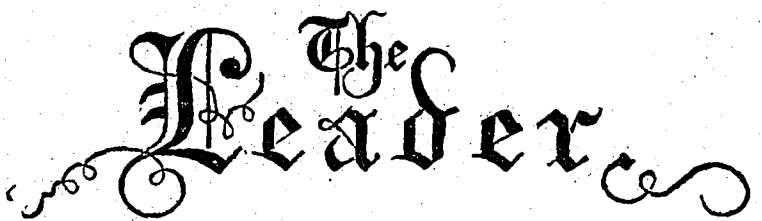
TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

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. What-ever 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.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 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.

TURKEY DESERTED BY HER ALLIES.

WITH the best disposition to regard the policy of our Ministers as the substitution of national for party objects, we cannot reconcile it with public virtue. While Prince Menzchikoff was in Turkey, calling on the Sultan to recognise the Russian Emperor as the protector of the Christian subjects of Turkey, and intriguing as well as negotiating to obtain a special recognition of the "Orthodox Greek" Christians; and while Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, supported by his colleagues at home, was sustaining Turkey in refusing acquiescence to Prince Menzchikoff's demands, the policy of this country was sufficiently intelligible. There have been long-continued negotiations; Austria and Prussia have laid their heads together with the representatives of France and England, and an accession of heads ought to have introduced an accession of wisdom into the council. But not knowing what happened in that conclave, the result only renders the position of our Ministry the more unintelligible. Precisely that thing which Lord Stratford de Redcliffe and M. de la Cour did support, the Sultan in refusing—recognition of the Russian protectorate, or of any special claims of the Porte of the orthodox Greek (that is *Russian*) Christians in Turkey—instead of being refused by the Vienna note is positively conceded by that note, and the Sultan is asked to sign, by the Four Powers, that which France and Great Britain had advised him to refuse.

It cannot be that English Ministers felt the support of the country giving way under them. Nothing could be more distinct than their position at home in the former attitude of the affair. There was indeed at first something resembling a reluctance at the idea of engaging in war, and we heard much of the folly of entering into hostilities with this or that power for the maintenance of a decrepid empire like that of Turkey; but objections of this sort were only sufficient to test their own inability to obtain a hold of the English mind. The English public refused to admit as a proved fact the total disorganization of the Turkish empire. The English public supported the opinion that the illegal encroachment of Russia must be resisted. The English public felt that the law of Europe was at stake, and when English Ministers undertook the responsible office of recommending Turkey to make a stand on behalf of the public law of Europe,—instead of animadversion,—instead of mistrust at the idea of going to war—there was a universal declaration of confidence in Ministers who had taken a course so decisive, who had pledged the country to the support of justice, and who had at last shown their reliance on the old spirit of the English people. If the Peace party came forward with its technical objections, in the person of Mr. Cobden, or any other stray member, it was only to declare the conviction that the principles entertained by that member and that party were so unpopular that any attempt to put them to the test of a vote in Parliament, or almost of a public meeting, would have been an extravagant hazard to the interests of the party, and the ultimate interests

of the doctrine. Public support, therefore, was universally in favour of Ministers. The dogmatic objections of the Peace party did not venture to assert themselves. On the Continent of Europe English influence was rising as it asserted itself in the cause of justice, and in the cause of its own dignity. On English grounds, therefore, as well as on continental grounds, there was nothing to obstruct a triumphant course for Ministers.

They encountered no difficulties on the Continent. Austria, a Power which had at first refused to join the Conference, at last became so impressed with the hazard that would be brought on the whole continental system by admitting the pretensions of Russia to dictate to the other States, that she joined the Conference. Be it observed, that the nucleus of the Conference consisted of France and England, who had already laid down the basis of a policy sanctioned by justice and supported by the peoples of the two States, which, when united, can dictate to Europe. If any English Minister had thoroughly appreciated the opportunity which he had for making the power of his country felt, recognised, and acknowledged, by every State in Europe, he would have known that at this point the English view might have been made to become the view of every power acceding to the alliance. Austria had no help for herself; she must be Russian, or Turkish, or European. If Russian, she must risk whatever her opponents pleased to do in the way of rousing against her Government her own people. If Turkish, she committed herself to a war with Russia. If European, she was safe; but then, if the English Minister had pleased, England, with France, might have dictated the policy of Europe, and Austria might have been English. Prussia had placed herself out of court, and there was nothing in the path of England, if it was not something called up by an English Minister. What, then, was it?

When any man has entered upon a course which is just and laudable; when he has received public approval; when the course is open before him, and at every step he acquires new powers for his career; when under such circumstances he stops, it is impossible to suppose that he could have intended from the first to accomplish that career, or that the obstacle which arrests him is other than the motion of some insincerity in his own mind. The stopping of the English Ministers in an uninterrupted course, where triumph was before them, must be received at the present moment almost as a confession that from the first, when they were winning the popular applause, they were insincere; in short, that they are traitors to that triumph for which we were applauding them by anticipation.

Throughout the whole of these complicated negotiations, these disputes with other powerful States possessing immense arms and resources, there is one State that has remained steadfast to its principles and its word. That State is not Russia, which has the largest armies in Europe, and which invaded the territory of an ally under a false pretext, and promised to withdraw under a false assurance. Nor is it England, which piques itself upon its frankness, and has the power, not only by its arms, not only by its navy, but by its influence, to shake every State in Europe. The State remaining firm to itself is Turkey, whose position is precarious, whose armies are uncertain, whose very existence is a question. Turkey declared from the first that she would yield everything to justice, but would retain her national independence, and her sovereignty. She has strictly abided by her word. All that was due to good faith with allies, to tolerance of alien religions, to equal justice for her subjects, to express stipulations even in favour of small sectarian pretensions in her remote provinces, she has fulfilled; but her national independence she still sustains against threat of attacks by her inveterate foe, of desertion by her still more powerful allies, of defection amongst her own subjects, of destruction to her whole empire. There have been times in the history of England when her governors and people have staked the national honour in troubles as perplexing, have advanced the national flag amidst dangers more thickening; but it has been reserved for our time to find Ministers who have courage to abandon a helpless ally, to forfeit the national faith, and to leave another nation as the sole champion of independence and honour in the circle of the nations. Would that this melancholy aspect were

but a passing appearance, and that a revived vigour in the English Government might falsify our fears!

SPAIN THE DEFAULTER.

SPAIN has a strong sense of her own dignity. When her good ally, Great Britain, asked her through the ambassador at Madrid, to grant a Protestant burial ground for subjects who happened to die in the Spanish capital, the request was granted. It was granted after it had been asked for fifty years, and upon condition that the English attending the funeral should make no sign either that they had a chapel, or that they performed public worship, or even that they had a dead body; for the corpse is to be conveyed to the grave without publicity. In Spain, the English are said to be heretic, without a faith; and perhaps to make good their words, the Spanish authorities forbid the English to appear with any signs of faith at the close of life. Such are the conditions when England has a favour to ask of Spain.

Spain has asked a favour of England, or of private Englishmen: it is to advance capital for Spanish railways. The request has been thought sufficiently important for a special agent to come to this country; he was anticipated by rumour, not at all surprising in the case of a Government like that of Spain. It was said that, as usual, official or royal people would profit by these projects; and the traditions of Capel Court and its titled clients were for a time transferred to Madrid and certain distinguished persons, who are understood to have made capital out of the political vicissitudes of that country. This, coupled with that bad faith which has excluded Spanish Stock from quotation on our Exchange, had cast discredit upon the projects. Some, however, were inclined to give money, and a natural anxiety existed to know who would guarantee the good faith of Spain. Allusion was made on the part of the possible lenders to their own Government, as their protector; and on this hint, the *España*, a Madrid journal, which is understood to be the organ of the Minister, Señor Egana, launches out indignantly at the insult.

"Base is the slave that pays," and baser still he that gives guarantees or admits the appeal to a foreign Government. If Englishmen are permitted to advance their capital for Spanish railways, it must be without these humiliating conditions for Spain. If we accept the scrap of ground for burial, the conditions may bow us down with our foreheads to the earth; but if Spain accepts our millions, she must pay us when she pleases, and we must not talk about appeals, or doubt her faith.

Yet Spain has owed us before, and we have had some reason to question her dignity. There was, for example, the capital of the Spanish Five-per-cent. "Active" bonds of 1834, about 30,000,000*l.*; then there was the Spanish "Deferred" Five-per-cent. of 1834, capital about 13,000,000*l.*; Spanish "Passive" bonds of 1834, capital 12,700,000*l.*; and Spanish Three-per-cent. of 1840, capital 7,000,000*l.*; created by the capitalization of interests at par. We say nothing of the arrears of interest, sometimes capitalized, sometimes simply over-due for years together; but these are good round sums, by which English trust and Spanish integrity have been tested.

Nor is money all that Spain owes to England. Spain possesses a Constitution given to her by England; for Spain had groaned under the most tyrannical of Governments. The memory of Riego is still a sorrow to the nation; Ferdinand the Seventh is still remembered as the creature of the Inquisition; Don Carlos is still living, by his son, ready to restore an Austrian rule in Spain. But from all these things Spain was rescued mainly by the support of England. Having accomplished her rescue from usurpation, Spain conceives a contempt even for her own liberal opinions, casts them aside, exiles them with Espartero, and begins to spurn the English alliance.

Beyond money or free institutions, Spain owes to us something still higher—her independence. She was a province under France; it was mainly by the help of English arms that she was restored to be a nation. More than once English blood has been poured upon the field of Spain; but if the debt is remembered, it is, we fear, by England only. It would become our dignity to forget it; but if so, we ought to forget also that

there ever has been any alliance between England and that estranged country.

The honour and dignity of Spain were once real things. They now exist in the language of Señor Egana; but the words must mean something very different from what we understand in England, when they are applied to a country whose conduct we have described; and yet, in the incidents we have enumerated, we have not reckoned that most peculiar specimen of Spanish honour and dignity, which we mentioned lately while speaking of a different subject. When Spain had great cause to fear for the retention of Cuba, England and France proposed a tripartite treaty with the United States, to guarantee for ever the Spanish possession of the island. America refused to forego her right of acquiring the island; we might have declined to interfere, not only on the ground that America is our ally as well as Spain; but also on the ground that Cuba, of all places, is the spot on which England has a right to reproach Spain with breach of faith. Spain, for whom we have done so much, promised to assist us in putting down the slave trade. But how has she done it? By appointing governors who share with her the profits of the trade; by giving commissions to officers who rescued captured slavers from their English captors, with insults for the English officers; and, in short, by obstructing where she should aid, by insulting where she professes sympathy. Interfere, however, we did; and then it was that the Marquis of Miraflores, calculating on the easy disposition of England, actually went so far as to petition, that even if America refused, England and France would guarantee the Spanish possession of Cuba against annexation, or against the insurrection of its own inhabitants. The Government that for fifty years refuses a burial ground for the dead English, and then grants it on terms of shameful humiliation—the Government that has accepted English money, and paid debts as we have seen—the Government that asks us for more money, and is indignant at a talk of pledges or guarantees—the Government that promises to suppress the slave trade in Cuba, and connives at the traffic, while its officers insult our own—that Government petitions ours to retain for it its island colony against a foreign conqueror, or against the disaffection provoked by its own bad rule. It appears to us that national meanness could not be carried to a more contemptible point of degradation than it has been by the high and honourable, the most Catholic and most religious, Government of Spain.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE ROMAN DISCLOSURES.

WHEN a people, intelligent, and not dead in its moral feeling, is oppressed for a length of time, it resorts to secret machinery for restoring something like that government of itself which is prevented by the constituted anarchy at the head. Such is the state of the Italian people. The self-government of the Italians is conducted entirely in secret by Italians. The ostensible government of Italy is carried on by Austria, and its protégés, with military instruments, priestly accomplices, and an army of spies. It follows that occasionally the self-government of the Italians, is, as it is called, "detected;" and one of these detections has just occurred at Rome.

The character of the persons who have been seized is not to be denied; they are genuine patriots, in the fullest sense of the term, as it will be understood by our readers. The principal is a man of excellent abilities, and of singular good faith. By the pertinacity and zeal of his character, he has exercised a decided influence over his countrymen, and has been detected by the police only through the treachery of some who disgrace the name of patriots.

There have been divisions amongst the Italians—even amongst the Liberal party of the Italians. There are some who are for Italy a Republic, or at all events for Italy entirely to herself; and there have been various sections of the liberal party in favour of this or that compromise, between the Italian aspirations, and what are regarded to be practicalities. Some of these parties have been discontented with the firmness, or, as they call it, the obstinacy of the Italian party; and it is to be feared that occasional patriots, disaffected towards patriotism, have suffered their temper, their weakness, or a worse vice, to lead them into treason. Few of the im-

prisoned patriots would exchange places with them.

One version of the report from Rome is that these arrests prevented an immediate movement in the Eternal City, under the direction of Mazzini. This is an entire mistake, and, if Mazzini were able to show, to the satisfaction of the most Austrian mind, that there was no movement directed by him in present contemplation. But Mazzini has before permitted misconstruction of his intentions, when he has thought that to exonerate himself might entail difficulty upon friends at a distance, or undue punishment, even, upon those who are indiscreet.

There was some kind of movement in contemplation—a movement of a very partial and impulsive character, implicating very few, and entirely, if we may use the expression, of an unauthorized character. The exact seat of this movement we do not know, and do not care to know; with the date of its probable execution we have no concern. The suspicions on that subject, and the detection of Petroni and his friends, have no relation, excepting that of a coincidence in point of time. Our readers will be interested to know who were the patriots newly added to the thousands in trouble, in that devoted country, but they will also be interested to understand that the movement which has been prevented was not a national, nor an authorized movement.

A MONUMENT TO NAPIER.

NAPIER has gone before the nation was able to express the sense which it really entertained of his value, as a soldier, a general, and a patriot. The nation entertained that sense, and desired to express it; but, unhappily, the nation is obliged to act by a machine ludicrously named, as if for its non-execution, the executive; and therefore towards Napier the nation was expressly non-cognizant. How many an inferior man performing inferior services, attained, and promptly too, a superior reward. We have Lord Keane, and Lord Seaton, or a Lord Gough,—gallant men all; but if a peerage is to be given for such services, how was it that Napier did not pass from Méanee into the House of Lords? Was it precisely because his achievements were not limited to dashing exploits, but were to be found in service extraordinary for the combination of its long continuance and its surprising energy? Was it because, to the vigour with which he wielded the sword, the daring with which he faced the enemy, he added the moral courage of facing abuses in the army, and vigour of tongue or pen to expose those abuses? Was it because, to great achievements in vanquishing the foe on foreign ground, he added the patriotic service of showing how the English people can be associated with its own army in repelling the invader from our own soil? In short, was it because he was a patriot as well as a soldier, a statesman, and not only a subservient officer. The unenlightened English people, not versed in the mysteries of the Horse-Guards, will be very apt to reason upon the *propter hoc* principle, and finding that Napier was patriot as well as soldier, was an outspoken Englishman as well as an acting warrior, to surmise that that was the reason why he was disparaged in high quarters, and why he sank to the nobler immortality of the tomb with a title beneath that of his inferiors, equal to that of a Sir Frederick Smith or a Sir Richard England.

He has gone without his due acknowledgement, but something remains to be done yet. There is in England a custom of dealing with such cases. Unless a fashion sets in during the lifetime of a hero, in which case we heap upon him more than almost any single man can accept—although instances of elasticity can be shown in that respect,—we reserve our rewards for a *post mortem* examination of the great man. In such cases sometimes we give the rewards, as the Chinese do, to the offspring in the form of honours and pensions. But our common custom is peculiar: where the patriot has been very earnest, very devoted in his service, we withhold these more personal rewards as if there were a punctilious delicacy lest we should offend his shade with the appearance of corrupt offers. Thus we kept Nelson's daughter in penury, and when we are at a loss on such occasions to recognise a hero we can always fall back upon "a stone"—we give him a monument. Of course there will

be a monument for Napier: it is his due by the custom of the country.

It is not due only to him, but to the country itself. For it is the only use to which we can now put him to make him a standard for those that follow.

Where to put the monument? We know of no place better than on the very head and front of the district which constituted his last command—on the shores of England, where he would have stood so well to defend us if we had been attacked, and where his very name may be a word to remind the foe what sort of a man an Englishman may be. Nay, it appears to us that we owe him yet another tribute—it is to give him a worthy successor. We do not mean in the Colonelcy of his regiment—a post of command, alas! which has become half honorary, half commercial in its character—but we mean in that district which was for all its historical and political associations so well allotted to a man like Napier—the Kent Militia district. If titles do not stray to men like Napier, let not the patronage of that district stray amongst mere titled commanders, but let some truly able man who seeks to emulate Napier's power as a soldier, with his devotion as a patriot, be posted on that foremost part of England amongst the English people. Let such a man be appointed—if such can be found.

AN ENGLISH GAOL.

THE Birmingham Gaol is, doubtless, a good place for an offender of coarse nerves and deadened sensibilities. The active and energetic officers, by their stirring measures and unexpected inflictions, stimulate the man into a wholesome activity, and send him out of gaol well hardened and sharp set. If he add cunning to dexterity he may find himself "in clover" by an expressed affection for the "Austin party" among the gaolers; and if he have the good sense not to get ill, or give trouble by being weak, he wins favour in the sight of the hurried surgeon, who dislikes delay, and of the gentle Governor, who objects on principle to invalids. But, under the late rule, Birmingham Gaol was a bad place for an old man, a high spirited boy, a sickly lad, or a poor idiot. For being too weak to work at a crank the old man was strapped up in a tight jacket, deprived of bread, rated as an old scoundrel, and tied for hours with his face to the wall. The boy was worked at the crank beyond the labour allotted to others, and if this partial punishment made him passionate, he was choked up in a stiff collar, deprived of bread for hours, kept without his bed for seven nights, and driven to suicide as an escape. The sickly lad was worked at the crank till he fell, was strapped in the jacket until he lay moaning on the floor of the cell, was roused from that by buckets of water, and while very sick was left in a wet cell for the whole night. The poor idiot, who jabbered sermons with a Bible in his hand, was stiffened up in the strait jacket, and when he screamed, salt was thrust into his mouth. The collars used in the punishment of all the prisoners were of stiff leather, suited in sizes to the necks embraced, and capable of being tightened at the discretion of subordinates. That they were instruments of torture, is shown strongly enough by the many suicides of prisoners, who feared a second infliction of the punishment. And Lieutenant Austin, the Governor, now admits the fact. He was asked as to the "moral effect" of such punishment, and he answered:—"It has not certainly answered my expectations, but has rather increased the insubordination among the prisoners. The collar and jacket create pain, and the former has a tendency to cause a flow of blood to the head."

The details of these cruelties would have but a personal application if Mr. Austin's conduct were only a personal extravagance. But his offences import more than his own fault. We find in one of our chief towns, in the centre of an intelligent community, an institution to which the care of the Government and the attention of the public have been steadily directed for many years. Local justices visited the institution, and Government officers inspected its operation. Yet gross abuses existed in it for years. Waiving for a moment the personal cruelty of the punishments inflicted, we find that these punishments were illegal; were unauthorised by the visiting justices, and were in contravention of the prison regulations. Under sedative Cap-

tain Maconochie, as under severe Mr. Austin, illegal punishments were systematically inflicted. If this be tolerated—if our prisons are allowed to become institutions governed according to the peculiar crotchets—kind or cruel, judicious or unwise—of respective governors, all our imperial law and our national system for preventing crime are set utterly at naught. The ease with which English systems may be broken has facilitated the pernicious practice of individual authority. There is in fact no English system of gaol rule. One gaol is worked without reference to the experience of another, and the separate systems of separate counties are kept as much apart as if they were worked in different countries. To collate the experiences of all our English gaols would not be a difficult task, but it is left undone. To compare the curious records of the varying effects of various punishments on different minds would be of obvious use, and could be easily effected, yet it is left undone. Punishment is administered by quack doctors, each in his own way, and no attempt is made to raise the practice from empiricism to science. Captain Maconochie wishes to manage his convicts in a gentle and efficacious way; perhaps he has not the practical ability to make his ideas work; and at any rate they still lack honest application or scientific test. Other gaol rulers carry out personal theories, ascending in degree of severity from the mildness of Maconochie to the harshness of Austin. But which is the best no general inquiry has yet tested, and no systematic supervision has lighted the way for a positive opinion.

This quackery in public doings is an English vice. Our greatest industry—the working of our mines—is done bit by bit, without any of that general record which the Austrian administration has most completely carried out. The school system of Prussia, in its complete theory and regular execution, puts to shame the utter absence of national education for our people. In Spain the prison system has been brought to a practice almost perfect in the Presidio of Valencia, where gentle and careful education makes of bad men good citizens. These instances of efficient administration occur in countries where popular spirit is dead, and men are apt to call them the fruits of despotism. But they forget the examples which the United States administration presents. The best statistical papers of the present time have been compiled by United States officials. The most efficient administration of the electric telegraph and the post-office is in America. The best organisation for the collection of facts in the interest of Science and for the improvement of Art has been constructed by that Republican Government. The shortcomings we have shown in our gaols proceed from a clumsiness in organizing a machinery dealing more with mind than with matter. This clumsiness is national—not the result of popular power. The people know well the good, and would heartily aid the working of beneficent administration. In nothing are they more actually interested than in the operations of our gaol system; for a gaol is a school as well as a place of punishment. It sends out citizens to mingle with the community, as well as holds fast the few it retains for the hulks or the hangman, and a mere selfish instinct prompts people to look into the training of those who are to be the close companions of their daily walk.

A DECANter OF WINE ON EVERY TABLE.

Pour out a flask of that bright wine, like liquid amber, into that decanter. The glass is clear, and though you may have seen cut glass more diamond-like in its brilliancy, this also has a brilliancy scarcely inferior. The decanter is placed within the reach of the humblest purse. By a fiscal reform the glass-duties were taken off, and by favour of the improvements that have followed, still more than the mere relief from the impost, the manufactured jewel can now adorn every household.

The wine is bright and rich. It is Vin Santo, a pleasant specimen of the "particular" wine of Italy. Or try this, in which the fixed air is rising like the sparkle of a mild champagne; it is wine from Asti, where the poet Alfieri was born,—a light and pleasant wine, of which you may drink a pint or two with only a little increase to your gaiety. Or this, which you can scarcely tell in clearness or taste from the best port,—a trifle nearer perhaps to the grape, but still a wine upon

which the best judges will nod approval: it is but a good sample of the anonymous wines which are a drink of the Italians—sometimes sour, but more frequently sound, and often approaching to this quality. Or this wine, if you like a sweet one: it is from Catalonia, and you may have it by the gallon. Or, again, this, a pure Bordeaux, tasting both of the pulp and the skin, a tonic and a cordial, not the sour dilution which goes by the name. It is "too new," but you whose taste in wine is young will not dislike it the worse for that. Now, any of these you can drink, we will not say instead of your beer, if you like that to "sustain" you when you are hard at work—but when you want a "social glass." At such time beer, from its heavy flavour and heavy quality, becomes a burden instead of a pastime, and mixes indifferently with conversation. There is more where this came from, and infinitely more could be made in Italy, Spain, or France.

Throughout Italy the supply awaits a demand which is as yet but the dream of journalists like ourselves, who can see so far as the day after to-morrow. In the United States new wines are now becoming a frequent invention; samples were shown at the New York Exposition, and samples also have been tasted with much satisfaction. But in France they are still more pressing. The Council-General of the Hérault has just passed an extensive resolution, asking the Emperor of the French to revise the customs' tariff, in order that commercial prohibitions may be abolished and replaced by milder duties, such as would permit French competition, and stimulate French industry, and would, the Council-General insinuates, induce foreign countries to take French products in greater abundance. Now, nothing can be wiser in France at the present moment. Considerable waste of expense is induced by the cost of iron for railways, which renders the structure of railways much more difficult and burdensome than otherwise. It would be an immense relief to our iron producing industry if we had the advantage of another market to counteract these fluctuations; for the more markets you supply the more do the fluctuations of the different markets counteract each other. But if we go to France, and ask the French to extend the principle of free-trade, they will throw wine in our teeth, and ask us how we can have the face to call for a reduction of duties when even consideration for our own customer will not induce us to give up the preposterous impost upon wine? We charge now about 5s. 6d. a gallon duty; a hundred, or two, or three hundred per cent. on the value of those wines which will have the largest sale. The consequence not only is, that the duty itself restricts the consumption, but as it enhances the price it causes the sale to be comparatively slow, and therefore it wholly excludes from our market those pleasant wines which we mentioned at first—the most vivacious, the purest in their taste, and the best suited to any popular palate. If specimens are introduced, in order to make them keep, they are doctored with alcohol in various ways and deprived of their characteristic qualities. Wine may be sold to the Englishman, duty included, at a shilling or two per bottle—good wine, not the poison so called; but while the reduction of duty has placed within the reach of the humblest person the decanter of tolerable brilliancy, the wine to put into it is held back by an exorbitant duty, which disgraces the tariff after it has been simplified by Peel, by Wood, and by Gladstone.

THE GOVERNING CLASSES.

NO. II.—THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.

THE Earl of Aberdeen is Premier of England. Yet not one thousand of his countrymen know him by sight in or out of London. That fact is a comment upon the governmental system of Great Britain.

The people of Great Britain are utterly ignorant even of the character of their first Minister. In no sense is he a popular man. There is not an instance of his being caricatured: and not to be caricatured is to be a failure in this country. Not a saying of his is in vogue: not a speech of his is remembered: not a despatch of his lives. Up to 1853 he was regarded as a Tory: in 1853 he is believed to be the Chief of rather a liberal administration: but the enlightened country is in doubt. Half a century in public life, Lord Aber-

deen has not had the good fortune to connect himself with a single great measure, good or bad. Except, perhaps, the last—the Coalition—a comprehensive measure: and, no doubt, Englishmen admire adequately the statesman who induced a dozen other statesmen to sink their differences for the purpose of securing to each an average 4000*l.* per annum. There is a vague belief that the man who heads such an Administration must be a good man, and an able man: and, from logical inferences, the country trusts Lord Aberdeen. But the country knows nothing about Lord Aberdeen. These are facts which comment startlingly upon the governmental system of Great Britain.

In this governmental system it is clearly not necessary that a man should be known to the country to be successful. There are governing classes in this country; and Lord Aberdeen has evidently considered it sufficient to be known to *them*. They know him, and trust him: and hence he is Premier of Great Britain. Yet, no doubt, so unknown a man has not before in this century occupied such a position. Other Premiers have not only consulted the governing classes, but have managed the governed. They have been respected or loved: or if they have neither been respected nor loved, they have been understood, and their policy has been appreciated; they have, in short, held a national position, and have had national influence, as representing party and principles. Lord Aberdeen represents neither a party nor a principle, which is the reason why in an age of negotiations he leads a coalition government.

Two causes have prevented Lord Aberdeen being known in England. First: he has not a popular genius: second: he has filled, in the state, those offices only which deal with the government of England outside England. A man who fills the Foreign Office has great advantages in making the acquaintance of, and gaining that sort of knowledge and prestige which influences, the Governing Classes. But the disadvantage is, that a Secretary for Foreign Affairs is kept out of domestic affairs. A Home Secretary or a Colonial Secretary, or a Chancellor of the Exchequer, is forced into contact with his countrymen; and deputations are like petitions, it is assumed that they have no results, but they direct statesmen. Lord Aberdeen, until this year, never received a deputation of Great Britons; and thus it is that, as his countrymen know nothing of him, he has had but a very indistinct notion of his countrymen. With the history of his country in his lifetime, he has had nothing whatever to do; and that cannot be said of any other man who ever held his post. First Minister, without the slightest influence—that is an extraordinary position. Our statesmen generally have some influence: even Mr. Disraeli, who is always acting, and is known to be an actor, and to whose opinions, expressed in speech, nobody affects to pay that attention which is paid to realities and individualities:—even Colonel Sibthorpe has his influence, derived from his looks. The most derided of our governing classes have their distinct position; and in that position are tangible and comprehensible. The Earl of Derby is felt to be an utterly unreliable man, who was turned out of office in contempt; but the Earl of Derby has his believers, and his creed; and he has his influence. It is not equal to the influence of Mr. Tennyson, or Mr. Thackeray, who shape thoughts, and mould and modulate national history; but it is distinct, ascertainable, and visible. Lord Aberdeen, in this respect, is far inferior to the man he supplanted, and convicted of impossibility, the Earl of Derby. Perhaps the Coalition could not exist without Lord Aberdeen; but then the key-stone of an arch is an unimportant fragment out of an arch; and, in fact, Lord Aberdeen is sustained in his Premiership not by his individuality, but by the reputations of other men, who are known and understood.

Lord Aberdeen, then, was not selected for Premier by the country, but by the Governing Classes, among whom we have, without disrespect, counted Prince Albert. And he was selected by the Court because he was not known to the country; for the very merits which resulted from his never having, as statesman, been brought in contact with his countrymen. Lord Aberdeen, had

he been Colonial Secretary, or Chancellor of the Exchequer, would have been like most ordinary British statesmen—narrow in view, parochial in patriotism, and devoted to the Bermondsey policy. But educated as a diplomatist, conversant with foreign affairs, and in office only at the Foreign Office, he became the least British of British Statesmen, and eminently fitted, in the circumstances, for the great station to which he has been appointed. Least British, he is the most large-minded of our statesmen, and is thoroughly competent to sympathise with the extensive dynastic preoccupations of Prince Albert. We can all remember Lord John Russell's greatly cheered insinuation at him that he was, in office, not the Minister of England alone, but also the Minister of Austria, and Russia, and France; and, properly considered, such a sneer from so merely British a man is a great compliment to Lord Aberdeen, as showing how large and lofty are his considerations in political action. He has, besides, himself illustrated the mental grandeur of his own point of view. He it was who discovered that in the English political world there were no parties, as we had long supposed, but that our differences were merely differences without distinctions; and upon that discovery, which a narrow-minded, purely British Statesman would never have discovered, he based his project of a coalition. Intense and philosophic must be the contempt with which he regards the traditions of our historic party Government; he himself seeing, even more vividly than Lord Shelburne saw, that if the great families would only agree to agree, they might divide the Government of Great Britain, including its patronage, and the management of human destinies between them. He cannot understand British rage in controversies about the difference between Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Very likely he thinks the Whigs, after being out so long, were clever fellows to discover that a Reform Bill was necessary; and he would candidly admire Mr. Disraeli now, if Mr. Disraeli endeavoured to re-create the Tory party by appealing to them to do what the Whigs did in 1830. But intensity about such small local matters is not congenial to the Earl of Aberdeen. Watching always all Europe, he only has a sectional regard for England. In a remarkable way, for those who observe and study him, he showed this in the discussions on the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill: and he it was who made the Peelites powerful, by lifting them above the petty parochial passions swaying British statesmanship at that epoch. But more memorably was his character developed in the discussions on the Scotch Church crisis: and he failed in that settlement simply because his intellect was too comprehensive to understand the earnestness on small points which influenced parish heroes such as Dr. Chalmers on that occasion. Often it is made a ground of attack on Lord Aberdeen, that he disgusted all parties in that singular transaction: but, fairly considered, he broke down merely because he was so magnificently above all parties. He understands precisely what was meant in him for mankind; and he permits neither England, nor even Scotland, to have more than its share.

Lord Aberdeen was always a Tory statesman, because he is so essentially a liberal man. British liberalism is a very parochial affair: and the men who get their minds out of English routine are generally Tories. A Tory is a man who despises mankind: and it unfortunately happens that as men know mankind they cease to be ardent philanthropists. Lord Aberdeen went the grand tour at a remarkable moment, and studied the world under peculiar circumstances. The great event of his life—it was his anticipation of Waterloo—was the destruction of Napoleon; and he accomplished that destruction by inducing half-a-dozen people, principally sovereigns, to become scoundrels. It was his mission from the British governing classes; and what was he to think of humanity after succeeding? History has no parallel for the villany of the Austrian Emperor who set on Metternich to torture Napoleon into a rupture of his alliance with Austria—that alliance having been ratified by Marie Louise, that Austrian Emperor's daughter; and Metternich was taught his business, in that transaction, by Lord Aberdeen.

History has no parallel for the villany of Murat and Bernadotte, in deserting the man who had given them greatness; and it was Lord Aberdeen's diplomacy to which the world was indebted for that matter. Triumphant in setting brother-in-law against brother, and father against daughter, could his estimation of mankind—he was not too old to be influenced—have been exalted? Could his Scotch notions of England—he is of a family who gained power by hating England—have been raised by observation of the career of England under Pitt? Could he have thought lovingly or highly of the country which was gratified with the Reform Act, and endured the Corn Laws? You can see, watching Lord Aberdeen, that he is a cynical peer of the realm; and nothing he has ever done or said indicates a patriotic appreciation of Great Britons. Virulent was he always in detestation of the pretentious Britishisms of Lord Palmerston, while that distinguished statesman was at the Foreign Office, between 1833 and 1846, cleverly contriving to talk the Bermondsey policy, and act the Russian system. Lord Aberdeen, dignified, philosophic, and honest, could never understand Lord Palmerston's affectations—never seeing that, consequent upon these affectations, Lord Palmerston was always able to promote unmolested the Russian system, even better than Lord Aberdeen himself. Lord Palmerston understood as well as Lord Aberdeen that the Russian system was the only system which the British Foreign Office could uphold; but, being of a popular and felicitous genius, and disguising cynicism in *bonhomie*, he never said so, but said, indeed, quite the reverse; and the result was, that in his day liberty was always crushed, and he was always supposed to be a Liberal. Lord Aberdeen, more simple-minded, because more austere (the young Tories want a Tory who is not austere, which is a mistake), acted at the Foreign Office upon his convictions, and the difference without a distinction between him and Lord Palmerston (at last discovered by Lord Aberdeen) is, that he did, and Lord Palmerston did not, express his convictions. Lord Aberdeen's Foreign Office theory is, that the policy of this country is not intervention; and that is also, practically, the policy of Lord Palmerston; the distinction between the two being, that Lord Palmerston sees the expediency, and Lord Aberdeen does not see the expediency, of talking intervention, while acting non-intervention. Lord Palmerston is a popular man in England, because he is perpetually telling the English that it will be a great epoch for the continent when it adopts "constitutional government." Lord Aberdeen is too honest a man to talk such twaddle; and is consequently not a popular man in the positive sense, though decidedly not an unpopular man with a Cobdenite democracy. Lord Aberdeen knowing, from his acquaintance with the Governing Classes, how seats are got and voters are bought, does not think the British constitution, as at present existing, the most perfect or the most admirable of human institutions; and, calculating that the people of continental Europe are not more amiable or more honest than the people of Great Britain, he abstains from urging on continental Governments the desirability of abolishing paternal despotisms in favour of self-government by Governing Classes. Lord Aberdeen has no theories, certainly does not allow his theories to govern his political conduct. He evidently thinks that it is not advisable to tell the British people that they are not the remarkably enlightened and recklessly free people which they believe themselves to be; he clearly considers that it would not do to advise them to accept a paternal despotism which would destroy governing classes. He thinks that all forms of government are good under certain favourable circumstances, and has no constitutional prejudices. Thus, he does not hate Nicholas, or decline to be civil to him, because he is a despot; and he is averse to an alliance with Louis Napoleon, not because Louis Napoleon does not institute a House of Commons into which pecuniary patriots can buy their way, but because the Czar Nicholas is the honestest, most reliable, and most authentic man of the two. Lord Aberdeen comprehends accurately the

monstrous absurdity of Lord Palmerston's theory—it goes no farther—of a British propaganda. Lord Aberdeen, loftily above Bermondsey views, perceives that great Britain is a power made up of conquests over nationalities, and scorns a foreign policy affecting to befriend struggling nationalities. Lord Aberdeen does not see why England, which has conquered and plundered India, and keeps India down for India's good, should set up for a hater of Czar Nicholas, who is a good despot in Russia, and keeps Poland down for Poland's obvious good. Lord Aberdeen does not see why England, which has crushed several rebellions in Ireland, should be fanatically angry with Austria for keeping down Hungary; and knowing that England forces an alien church on Ireland, he understands the eagerness of the Pope to plant Cardinal Wiseman in Westminster. He knows that we have had Kaffir wars, and does not think Nicholas a ruffian for thinning his army among the Circassians; he knows that we send off periodically rebellious Mitchells and O'Briens to Van Dieman's Land, and does not feel horror because Louis Napoleon institutes a Cayenne. Whenever he has to write to the Neapolitan Government about Sicilian affairs, he does not plunge into ecstatic liberalism, because he bears in mind that Great Britain has a proconsul at Corfu, occasionally denounced by parochial Mr. Hume.

Such a man is eminently fitted to hold the first governmental office in Great Britain; and undoubtedly it is a happy arrangement, a Coalition Government, which includes, with Lord Aberdeen acting the Russian, Lord Palmerston to talk the Bermondsey, policy.

NON-ELECTOR.

PICTURE OF THE DUBLIN EXHIBITION.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

THE Great Hall has a grand and imposing aspect; but it is in reality smaller than it appears, the noble proportions and gracefully coupled shafts adding a fiction of size. Looking up a distance of one hundred and five feet to the noble span of roof, the apt Irish description of "panels of blue sky in frames of unpainted deal," seems faithful; it is, however, the same problem of chromatic decoration solved by Mr. Owen Jones in the Crystal Palace, and applied here, with the difference that Mr. Owen Jones contended with the difficulty of making his ornamentation apparent, while Mr. Lanyon (of Belfast) was obliged to subdue the colouring of the timber structure to a sober harmony which would not interfere with the exhibited fabrics, and the cross-tracery of the gallery balustrades is alone unpainted. In one point the Industrial Palace far excels its prototype in Hyde-park; the light is of a delicious grey tone, obtained by employing fluted glass of a greenish hue, and the careful exclusion of direct rays of sunshine. The Central Hall is international ground in art and manufacture. English and German sculptors contribute casts, private collections provide antiques. Among these the Centaur is a good modern antique. A Leda, exquisite in the articulation of limbs through the soft thin tunic, recalling Goethe's description of drapery as thousandfold echo of form, serves to warn modern sculptors whose Ledas abound here, that Grecian marbles embody divinity, where they only succeed in developing inane unchasteness. Dieudonné, of Paris, in "Christ Praying in the Garden," produces a perfect statue, and Irish sculptors retain their place in imagination and manipulative excellence. A young Dublin sculptor, Mr. Baxter, has made a successful effort at introducing genre in the "Lesson Interrupted," and Lawlor is conspicuous in grace. Macdowell's first work, "Cephalus and Procris," does no discredit to "Ive," beside which it stands. All the groups add much to the *coup d'œil* by being placed at the aisles leading from the central to the lateral halls; foiled by the approximating fabrics they produce the most harmonious union of the ideal and useful. Baron Marochetti's equestrian statue of the Queen is conspicuous in place. Jones's life-size statue of Mr. Dargan excites all interest, as an admirable likeness of the outward material form of the Irish industrial hero, but the great novelty of the Exhibition and ornament of the Central Hall, is the dessert service of Messrs. Kerr and Binns, illustrating "Midsummer Night's Dream." It is from the models of Mr. W. Boynton Kirk, and amply proves the leaning of Irish genius to art, and its mastery in bending it to practical beauty. Swedish felspar was formerly used in porcelain manufacture, but under the scientific experiments of Sir Robert Kane the Irish felspar has been brought to great perfection, and is found to excel the Swedish in every quality. The service has been passed through the fire six times, and without being too much vitrified, is sufficiently opaque to produce the necessary light and shadow. Before Shakspeare, who is represented sleeping on a bank, he comedy assumes the fleeting shape of a vision, the ass's head is fixed between the branches overshadowing the

Poet, Puck flies through the tree, and fairy heads issue from each branch; Fame, in an apotheosis, trumpets the poet's praise; her wings are outstretched, and in emblem of his immortality, she holds his image graven on a star. On the centre-piece the fairies enact their play. In fanciful construction rise three plains of fairy ground—the first is the Jealousy, or Titania and Oberon disputing for the page; the second, the Revenge, Puck seeking the flower, and selecting it from an exquisite little parterre; Oberon rejoicing over the prize; Titania sleeping, unconscious of the juice squeezed upon her eyes, her loving caresses of Bottom, and the termination at the top is the reconciliation between the fairy monarchs. Other dual groups are introduced. The cream-bowls are surmounted by Puck looking out through his knees with genuine Robin Goodfellow mirth and malice; the salt-cellars are supported by three fairies; the plates present on the edge three oval medallions of Shakspeare; Tragedy and Comedy joined by Grecian chimeras in dead gold, the centre of each varied, but all are symbolical of night. The whole drama has found a truly Shaksperian realization from an Irish artist, working from art-material indigenous to the soil, and brought to perfection by English artisans directed by Irish capitalists—a new reading of "union" facts.

Ireland again contributes design in the Queen's Plate, executed by Garrard, of the Haymarket, under the instructions of Prince Albert. It is a Kiosk temple, raised in the desert over a fountain, the clustered columns and springing arches rising to the dome in Moorish architecture, partly suggested by the Courts of the Alhambra, and from the tomb of Noor-mahal, in the Taj Agra. It is of silver, enamelled and gilt, bright and frosted, and modelled by an Irishman, Mr. Percy. At the base, where the sacred fountain runs into silver basins, three horses form the groups: one quietly drinks, while a negro boy holds the reins; another, escaping from the Arab, who, in trying to regain his hold, startles the third into rearing, which rouses a Persian hound, who completes the confusion by leaping and barking. This portion was modelled by Mr. Cotterill, and the rock foundation, nearly hidden by sand, and surrounded by luxurious Oriental vegetation of palms and bananas, by Mr. Spencer. Here a flamingo stoops to drink from a stream which flows through the sand from the fountain, and two lizards, unconscious that a vulture is near, sport under the trees.

The foreign contributions, unlike those of the London Exhibition, are not the products of the nations, but of individuals. Instead of the Chinese exhibitors, the ivory temples, and the ingenuity exerted in a national effort, China is a well-chosen collection, supplied by private speculation. The Indian department is bare of the gorgeous shawls and the stately appointments of Indian Princes; choice selections from the Queen, the East India Company, the Asiatic Society, Lord Gough, and Mr. Twining, supply the place of independent manufacture. Valuable as these intrinsically are, they give place to an interesting and complete system of Hindoo mythology, the property of Mr. Bridge of Dublin. Jewellery and tapestry—the Vierge and Poisson, after Raphael, equal to painting, and a collection of Ormolu clocks, are the principal objects in the French compartment, with a limited display of textile fabrics. Even the English have left this open and unrivalled for Ireland; the jacquards, brocade looms, and the tabinets are entirely at home, and Belfast secures the flax manufacture. The Irish Fisheries Company exhibit salmon swimming in their models of weirs and stairs, the artificial production of the fish, here exemplifying other tendencies than art; and the Irish locomotives in the "machinery in motion" prove that mechanical power has practical followers as active as the abstract science of physical research. Belgium, first in paintings, is last and poorest in manufacture; but a lovely statue, by Fraikin, of Cupid Captive, atones for the poverty of their portion of the lateral hall. Berlin reproduces the Dresden Gallery in porcelain pictures and groups in bronze and zinc, after Kreismann, Kiss, Müller, and Rauch, with ornamental table groups of infinite variety. The Court of Modern Art, with Raphael's Child and Dolphin, after the fable of Ælian, occupying the centre, is approached through the foreign hall, and leads to the Mediæval Court, which has been fitted up rather in resemblance of a private oratory than an exhibition of church manufacture, and a ceiling of transparent blue with golden stars lends a soft evening light, very beautiful in effect. The Gallery of Old Masters and Rubbings of Ancient Brasses, lead from this through the Furniture Court and to the Agricultural Museum of seeds and implements. Scotch industry has been peculiarly active, and the interminable collection inevitably suggests that "model farming" may be a newly-devised pathway on the road to

ruin. It is a department which, almost entirely neglected in comparison in the Crystal Palace, has met with considerable acceptance and space in the Dublin Exhibition. In the Northern Hall, iron and hardware are exclusively English, and though American cotton is brought to Manchester for manufacture, and English iron tempered to steel in the factories of the new world, in the progress of Irish industry but little chance of entering on a portion of this trade is perceptible.

Among the trades of Dublin bookbinding comes into the domain of art: landscapes, inserted in leather, cover the volumes of light literature, and devotional books are bound in gold and studded with stones.

A new and delicate fabric of gold and silver laces, on a ground of tulle, is exhibited, in the gallery of the north hall; the patterns are from Irish schools of design, and are shown unfinished in the process of working; the endless bobbins and labyrinths of pins seeming a hopeless chaos, but woven in cabins, and by the sensitive fingers of Irish peasant women. It has been purchased to decorate the court robes of the Queen, and, from the poverty of its origin in the West, is to shine in the royal drawing-rooms, at St. James's. Philosophical instruments, and naval and civil engineering models, in the southern galleries, are more especially the products of England. Science is, however, vindicated in a series of careful geological charts, illustrating the soil of Ireland; the raw materials of coloured marbles, flax, peat, mineral substances, and those used for food, occupy a large section close to the entrance. Not very long since, these were esteemed the wealth of the country, but Ireland has come into the patrimony of labour, the great heritage of our generation, and has learned that the Celtic genius and intelligence can be developed into manufacturing skill, that the abstract science of the physicist can be rendered into material for prosperity, that enterprise will be successful, and that industry is a more valuable possession than the gold of Australia and the iron of England. London collected the marvels of the world and the handicraft of the nations. Dublin has no malachite from Russia, no carvings from Austria, no feats in mingling colours, in costly fabrics, from the East. Germany and Italy are absent, Spain has not even a wine jar, Prussia and Belgium strictly are contributors in art alone, Bavaria, too busy with her display in Munich, in the coming year, has nothing for Ireland; Brazil is hardly more than botanic, and England in silver work, gems, and iron. Scotland, in the invention of agricultural implements, excels the Irish mechanic and farmer. In designs and mindcraft, in art, and loom-work, the Celtic race has taken its stand in the first rank; and the women of the West have founded trades and delicate hand manufactures which will progress to the perfection of Continental excellence, and perhaps to the splendour of needlework in Eastern lands. Less ambitious of interest, and in variety every way behind its great prototype, the Industrial Palace yet affords abundance to repay the artist and connoisseur in the most perfect series of paintings in Europe, from the earliest Byzantine efforts to our own year; while the visitor in search of a picturesque scene will feel no disappointment. To Ireland its great good is, that it affords a daily means of acquiring definite information, in its surpassing recommendation as a temporary college for industrial training, and a moral example of what one man may achieve for his country.

A LAY VIEW OF MEDICAL TESTS.

It is a folly as well as an injustice to pursue with scandal and derision a class so valuable as our medical men; it has but a solitary palliation, that although deference is due to the profession, the public have *a priori* no convincing assurance of the fact. This if procurable we have a right to insist on. Its existence we venture to deny; its possibility we hope to prove.

A professional examination should be a guarantee from recognised censors that the public shall not be victimized by the unscrupulous or uninformed. Consequently it will approach perfection in proportion as it realizes, or be futile in proportion as it recedes from, the following conditions:—

- I. Of inspiring a comfortable reliance on its sufficiency.
- II. Of admitting all who are competent.
- III. Of closing the avenue to all who are inadequate.

Apply this test to medical examinations, and what do we find? We find that the public, so far from confiding in the authorized ordeal, enforce another of their own, and compel a man to wait for the experience which they withhold by repudiating his aid, at the same time permitting all he may have acquired to exhale in inactivity.

The public, however, are not altogether wrong, for though they obstinately ignore the fact that a young

man who used five years well may have more experience than an old one who has misused fifty. It is undeniable that experience is the foundation of physic, and as undeniable that of it the present examinations are no measure, but only of what may be rapidly collected and adroitly applied from "Outlines," "Manuals," and "Vade Mecums." How rapidly collected is seen from the fact that there are gentlemen who, for the trifling honorarium of ten guineas will pass any man of moderate capacity and very moderate diligence, through both examinations in six months. How adroitly applied may be seen from the fact that men who have scarcely entered a ward or handled a scalpel survive the terrors of inquisition, and are let loose upon the world to try experiments on the "living subject," fortified only by a system of Mnemonics, in those ever-recurring emergencies which demand the amplest resources—the most suggestive ingenuity. Fancy on one side of a table an elderly gentleman, austere from a sense of public duty, and the conviction that nobody can inquire what he knows, perhaps playfully avenging on another his own well-remembered agitation; fancy, on the other side, a palpitating student perplexed between the fear of not knowing enough, which carries disgrace, and the danger of knowing "too much," which is obvious impertinence. "Well, sir, how about the position of the vessels on the lung?" The respondent ransacks memory in vain for a reply; for some time ransacks memory in vain for the cabalistic word which is to revivify his knowledge. At length perhaps it comes. By a strange association of domestic royalty with visceral anatomy, he thinks of Victoria, Albert, and the Baby—V. A. B.—Vein, artery, and bronchial tube. He breathes again; he is safe.

These things justify the popular mistrust of diplomas, and excuse the feeling of most of us, that we would as soon have been the first to descend in a parachute as be the "first patient;" that such things are so almost universal shows vast absurdity inherent in the system, or contingent on its mal-administration.

The latter there is no reason to impute, but so long as the system is in vogue, "cramming" can neither be frustrated nor suppressed. The circuit of knowledge to be embraced is limited, so also must be the range of questions; and every ingenious novelty, every variety in the mode of interrogation, is conveyed to his "grinder" next morning by the candidate, whether triumphant or rejected. This blemish is ineffaceable from every book-examination, and therefore would not have been alluded to, were such the only practical test; but we believe that, if unimpeachable, it would be insufficient. It is insufficient, because there is no assurance that the student has seen what he may so volubly describe.

It will be said, "if a man paint well enough to convince an experienced examiner that he has seen what he talks about, will he not surely recognise it when it comes before him?" There is no certainty that he will.

There are few who do not trust their judgment in numberless cases, where the processes are so subtle as to be unconscious; we may be quite unable to expound a method, which may nevertheless guide us to legitimate conclusions; different people receive impressions in different manners—no two individuals describe the same thing in the same way; delivering another person's experience is very different from turning your own; and the student's notions of any phase of any disease—though of course they should respectfully accord with those of the admitted authority—may possibly be altogether dissimilar, though quite as accurate.

But suppose this difficulty overcome, and another starts up which we have never seen mentioned, but which is incontestably of the first magnitude. It appears to be forgotten that you never have symptoms collected and compendiously arranged: you have to elicit them; and this, however simple it may seem, is really a delicate and intricate task. You have to contend with the class who magnify "trifles light as air" into matters of "pith and moment;" secondly, with those who never had, have not, and never mean to have, any ailment whatever; and lastly, with the ignorance which obstructs the full exposition of the case which the medical man requires. Patients don't know what to answer, they don't know how to answer; with the best intentions in the world, they pour forth a great deal with which he is acquainted, as well as a great deal with which he doesn't want to be acquainted, but omit some unobtrusive point which might remove all cause for embarrassment. That this is no exaggeration will be granted, when we say, that men, the men the most eminent in their profession, who from experience best appreciate the kind of information required, most often in the search for it, have died, the cause of death undetected or mistaken. We believe we do not overstate the cases of Sir Astley Cooper,

Tyrrell, Callaway, and the late regretted Mr. Bransby Cooper.

To propagate mistrust, where mistrust is inevitable, were a thankless task; but not to do so when the cause is clear and removable were a crime. This seems an instance in point. We have shown that the present routine examinations are inadequate; we have striven to show they never can be otherwise; because sagacity and tact, shrewdness and observation, senses well trained to perceive, and intellect well schooled in using their perceptions, are necessary as well as the scientific acquirement which no one under-rates, but whose sole sufficiency every one, who thinks, will deny. The question then is, how are these superior qualities to be tried? Certainly not by any of the appliances afforded at the Chamber of Horrors in Lincoln's-inn, or the sign of the Pestle and Mortar in Water-lane. But it seems to us, that if one of the London hospitals, or each hospital in turn, were compelled to offer its selection of cases, and if a portion of the examination were conducted within their walls, meritorious students would be better satisfied, the public more secure, and the proverbial mischances of such inquiries as far as possible diminished.

We now deferentially commend the suggestion to those in whose province the matter lies; and if in these remarks we seem to have stepped out of our way, it is only because the subject is one of great and general importance, one which is entirely neglected, and one which, therefore, cries out for remark. V.



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.

SPANISH FILIBUSTERISM.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—ONE of the strong points made by Mr. Pierre Soulé, in a remarkable speech in the American Senate, was the fact, that Spain was engaged, only half-a-dozen years ago, in the most flagrant of filibustering. The "Flores expedition" was organized under the patronage of Queen Christina, during the administration of Isturiz, in 1846, who brought his entire influence to bear upon the successful accomplishment of the scheme. The Minister of War at that time, by similar collusion, granted general passports and leave of absence for one year to all the officers whom Flores had especially selected for their efficiency, to take part in the expedition. The sergeants, corporals, and picked privates, selected by Flores, were also granted discharges from the regular service, on condition of their enlistment in the expedition. The point of departure was the port of Santander, where the forces were concentrated to the extent of 2000 men, and afterwards joined by 100 more from Lisbon, under the command of Captain Yribarren, mostly consisting of escaped criminals of the very worst stamp, under sentence of death, and political refugees, all of whom, and the Dutch vessel transporting them, were allowed to enter the port, irrespective of all forms and customs, and in defiance of all those laws of entry always so strictly enforced.

Meanwhile, the Spanish portion of the expedition was waiting the arrival of the allied British detachment, consisting of 1000 Irish recruits to be commanded by English officers, and which were to be brought over to Santander in some transport ships, escorted by the armed steamers, *Monarch* and *Neptune*, all under the command of British officers, who, together with their immediate and ultimate destination, were well known to their Government.

Unfortunately for the grasping Christina, her intrigues in relation to the Montpensier marriage were disclosed to the English Court; which, wanting any better means of retaliation, resolved to take satisfaction

by embarrassing the interest of Christina, involved as they were in this expedition to the extent of a million or more of dollars. The expedition was accordingly discountenanced and dispersed; Christina receiving, as the reward of her ambitious schemes, the sorry compromise of the two old steamers mentioned, which were rebaptised under the cognomens of the *Cetro* and *Tri-dente*, and sent to Havana to be sold, under control of Don Juan Antonio Parejo, her agent.

I annex, in confirmation of these charges, translations of two handbills, with which the Peninsula was flooded at the era of the expedition. They were posted at Madrid, at Cadiz, and in all parts of the kingdom; and, it is needless to add, that their existence was well known to Government. The first is a general invitation to military emigrants:—

"Colonization of Ecuador."

"Don Joaquin Acevedo y Mansi, appointed Commissioner by his Excellency, Don Juan José Flores, President of the United Republics of Venezuela and Ecuador, hereby makes known to discharged soldiers of the army and Spanish emigrants, that if any such choose to pass as colonists to that country, although under the provisional character of soldiers, they can advise with Don Antonio F. Prado, resident at Lisbon, who will make known to them, as Chargé ad interim of the province, the proposals of bounty and especial guarantees that are offered to all enlisting in this expedition.

"For the guidance of those interested it is notified that admission will take place until the day of the present month, on presentation by each of his certificate of final discharge, or other document, proving the fact of his service in the army.

"JOAQUIN ACEVEDO Y MANSI,
Commissioner.

"Lisbon, Oct. 25, 1846."

The second of these papers bears a similar caption, and announces the terms of enlistment:—

"Conditions of Service."

"Don Joaquin Acevedo y Mansi, appointed Commissioner by his Excellency, Don Juan José Flores, President of the United Republics of Venezuela and Ecuador, finding himself at this Court, charged with the recruiting of troops of the class of Spanish emigrants residing at the military depot of exiles in this kingdom, hereby makes known to all interested who may wish to enlist in this expedition, that the proposals of bounty are as follows:—

"1st. Two hundred reals (2*l.*) bounty, paid in the manner following: Five dollars (1*l.*) the day prior to embarkation from the port of ; and the other five dollars the day before leaving the last-named point for the Republics, independent of the necessary provision for maintenance during the permanence in the province.

"2nd. One hundred and twenty reals (1*l.* 6*s.*) monthly allowance of pay during the period for which their service as soldiers may be considered necessary, which allowance shall take effect from the day of leaving port.

"3rd. On the day of expiration of service under arms, they will have ceded to them by the Republic twelve *yugadas* (about 120 acres of land), and four head of cattle for breed and labour—guaranteeing, and causing them to be guaranteed in all the privileges of good citizens, as fully as if natives of the country.

"4th. If any, after having completed the five years of military service, were not content to remain in the country, and preferred to go to the Peninsula, their country, the Government, in addition to meeting the expenses of their transportation, will authorise them, with full power, to dispose of all property of which they may have become possessed for means with which to establish themselves wherever most to their convenience.

"NOTE.—In case of leaving Lisbon direct for the Republic, the bounty will be distributed the day before sailing; also the uniforms, and three reals (9*d.*) per day for maintenance, all under the supervision of Captain Don Manuel Echavarría y Yribarren, of the Princesa Regiment, residing at No. 7, Condesa-street.

"JOAQUIN ACEVEDO Y MANSI,
Principal Commissioner of the Republic.

"Lisbon, Oct. 25, 1846."

N. Y. D. F.

GIVE A DOG A BAD NAME.—There is, indeed, one particular in the Lancasterian controversy which may kindle a feeling of pride in the present generation. We have learned to call names better. When Archdeacon Daubeny proclaimed a man who insisted on the reading of the Bible an infidel and a deist, he might with a very mild expenditure of logic have been turned round on his own words, and convicted of a *contradictio in adjecto*. But the word "deist," used forty years ago, would now have for its substitute the word "godless," which is far more suitable for its purpose. "Godless" has both a negative and a positive signification, and the artful writer can easily use it in one sense, so as to satisfy (or cheat) his own conscience, while he intends that his readers shall swallow it in the other. An academy that teaches writing and ciphering, without regard to any other branches of learning, moral or intellectual, may in a certain sense be called "godless," just as a tavern-bill may be called "godless," because, in addition to its various items, it does not contain a form for grace before or after meat. Precisely in this sense, which conveys no reprehension whatever, may a secular system be called "godless;" and the sectarian demagogue who employs the word is, to a certain extent, correct.—*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*.

It will be very acceptable news to our readers to learn that the illustrations of THACKERAY'S new serial, *The Newcomes*, which we may expect in October, are to be furnished by the fancy, grace, and humour of RICHARD DOYLE, who, since his withdrawal from *Punch*, has been somewhat sparing of his public appearances. We hear that four numbers of the new work are finished in advance. Indeed it has always seemed a great pity that serial writers do not finish the whole before they commence publication—a plan which would not prevent periodical changes and additions.

Is the age of quarterlies reviving? For some time it seemed as if only the old *Quarterly* and *Edinburgh* could find a public, and even their influence was greatly diminished; but, of late years, there has been a revival, and we have seen five new first-rate reviews establish themselves—the *British Quarterly*, the *North British*, the *Westminster*, (we must call the present *Westminster* a revival,) the *Dublin Review* and the *Irish Quarterly*; to these we have now to add the first number of a new rival, *The London Quarterly*.

It is really for the benefit of literature that such works should exist. They are vehicles for grave thoughts and important essays, which would otherwise hardly find a public; and they prevent many books being written. The very miscellaneousness of their composition enables them, by appealing to many tastes, to secure publicity for articles addressing only a small class. We are led to lay greater stress on this from observing, with regret, that the valuable periodical, *Scientific Memoirs*, translated from the foreign journals, is forced to be relinquished, because all England cannot furnish a public large enough to pay the expenses of printing. What a disgrace to our pretended men of science! There are thousands who call themselves men of science, who flock, like sheep, (very like sheep,) to British Associations and royal societies, yet they cannot, among them, find a small body of men willing to pay three shillings a quarter, for a work containing papers of the very highest importance! Since that is the case we suggest to editors of reviews the propriety of, in some measure, supplying the place of these *Scientific Memoirs*. If each number contained one such article it would be all the richer.

To our new candidate, however. The *London Quarterly* presents no outward distinguishing feature; it is like a good specimen of any quarterly review, with this internal difference,—viz., being the accredited organ of the philosophic Wesleyans, it holds the position with respect to Methodism, that the *British Quarterly* holds with respect to Dissent, and the *North British* to the Free Kirk. It is well edited; the articles are varied and able. The all-engrossing subject of Turkey is treated of, in the opening article, instructively and philosophically. This is followed by an article on *Wesley and his Critics*, peculiarly addressed, of course, to the supporters of the Review, but interesting to all readers. We may borrow from it an amusing passage of parallel. Speaking of the probable relationship of Wellington and Wesley, the writer adds:—

"In the character and career of the Founder of Methodism we find much that is characteristic also of the late famous defender of Europe. For strict habits and great hardihood they were both remarkable. Each rose early, employed every waking moment to the best advantage, and retired at an unvarying hour to rest. John Wesley, it is said, had sleep at his command; and on his long journeys of apostolic labour, when it happened that he could neither read nor write (as frequently he did on horseback or in a carriage), one thing he could do: he would shut his eyes, and take needful rest in sleep. Of Wellington we believe the same thing may be said: he, too, could sleep in the saddle: the habitual vigilance of his nature enabled him to choose a moment of repose, and the admirable temper of his spirit permitted it to rest at his volition. Again: in the practical stamp of their minds, and especially in the laconic style of their writings, the resemblance between these men is very striking. The Despatches of Wellington and the Journals of Wesley might have been dictated by the same person, if the style and temper of the writer only be considered. Their letters, too, are strongly marked in a very similar manner: they have brevity without obscurity, and force without vehemence, and particularly without trifling. Duty, according to the standard which he recognised, was the law of each: inflexibility the temper, and common sense the active servant, of its performance. Even the features of these personages had no small resemblance to each other; and we see a further coincidence in the health and length of days with which both they were honoured. Circumstances allowing, and spiritual convictions absent, we can imagine Wesley undertaking and sustaining the part of Wellington almost without the slightest diversity."

We are considerably fatigued with articles on *Ireland*, and have not read the one here devoted to it; but the next one, that on *Cryptogamic Vegetation*, we advise no reader to skip. It is clear and popular in the exposition of a very curious part of botany. We will quote what is said of a very familiar fungus:—

"In forming our notion of a Mushroom, we must not confine our ideas to those esculent species which have such charms for the modern epicure. The eatable Mushroom is, in fact, only the fruit-bearing portion of the plant, not the plant itself; any more than a bunch of Filberts is the Nut-tree, or of Grapes, the Vine. In the majority of cases, the real Fungus is a '*Mycelium*,' an assemblage of minute jointed filaments which ramify under the ground, push their way through the interstices of decaying wood, or fatten upon the decomposition of all kinds of organized bodies. The knowledge of this circumstance explains many facts con-

nected with their history. Thus the fairy circles seen on our grassy pastures, once thought to be owing to the dances of—

'Demy-puppets that
By moonshine do the green-sour ringlets make,'

have long been suspected to be occasioned by Mushrooms, which plants were often found growing on the darkened ring. It was supposed that they commenced at a central point, and, extending themselves in every direction, exhausted the soil of ingredients necessary for their nutrition: hence they ceased to exist at the centre, and confined themselves to the periphery of the ever-enlarging area.

"But the objection was made to this ingenious hypothesis, that the Mushrooms existed in too small numbers, and too far apart, to have formed the unbroken fairy-ring. The discovery that the true *Fungus* was a subterranean *Mycelium* did away with all doubt upon the subject; so that, substituting *Mycelium* for 'Mushroom,' the above explanation becomes a correct one. The subterranean fibres interlace in such numbers, as to form an unbroken ring; but it is only here and there that they send up to the surface the reproductive structure to which the name of 'Mushroom' is popularly applied, and which had attracted the attention of early observers.

* * * * *

"To this group of plants belong the curious lines of red and white excrescences, which, in wet weather, grow out of old posts and rails; all the varieties of mould which spoil the good housewife's preserves, and at whose door have been laid those formidable pests to society,—the potato disease, and the dry rot. It would appear, that in the latter cases, after finding a suitable soil for germination, where some weakness indicates incipient decay, the plants become changed from effects to causes, and rapidly promote the destruction which they did not always originate."

A paper on the now exploded *Spirit Rappings and Table Movings* follows, and is succeeded by an admirable one on *Modern and Medieval Hygiène*. In ancient civilizations Hygiène was regarded as one of the important things Government had to look to:—

"Purity of persons and things is the great aim of hygiène; purity of persons and things was an essential requisite in the religions of the East. Amongst the Greeks, great sanitary reformers received divine honours. The hundred-headed hydra, which Hercules slew, was a pestilential marsh; the fable of the Augean stable, that he cleansed by flushing, indicates the nature of the work he did. The sites of Etruscan cities, whose foundation is lost in remote antiquity, still exhibit gigantic works of sewerage and drainage. During the culminating point of Roman civilization, public baths were numerous in all the towns and cities of the Empire, and were accessible at a very low charge,—less than a farthing. In connexion with these baths, there were temples, academies, and gymnasia, or places for athletic exercises; so fully were the means of hygienic art supplied to the people. With the fall of the Roman Empire, hygiène declined with the other arts and sciences, and the populous cities of Europe became in consequence the prey of frequently recurring pestilence. There was no system of sewerage, or drainage; the streets were unpaved, and uncleansed, and so narrow, that ventilation was almost impossible. The houses were also constructed with little regard to health, and the domestic arrangements were of a very imperfect character. Population continually increased, especially within the fortified cities, where life and property were safest, and where the arts, commerce, and manufactures flourished. But the same circumstances which protected life from violence, endangered it. The ever-increasing crowds, cooped up in a narrow space, added to the danger of epidemical outbreaks in a geometrically increasing ratio, until at last the 'visitation' came, and swept away a fourth, a third, nay, not unfrequently a half, of the population."

After sketching the great visitations, the writer adds:—

"But, although the great cosmic causes are now the same as then (inasmuch as these are beyond the reach of man), and although epidemical fevers have been, therefore, more than usually prevalent, and deaths more frequent, yet the removable causes being incalculably less intense, the mortality is proportionately smaller. Herein is fully shown what an improved system of hygiène has done for modern society. The Cholera of 1848-49 slew 53,293 men, women, and children, in the whole of England; if it had been as fatal as 'the Black Death,' at least 4,000,000 would have perished! That pestilence destroyed in the then London, with its limited population, not fewer than 100,000; in Norwich, 51,100. In the whole of Europe, twenty-five millions died of it, or about one-fourth of the population."

The history is appalling. The writer then asks:—

"To what circumstances is due the immunity from 'great plagues' and 'visitations' experienced by the United Kingdom during the last two centuries? They are very various. In the first place, medical science has been much extended and popularized. An intelligent layman of the nineteenth century is far better acquainted with the practice of medicine, and the *materia medica*, than was the most learned physician of the fifteenth. This knowledge has had an imperceptible but most powerful influence on the health of the people, by bringing the daily minute circumstances of life under the control of an unexpressed but all-pervading hygiène. Secondly. The contagious and infectious class of fevers are better understood, and, therefore, treated much more successfully; while, as to one of them, the small-pox, an efficient means of prevention has been discovered in the practice of vaccination. Thirdly. It is of essential importance that fresh vegetables should constitute a part of the diet of man; cereals alone, however abundant, are not sufficient for health; and when used unmixed with fresh vegetable food, there arises a condition of the system very similar to that of sea-scurvy, if not identical with it; a condition which strongly pre-disposes the individual to suffer from all kinds of fevers. In the general use of the potato, the people of modern times possess an incalculable advantage over their ancestors in protection from epidemical diseases. Perhaps no circumstance was so generally unknown to the public during the months succeeding to the destruction of the potato-crop, as the relation between an imperfect supply of that fresh vegetable, and the greatly-increased mortality from typhus, noted at that time. Fourthly. The development of the textile manufactures, especially of linen and cotton, has placed the means of personal cleanliness within the reach of classes to which they were previously unattainable; while the more equal diffusion of wealth, consequent upon the rapid extension of trade and commerce, has led to the construction of better dwellings for the people."

We may here protest against the practice of dragging in theology whenever subjects are treated in theological reviews; this article, otherwise so admirable, presents a ludicrous specimen of it. We do not, by our censure,

wish to imply that the writer does not mean what he says, we only censure the bad taste which does not see how inappropriate are Christianity and sewage. It is not enough that Hygiène should be recommended, forcibly, on its own merits, but we must be told that the Gospel depends on it for its realization! Let us beg the editor of the *London Quarterly* (and, indeed, of all other quarterlies) to consider whether it would not be better to keep theology to its special articles, and not allow it to be thrown in as a condiment to science. The next article is a long and vicious one on *Secularism*—vicious, we mean, from its abiding and irritable unfairness, its thoroughly unchristian and sophisticate spirit; it is an article meant for temporary triumph, but which will be read with pain by all impartial persons. The three concluding articles are *Public Education*, *Ultramontanism*, and *India under the English*. Thus, it will be seen, the contents of this new Review are varied, and promise a new and important accession to our periodical literature.

In looking over the magazines left unnoticed last week, we find little demanding special comment. Our old and agreeable friend *Fraser* is not so sprightly and amusing this month, though there is a tragedy, in one act, on the subject of DANTE'S *Madonna Pia*, well worth reading. DANTE, with his usual energetic concision, makes the unhappy *Madonna Pia* say:

"Sienna me fece, disfece la Maremma,"

and, out of this and the two following lines, the Marquis de Belloy made a tragedy, in one act, which, after a successful performance at the Theatre Français, was suddenly and without intelligible reason, prohibited. It has been freely and finely rendered by the English adapter. In the *Dublin University Magazine* there is an interesting paper on *The Flowers of the Affections*, and one on *Popular Geology*. The curious series on *Irish Rivers* is continued—this month devoted to the Suir.

HISTORY OF THE CHINESE REBELLION.

L'Insurrection en Chine; depuis son origine jusqu'à la prise de Nankin. Par MM. Callery et Yvan. London: W. Jeffs.

History of the Insurrection in China; with notices of the Christianity, Creed, and Proclamations of the Insurgents. By MM. Callery and Yvan. Translated from the French; with a supplementary Chapter, narrating the most recent Events. By John Oxenford. Smith, Elder, and Co.

AN insurrection which has for three years been steadily advancing towards its goal—the destruction of a reigning dynasty,—cannot be without interest even to the idle "general reader;" and when this insurrection is nothing less than a revolutionizing of the Chinese Empire, the overthrow of the Manchou dynasty, the destruction of Buddhist and other idolatries, and the enthronement of Christianity, there is something more than an interest for the general reader—something more than a topic for politicians. Such an insurrection is chronicled in the work before us. The work is written by Dr. Yvan, whose former work on China (*Voyages et Récits*) was noticed by us on its appearance, and by M. Callery, interpreter to the French Embassy. Although undisguisedly in favour of the revolutionary party, the statements are confirmed by documents printed in our Parliamentary papers. It is an animated, picturesque, amusing story. It has been very well translated by Mr. Oxenford, who has added several brief explanatory notes, and two supplementary chapters, bringing the narrative down to the 7th of July last; and, in spite of the want of European interest in Chinese affairs, no one will begin this book, and leave it unread.

We select a few of the passages marked for extract:—

HOW THEY MADE AN EMPEROR.

"The second Emperor of the dynasty of Tsin, Tsin-che-houang, being already old and infirm, sent his son Fou-sou, the heir to the throne, into the north of China, to superintend the defensive works, which three hundred thousand men were constructing on the Tartarian frontier. He gave the young prince for his guide and guardian the celebrated Mong-tien, an experienced general, and the most illustrious warrior of his time. While the imperial prince and his three hundred thousand men were working at that great wall of China, which travellers have so much lengthened in their narratives, the old Emperor Tsin-che-houang took it into his head to perform a pilgrimage into the southern provinces, to visit the tombs of his predecessors Chuen and Yu. The latter is the Deucalion of Chinese mythology, and his memory is held in high veneration.

"Tsin-che-houang performed this long journey, accompanied by his second son, Hou-hai, and Tcha-kao, chief of the eunuchs. The old Emperor could not support the fatigues of the journey. He fell ill at a great distance from his capital, and feeling the approach of death, wrote to his eldest son to quit the frontier, and proceed with all haste to the capital of the empire, there to receive the news of his decease, and to celebrate his funeral when his body should be brought thither by his faithful servants. The chief of the eunuchs, whose office it was to place the imperial seal on this despatch and send it to the crown-prince of the empire, fabricated another despatch, and boldly substituted it for that of the dying emperor. In this document, which had all the marks of authenticity, Tsin-che-houang ordered the prince his son, and the illustrious warrior who accompanied him, to kill themselves, by way of expiating their transgressions.

"On the day after the perpetration of this fraud, the Emperor died. The infamous Tcha-kao then persuaded the second son to take possession of the throne; but to effect this usurpation, it was necessary to conceal the death of the Emperor for a certain time, in order that the high functionaries, and the young princes, who had remained in the capital, might not of their own accord proclaim the heir, already appointed by the deceased monarch.

"The eunuch therefore contrived this stratagem. The body, wrapped in sumptuous raiment, and in the same attitude as during life, was placed in a litter surrounded by a light trellis-work, and concealed by silken curtains. A few initiated persons could alone approach it, and the eunuch proclaimed throughout the route that the Emperor, wishing to hasten his return, would travel day and night without alighting from his litter. At meal times, the procession stopped for a moment to take in the food, which was consumed by a man placed in a litter by the side of the corpse; but even the most curious eye could not detect anything behind the thick silken curtains.

"Unfortunately this took place during the most intense heat of summer, and the corpse soon began to send forth a most intolerable stench, which would have revealed the terrible truth, had not the eunuch contrived a new expedient. He sent in advance of the procession an ante-dated edict, professedly issued by the Emperor, which declared that the said Emperor, for the interest of commerce, allowed the carts of vendors of oysters to take the same route as his cortège. Formerly this had been severely prohibited on account of the offensive nature of the wares. The oysters, which in Chinese are called pao-yu, are the enormous shell fish to which naturalists give the name of *spondyles*, and were then, as now, largely consumed by the people.

"The oyster-dealers took advantage of the permission which was granted them; and consequently cart-loads of *spondyles* preceded and followed the imperial procession, sending forth effluvia which defied the most sensitive nose to detect the putrid exhalations of the corpse among the alkaline exhalations which surrounded it. In this manner the imperial litter reached the capital amid the sound of gongs and the acclamations of the multitude.

"Prince Hou-hai and the eunuch took their measures at once. Having gained over the high functionaries and the soldiers, they announced the death of Tsin-che-houang, and proclaimed the new Emperor. While all this was going on at Ping-yuèn, Fou-sou and Mong-tien received with astonishment the imperial edict which commanded them to kill themselves. The old general observed to his pupil that it was contrary to the rules of sound policy to order generals who commanded 300,000 men to die by their own hands, without providing successors, and he was therefore of opinion that the imperial edict was a forgery. However, Fou-sou made the heroic reply that filial piety required him to obey, without examination or discussion, an order bearing his father's seal, and stabbed himself without hesitation.

"The accession of Hièn-foung was not attended by such disastrous circumstances, though his father had not appointed him in the express terms to which the Chinese, who are formalists by nature, attach great importance. He mounted the throne without opposition, and if we have related the catastrophe of Prince Fou-sou, it is only for the purpose of showing the reader how easily the most audacious crimes may be perpetrated in a country where an almost invisible sovereign is surrounded by persons who, at any given moment, can conspire together to violate without a struggle the law of succession to the throne. The new Emperor, according to custom, abandoned the name he had hitherto borne, and took that of Hièn-foung, which signifies 'Complete Abundance.'

This Hièn-foung is the present reigning Emperor, the antagonist of Tièn-tè, the Pretender. Their portraits are thus sketched:—

"Strange to say, the chief competitors in this great struggle are two young men scarcely out of their boyhood. The Emperor Hièn-foung is only twenty-two years of age. He is of a middle height, and his form indicates great aptitude for bodily exercises. He is slender and muscular. His face, which indicates a certain degree of resolution, is chiefly characterized by a very high forehead, and by an almost defective obliquity of the eyes. His cheek bones are very prominent, and strongly marked. The space between the eyes is large and flat, like the forehead of a buffalo. Hièn-foung is of a stubborn and credulous disposition. In the midst of the most effeminate luxury he affects severity of morals, and, notwithstanding his youth, he is already married. The Empress is a Tartar princess, with large feet, totally devoid of that delicacy and fragile gracefulness which belong to the small-footed Chinese women. The Emperor loves to see her perform the violent exercises which are the delight of the women of her nation, and she often gallops about with him in the extensive gardens of the palace.

"Tièn-tè, the chief of the insurrection, is not above twenty-three years of age; but study and want of rest have made him prematurely old. He is grave and melancholy, leads a very retired life, and only communicates with those about him when he gives his orders. His face is expressive of mildness, but it is a mildness peculiar to certain ascetics, and which neither excludes firmness nor that obstinacy belonging to persons of strong religious convictions. His complexion, which borders on the colour of saffron, is that of the Chinese of the southern provinces. In stature he is taller than Hièn-foung; but he appears less robust. Both of them have been influenced by their education; and their moral are indicated by their physical qualities. The young Emperor, easy in his movements, and with firmness in his glance, has an aspect of haughty command, and requires blind obedience. Tièn-tè, on the other hand, has a fixed gaze, which seems to penetrate into the depths of the human soul, and to unmask all its designs. He commands rather by suggestions than by directly giving orders. In a word, he has the taciturn reserve of a man who has long reflected before he has made any one the confidant of his projects."

Tièn-tè was accompanied by a mysterious councillor, who, from Mr. Oxenford's supplementary chapter, there is reason to believe, was the prime mover of the scheme, and is now the actual chief—the pretender being dead. There is, however, great difficulty in knowing any facts of the case. Whether under Tièn-tè, or another, the revolutionary army has gradually increased, passing from victory to victory, subduing province after province; and has, at the present date, captured Nankin and Amoy. Success is certain. The Tartar dynasty must be looked upon as lost.

Two more extracts will suffice to show the variety of the contents:—

ROBBING A MANDARIN.

"He came on his way to a deep and rapid stream, which could only be crossed by a swinging bridge of bamboos. Part of the escort had already crossed to the opposite bank; Siu stopped his chair, and ordered the coolies to proceed slowly and cautiously. They obeyed, but had no sooner reached the middle of the bridge, than a sudden shock precipitated them and their burdens into the stream, and a moment of terrible disorder ensued. The military chest was at the bottom of the river, and the unfortunate coolies were struggling against the current, uttering lamentable cries; while Siu, enraged, beat the edge of his chair with his fan. Fortunately the coolies swam like fishes, and easily gained the bank. The Viceroy would willingly have given them the bastinado, but he reserved this luxury for another time, and ordered the luckless wretches, who were still panting and trembling, to fish up the precious chest without delay, threatening them with the most terrible chastisement if they did not recover it.

"The coolies threw off their clothes, and courageously plunged into the water. They were skilful divers, and having duly explored the bottom of the river, they succeeded, after many efforts, in bringing ashore the precious chest, which, though wet and covered with mud, had received no damage. Siu lost no time in having it placed on the shoulders of two other coolies, and gave orders to renew the journey. Some days afterwards, when he had reached Chao-King, one of his first cares was

to have the chest opened in his presence; when, in the place of his ingots of gold, he found nothing but flints and pieces of stone wrapped carefully up in silky paper. The coolies were audacious thieves, who had dexterously contrived the substitution. The Viceroy, in a transport of rage, set all the police on the alert, but without avail. The thieves had doubtless taken refuge in the country of the rebels, where both their persons and their booty were in safety."

Here is one for the advocates of capital punishment:—

A CHINESE EXECUTION.

"On the 1st of May," he writes, "I attended an execution with three of my friends. The street in which these frightful scenes occur, is situated, as you are aware, without the walled city of Canton, towards that part of the suburbs which lies to the south along the river. This narrow, dirty street, which is about 100 metres long and 15 wide, is called by the Europeans, the 'Potter's Field.' All the houses on each side are in fact inhabited by workmen who make common services of porcelain, and those portable furnaces which you have often seen in the poorest houses, and in the floating residences on the river. For fear that a Chinese scholar like you may dispute names with me, I must tell you at once that this dismal place is called by the natives, Tsièn-Tze-Ma-Teou, or, the 'Quay of the Thousand Characters,' in allusion to the numerous signs which are seen there from the river."

"We arrived there at ten o'clock in the morning, and took our station in front of a shop belonging to a mender of old stockings. This was an excellent position to take a survey of the whole ceremony, and we remained there quietly till noon; at which time some soldiers and officers attached to the service of the mandarins arrived, to clear the street and thrust back the curious. As in Europe, the persons who came to see the spectacle were the vilest dregs of the populace,—dirty, ragged people, with sinister countenances, who wandered about this ensanguined soil; where most likely they had already seen the execution of a number of their companions, and perhaps of their accomplices."

"In a short time the roll of the tam-tam announced to us the arrival of the whole procession. Mandarins of every degree, with the red, white, blue, or yellow ball, riding on horseback, or carried in palanquins, and followed by an escort of musicians, sbirri, and standard-bearers, alighted at a short distance from the place of execution. Contrary to their ceremonious habits, they arranged themselves in the dismal enclosure."

"Then arrived the criminals. They were fifty-three in number, each shut up in a basket, with his hands tied behind his back, his legs chained, and a board inscribed with his sentence hanging from his neck. You have often met in the Chinese streets a pair of coolies carrying a pig stretched out at its full length in a bamboo case. Well, just imagine a human being put in the place of the unclean animal, and you can form an idea of the fifty-three unfortunate creatures in their cages. When the cages were set down, they were opened and emptied, just as when a pig is turned out at a butcher's shop. I examined these unfortunate wretches with attention: they were worn out with hunger, and looked more like skeletons than living beings. It was evident that they had suffered the most dreadful privations. They were clothed in loathsome tatters, wore long hair, and the dishevelled tail attached to the crown of the head, had been reduced to a third of its usual length. They had evidently belonged to the insurgent bands, who had adopted the fashion of the Mings, and allowed all their hair to grow."

"Many of these unfortunate persons were very young: some were not sixteen years of age; while others had gray hair. Scarcely were they thrown on the ground pell-mell, when they were compelled to kneel; but the greater part of them were so debilitated from suffering, that they could not keep in this position, and rolled in the mud. An executioner's assistant then picked them up, and arranged them all in a row; while three executioners placed themselves behind them and waited the fatal moment. You, doubtless, recollect those horrible figures whom we have often seen together in the cortège of the criminal judge of Canton—those figures dressed in a red blouse, and wearing a copper crown, adorned above the ears with two long pheasant's feathers. Well! these were the executioners who now waited the signal with a rude and heavy cutlass in their hands. "These enormous weapons are about two feet long, and the back of the blade is two inches thick: altogether it is a cumbrous instrument, shaped like a Chinese razor, with a rude handle of wood."

"A mandarin who closed the cortège then entered the enclosure. He was adorned with the white ball, and held in his hand a board, inscribed with the order for execution. As soon as this man appeared the frightful work began. The executioner's assistants, each clothed in a long black robe, and wearing a sort of head-dress of iron wicker-work, seized the criminals behind, and passing their arms under the shoulders of their victims, gave them a swinging movement, which made them stretch out their necks. The executioner, who was now in front, holding his sword in both hands, threw all his strength into the weapon, and divided the cervical vertebrae with incredible rapidity, severing the head from the body at a single blow. The executioner never had to strike twice; for even if the flesh was not completely cut through, the weight was sufficient to tear it, and the head rolled on the ground. An assistant then levelled the victim with a kick, for the corpse would otherwise have remained in a kneeling position. After three or four decapitations, the executioner changed his weapon; the edge of the blade seeming completely turned. The execution of these fifty-three wretches only lasted some minutes."

"When the last head had fallen, the mandarins retired from the scene as silent as they had come. Seeing the highest provincial officers present at the execution of these unfortunate men, I was struck with the reflection that in all countries—horrible to say—the political scaffold has been elevated instead of degraded. After the departure of the mandarins, the executioner picked up all the heads, and threw them into a chest brought for the purpose. At the same time the assistants took the chains off the victims as they lay in a pool of blood. The heads were carried away, but the bodies were left on the place of execution."

"A lamentable scene then commenced. A troop of women with dishevelled hair approached the fatal spot, shrieking aloud, in wild disorder. These unhappy beings were endeavouring to distinguish their fathers, their husbands, and their children, among the headless corpses. It was a frightful scene to see them hurrying about, pondering, and constantly mistaken amidst these headless remains. This search continued all day, accompanied by a mournful noise; funeral dirges being mingled with cries and sobs. The women never ceased repeating that kind of chant common to all funeral ceremonies, and which was composed, it is said, in the time of the Mings. It is a sort of rhythmical plaint, in which the same words constantly recur. 'Oh, misery! Oh, despair! My happiness is gone for ever! Your kindness will no longer soften the bitterness of life! Alone and bereaved of all, I can only weep and die over your ashes!' and so on."

UNNOTICED ERRORS OF THE "VESTIGES."

Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation. Tenth Edition.

Churchill.

[FOURTH ARTICLE.]

THE *Vestiges* has been attacked frequently enough; both its facts and its conclusions have roused polemic ardour. Where these attacks have had some reason, the author has admitted them, and either modified or defended his positions. We are about to break new ground, and to point out what appear to us errors far more serious than a mis-stated fact, or a misapplied illustration. We hope to do so with the courtesy of sincere respect; with the vigour of admiring antagonism, which will not let us mince phrases.

The primary error—*πρωτον ψευδος*—of the Hypothesis set forth in the *Vestiges*, as our readers will have perceived from previous remarks, is the quiet assumption of Nature's growth and development being a pre-ordained "Plan."

This is an assumption. It is a metaphysical assumption, and as such unwarrantable in a work which professes to explain all things by "Natural Law." It is an assumption contradicted at every step, both by metaphysics and by fact.

It is an assumption, for what can the author know of Providence and "pre-ordained designs" which can induce him to say, for example, that the "*Acarus Crossii* was a type of being ordained from the beginning, and destined to be realized under certain physical conditions?" Unless he have some revelation to assure him, he can have no authority for such a statement. All that observed facts and deduced inferences, permit us to say, (admitting, which we do not, the experiment of Mr. Crosse to be decisive,) is that the *Acarus* is formed under certain conditions—but not a word of pre-ordained type! The same tacit assumption of a knowledge of the "ways of Providence" is noticeable in this sentence:—

"Amongst the arrangements of Providence is one for the production of original, inventive, and aspiring minds, which, when circumstances are not decidedly unfavourable, strike out new ideas for the benefit of their fellow-creatures, or put upon them a lasting impress of their own superior sentiments."

The theologian may say so with perfect consistency, for he claims to know the ways of Providence (in spite of their declared inscrutability), but the philosopher who takes his stand on Science and Natural Law must not be allowed such language.

Having assumed that this universe does not live its own life, but lives a life "planned" for it—every change being "pre-ordained," every movement "forethought"—the author passes on to the assumption that this Plan is realized in a long, slow process of "gestation;" that just as the microscopic cell which is subsequently to be developed into an animal, passes through various successive forms, all determined by Natural Law, so does this universe advance through the stages of its gestation, the final stage being "contained" in the primal stage, pre-existent, pre-ordained, requiring only time for development.

"The proposition determined on after much consideration is, that the several series of animated beings, from the simplest and oldest up to the highest and most recent, are, under the providence of God, the results, first, of an impulse which has been imparted to the forms of life, advancing them, in definite times, by generation, through grades of organization terminating in the highest dicotyledons and vertebrata, these grades being few in number, and generally marked by intervals of organic character which we find to be a practical difficulty in ascertaining affinities; second, of another impulse connected with the vital forces, tending in the course of generations, to modify organic structures in accordance with external circumstances, as food, the nature of the habitat and the meteoric agencies, these being the 'adaptations' of the natural theologian. We may contemplate these phenomena as ordained to take place in every situation, and at every time, where and when the requisite materials and conditions are presented—in other words as well as in this—in any geographical area of this globe which may at any time arise—observing only the variations due to difference of materials and of conditions."

Elsewhere:—

"Two principles are thus seen at work in the production of the organic tenants of the earth—first, a gestative development pressing on through the grades of organization, and bringing out particular organs necessary for new fields of existence; secondly, a variative power connected with the will and dispositions in animals, re-acted upon by external conditions, and working to minor effects, though these may sometimes be hardly distinguishable from the other. Everywhere along the central scale of organization, the land has been, as it were, a temptation or provocation to new and superior forms adapted for inhabiting it. We might almost regard the progression as the result of an aspiration towards new and superior fields of existence, as from the deep sea to the shallow or river embouchure, from the shore to the bank, from that again to the higher ground in the interior."

Now, this appears to us as metaphysical an assumption as any of those final causes of which metaphysicians are so prodigal. It is moreover singularly unfortunate in an author who admits the modern embryological doctrine of Epigenesis, and rejects the old doctrine of Evolution. It is also singularly inappropriate to the task of explaining phenomena, and leads him into strange errors when he attempts that task; indeed, we find it difficult to convey an idea of the impression made on us by one sentence in his book,—that, namely, where he speaks of "rudimentary organs being harmless peculiarities of development and interesting evidences of the manner in which the Divine Author has been pleased to work." Such a sentence from one who had studied embryology would be startling, but from one who holds the development hypothesis it is inconceivable.

Connected with this metaphysical aberration—forming, indeed, an integral part of the author's hypothesis—is another on Time, so frequently adduced as a positive element in development. Without having recourse to any Kantian negation of Time as an objective existence, it will be easy to show that Time being an universal condition, cannot become special—in plainer language, that Time can have nothing whatever to do in this hypothesis. When we say it requires time for falling water to wear away a stone, we do not make Time an element in the effect of friction;

let the drops be doubled in weight, and the required time will be diminished by one half; let them be quadrupled, and the effect will be produced in one quarter of the time. Time here is only one standard of the conditions, as it is in the nine-months' gestation of a human embryo.

It is manifestly absurd to suppose that, all other things remaining the same, Time could ever effect a change; unless the conditions changed, the result would not change, even if millions of years were to roll over them; and if in the course of time a change takes place in the conditions, no one supposes that change to be owing to Time. Thus, a grain of wheat placed in certain specific conditions will grow into a plant in a specific time; but the grains which were found in the pyramids would not there have developed into plants, had millions instead of hundreds of years passed over them.

But the author of the *Vestiges*, consciously or unconsciously, makes Time itself a special condition, and one of the highest importance—one that can be independent of all external circumstance. "Time and a succession of forms in gradation and affinity, become elements in the idea of organic creation." (P. 146.) As if this were not enough, he says elsewhere:—

"It is now to be remarked that what has been ascertained of the actual history of organic beings upon earth, is in no respect out of harmony with this idea of their creation after the manner of law. We have seen that these did not come at once, as they might have been expected to do if produced by some special act, or even some special interposition of will, on the part of the Deity. They came in a long-extending succession, in an order, as would appear, of progressive organization; grade following grade, till, from a humble starting-point in both kingdoms, the highest forms were realized. Time, we see, was an element in the evolution of Being, as it is in the reproduction of an individual at the present day. At the beginning of geological investigation, it was thought that some immediate external conditions ruled the appearance of particular classes of animals at particular times: as that the absence of dry land was the cause of the late commencement of terrestrial animals; that there being for a long time only reptilian land vertebrata, was owing to an overcharge of the atmosphere with carbonic acid—the store from which came the chief material of the abundant vegetation of the carboniferous age; and so forth. But it is now seen that the progress of the animal world was, in its main features, independent of such circumstances. There was dry land for many ages before there were any land animals. The sea abounded in invertebrate animals, while as yet fish did not exist, though the conditions required for the existence of both are the same. Theoolitic continents, where only reptiles roamed, could have equally supported mammalia, for which the atmosphere was then fully fitted, even upon the admission of the carbonic acid hypothesis, as the coal was by that time formed; yet mammalia came not. It was supposed at the dawn of true geology, that fresh creations of animals were connected with great physical revolutions of the surface; as if, at particular times, all had perished in storms of volcanic violence, and been replaced with a wholly new fauna. This idea is likewise passing away. It is now seen that changes in specific forms took place quietly in the course of time, while no volcanic disturbances are traceable. In short, it is always becoming more and more manifest that organic progress—both the specific changes in classes formerly existing, and the accession of new and higher classes—depended, not by any means wholly or immediately upon external circumstances, but in great part upon time. All this looks very unlike either special working or special willing on the part of the Creator, but, on the contrary, very like the simply natural procedure of things in the world of our own day."

This is an astounding passage. Observe how utterly he rejects the Lamarckian argument of "external circumstances," and how he makes development "independent of them," and owing mainly to Time. Moreover, he displays inaccuracy in his conception of conditions, when he uses as an argument that there was land before animals, and sea before fish; and this inaccuracy is brought into stronger relief by his palpable contradiction to this notion at p. 121, "Where there is light there will be eyes;" an assertion which Sedgwick justly ridiculed.

It would seem that the author has been led to this aberration respecting Time by the millions of years taken by the gestation of our universe. But to carry out this notion consistently, he must assume a *gestation of conditions* as well as of life; as, however, he admits deviations from the line of development, and in one place says, "It has its ebbs as well as its flows, though the general movement is to be contemplated as onwards," these admissions would settle him in a dilemma with an antagonist, who should say, "Then are these ebbs and flows parts of a pre-ordained scheme, or are they external limitations to the organic impulse? and if so, whence do they come?" He would thus be reduced to admit, 1st, that God has intentionally planned temporary hindrances to his plans, or, 2nd, that there is, external to his power, a temporarily invincible limitation.

The errors we have pointed out are fundamental, and permeate the book. They originate, we believe, in the author's having neglected to study Embryology, and sought succour from treacherous Metaphysics. If the reader's patience be not exhausted, we will ask him in some future paper to consider a few physiological errors resulting from the same cause.

Portfolio.

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

LETTERS OF A VAGABOND.

XVI.*

Seven Hills, April 13th, 1852.

NOW much more simple are events than the vain perplexities which we create for ourselves in our own imaginations when we depart from the straight and natural path. Neither you, my beautiful Helen, nor you, degnosissimo mio Giorgio, will suspect in these my words, uttered without study of utterance, but only with study

* See *Leader*, Nov. 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 136, 139, 141, 149, 154, 157.

of thought, that I wish, with the miserable Rousseau, to return to a "state of nature;" or think that I find the model for society in the Huron any more than the Bosjeman. Cultivated man is better than rude man; the more since rude man, if so he can be called, usually bears traces of degeneracy. Take your man with all his faculties cultivated—not the degenerate savage of the prairie, with slow brain and limited thought, any more than the savage of the study, with soft muscles and stunted senses; but a man whose perfect growth is attested in his form, his eloquence, his affections—his strength, his self-utterance, his influence—and trace in his healthy instincts the laws which human nature must and does obey. For disobedience to natural laws results so far in obliteration of human life; and human life exists, therefore, so far, and so far only, as it obeys. False laws, begetting mortification—present mortification—are all that we know of annihilation; since that which is they cause *not to be* for him that tries to follow those false laws.

But I preach to you who know so much better than I. I strive to stammer out with words those truths that you have already; for to your unperturbed sense natural truths are self-apparent. When our dear, because all beautiful, Helen looks out upon a truth, she sees it, and it rises into the light of her countenance to be a truth darting straight into the hearts of those that behold her. We puzzle ourselves to "find out" polarization, "to account" for the vibratory theory, to anatomise the ray in the prism; yet light is still nothing grander than light to us; our young eyes love to wake upon it; our aged eyes regret to close upon it; and if, by the blessing of God, we "know" more about it, our farthest researches do but teach us that light and life cling together and are, perhaps, interchangeable as love and life.

Still I preach, and you, I say, who have these things, which I in this desolate land of crowded savages begin to dim by talking about, are wishing to know more of those other living truths here that reflect yourselves.

After what I told you in my last letter, the simplicity of the sequel may surprise you, save that hearts which know the mutations of truth are proof against all surprise. When Yseult sent for me I found her very tranquil; but, with a *naïveté* that did not altogether seem strange, she declared that she began to grow really uneasy about Edwardes. She hesitated, and evidently would not tell me all; but there was nothing, she said, to account for his absence.

"Nothing?" I asked: "Could she not even conjecture the reason?"

No. She had had a difference with him in a matter of opinion, and of conduct even, she said; but it was not new; and—here she hesitated much more—she had told him something which had angered him—"for he is a generous fellow!" But whither he had gone she guessed not. And she asked me what could be done to discover his departure?

Of course I could only refer her to the search already made. I had myself sought the whole neighbourhood for traces, and only found such as led to nothing. Later in the day there was another meeting of magistrates; another private examination of Yseult; and more mysterious whisperings. Margaret appeared to me as if she knew more than she had told; but her unchanging countenance prevented my discovering whether it was so; and if it was, evidently she did not intend to tell me; so I did not ask her. Her perfect calm reassured me. I expressed uneasiness about Edwardes; and she admitted some anxiety on her own part; but not positively. We had, as yet, she said, no more reason for fear than for confidence; save our ignorance. Julie's eyes, wandering from one to another, showed a growing curiosity, almost eager to corroborate the adverse "appearances" that thickened against Yseult; whose irrepressible passion was so close followed by Edwardes's disappearance. Markham gossiped, and fed Julie's curiosity with stimulants. Poor Fanny Chetham helped our perplexities, for, without intending it, she ascribed to Yseult so strange a manner, of repressed anger, and a coldness struggling with kindness, that Markham asked me if Yseult's mind had always been sound. The question was a shock in itself; but I could not answer it; except with the expression of a belief that a vigorous mind like hers, in a healthy frame, could not wander. It was a wretched day that; and I think amongst us the most wretched was poor Fanny, who seemed to feel herself inscrutably responsible for the calamity which had fallen upon us.

That same evening, Margaret and I, whom a certain unity of feeling had kept much together, were sitting on the bank near the gate leading into the village, when she silently pointed down the road. Slowly walking up, with his hands behind his back, was the missing Edwardes. He hastened forward when he saw us, held out his hands to grasp ours; but only remarked that he had sent "his things" by a man along another path. I opened the gate for the welcome wanderer, and we accompanied him towards the house. He had been to see his patients in town. Margaret told him that all had been perplexed by his absence; and he received the intimation with a smile, as much as to say that he thought it natural. But when she told him of the kind of enquiries that had been made, and how Yseult had been subjected to examination and watch, his brow grew dark with indignation; and quickening his pace, he entered the house, and went straight up to Yseult's room. There he remained some short time; then he spoke with Margaret; and then he joined us at supper, alluding to his absence with the air of a man who had been summoned on matters of no great importance, yet not desiring to be questioned.

How much more important is the way in which we take events, than the inherent effect of the events themselves! Edwardes had rejoined Yseult, who kept her room that night; and it was from Margaret that I learned what had passed. She was leaning against a tree in the park, wrapped up in a shawl, for it is still cold, but with head uncovered; and the wind dashed as wildly amid her black hair, as it did amid the black boughs above, or the black specks of cloud that swept across the moon like the locks that beat against Margaret's pure forehead. Could I but paint that steadfast countenance, as she pursued her story, I might tell you what she is; for not the moon that shone steadily through the transparent storm, not the dark wood, not the heavy curve of the sea horizon, was more simply true to itself, to nature, and to life, than she whose voice sustained its strong low music against the jarring wind. I cannot tell you all I learned, nor need I; for much you may know already; much might be told in the reverent tones of a loving voice which cannot be trusted to cold wandering paper, which strays into strange hands; and the rest was not said at all, by either of us.

I told you how Yseult, not for the first time, had given utterance to a doctrine which you, Elena bella, have sustained—and which you, Giorgio mio, would defend as you would Elena's beauty against all comers—that woman should never yield herself save to a real love. The question had more than once started, as it might do between people in the full bloom of life, not forgetful of such questions. Edwardes, as you know, is a practical Englishman; opposed to the romantic; uncertain of reality until it becomes homely, stripped of some of its beauty, and rather impatient to hasten to the indisputable—that unattainable residuum of human analysis which gratifies the English love of “realizing.” He rejects “love” as a youthful delusion; and prefers to regard matrimony as a utility—reciprocally a convenience and a duty. Yseult maintained her own doctrine. I verily believe that in this controversy, Edwardes, as many a “practical” Englishman does, sacrificed the *real* “reality” to an imaginary one, the fruit of his own preconceived doctrine of necessity. Be that as it may, he is the man to act according to a conscious principle. It was evident that Yseult felt irritated beyond repression whenever the controversy arose through the blindness of others—how blind people are to the effects of their own tongues!—and that Edwardes also was irritated at the estrangement which evidently existed on Yseult's part. The controversy was a practical one. Preferring to be “the friend,” Edwardes was accepted only in that light; and his chagrin refuted the genuineness of his theory. He had “right” on his side; but authority itself is humbled by an absolute submissiveness which is unequivocally that and nothing else.

There is a power in strong, sincere minds, and in them alone, which makes them value even the truths that are forced upon them, and prize even the enforcer of the resisted truth. The coward who has injured another follows that other with dislike; but to the generous an unhealing wound in a sweet nature, like the best fruit, is but a way through which its sweetness is the more keenly tasted. To the manly mind, embarrassment, hazard, trouble, danger, are but so many claims. Although harder on the surface, and slower to apprehend a truth than Yseult, Edwardes could thoroughly solve the problem upon which his path of life had stumbled so unexpectedly; his manly courage was not of a stuff to yield to the difficulty; as soon as he recognised the insuperable and the inevitable, his plain, kindly intellect threw aside his own interest, and busied itself solely to shield Yseult from all pain that his faithful skill could save to her. I believe none so eagerly watched over her as he; none valued him so much as she did.

After their angry words—for in theory the controversy survived, chiefly through an intellectual *mauvaise honte* in Edwardes, which often makes him yield in act what he will not admit in argument—he followed Yseult, to ask pardon for pursuing her with the question, and she met him by asking pardon, and by explaining that her irritation had been increased by other causes.

What those causes were surprised me as much as it can you; but you will not understand Edwardes's absence if I do not tell you. For all his hardy expansion of shirt front, that fellow, King, took seriously to heart my “outrageous behaviour” in telling Mrs. Hartnell a truth which it so much concerned her to know; and he sought revenge. I am surprised that his pride thought it worth while to circumvent the paltry retaliation, which he pursued at the cost of great pains. He followed my movements; he was the “gentleman” who came to Seven Hills, and who had seen Yseult before; and he brought a tale—which his malicious and suspecting instinct taught him to lodge where it could do most harm—how the man who had impeded him—but he never told that part of the story—had appropriated to himself the fair lady whom he pretended to rescue; and how that same Vagabond had rescued, by skilful suborning of evidence, the mother-murderess of his own child. Yseult disbelieved with her heart and her intellect, and sent King away with shame on his brow; but she believed with her fears and her passions, and when King came again he saw that she was not strong enough to rebut his tale, and he taunted her with his success. This she told to Edwardes—so much, neither more nor less.

What did Edwardes do—the “practical” Englishman, the unromantic man, the pure reasoner, the unimpulsive philosopher? What did he do? He saw Yseult pestered and tormented by a lower animal; a creature with a cant and a cowardly advantage of convention in his hand; he saw Yseult

downcast, and without defence. And he, the man of common sense, bidding her good night, as if he merely made friends after a pardonable misunderstanding, set off there and then, with a big heart, pursued King through some of his holiday wanderings, made him cross the Channel, and broke the fellow's arm with a pistol bullet.

“But how did he defend that illogical escapade, Margaret?” I asked.

“I do not think that Yseult required him to make any defence, or that any of us can taunt him with his reason, when he has served truth so well in making meanness know its responsibility and its place.”

Did I avow a certain meanness, which made me uneasy that Edwardes should have snatched more than one vengeance into his own hand? Yes, I did avow it.

“Come,” said Margaret, “I have told you all; it is getting colder; and if you are capable of unworthy thoughts at such a time, where shall we leave off? Walter may be the next—getting jealous perhaps.”

“Forgive me, as you would forgive him; for appearances would excuse him.”

“Appearances! Yes, the appearances of an hour, a day, a month, are taken to undo all that we know of a truthful nature, and to belie our own capacity for knowing what is true: even acts, indisputable acts, are not evidence against a better knowledge. Appearances, Tristan! If a man can never know more, can never know anything better, than that which can be contradicted by appearances, he will carry his ignorance to his tomb. If Walter—But see how I am yielding to the phantom I rail at; appearances make me take the idle words which the baffled mind utters after being stupefied, as real expressions of a feeling in your heart; and in scolding you I show how I want teaching myself.”

The Arts.

THE THEATRES.

I HAVE little to say this week; the only event being a small one, though announced magnificently,—I mean the commencement of the DRURY LANE season with G. V. Brooke as star. He has recovered his splendid voice, consequently he has regained something of his lost empire over audiences, and his success on Monday night was uproarious. There is a grace and power about Brooke which must always carry by storm an audience not very critical as to intelligence and poetry. He has great physical qualities, and they make half the greatness of an actor.

My dear friend Charles Kean has closed his long successful season, and a cruelly kind critic in the *Times* heaped coals of fire on his head by a long laudation of his sagacity in converting himself into a showman, and his Theatre into a Gallery of Illustration. Fancy a man bearing the name of Kean, and devoutly believing himself to be an actor, a tragic actor, a Shaksperian actor, and to be told by his friendly critic that he owes his success *not* to acting, but to spectacle!

Mr. Robson still draws audiences to the formerly forlorn, and now prosperous OLYMPIC. In a few days the season will be over, and then the theatre passes into the hands of the accomplished Wigan, who re-opens it on the 10th of October, with Mrs. Stirling, Miss P. Horton, Emery, Robson, &c.

VIVIAN.

A SIGHT TO BE SEEN!

(DR KAHN'S MUSEUM.)

THERE is in London at this moment an exhibition which of all others is best worth its shilling entrance fee, and we are doing the reader a good turn by directing his attention to it. The name is not attractive, therefore let us be a little explicit. It is called *Dr. Kahn's Anatomical Museum*, and its locale is the Portland Gallery in Regent-street. The word “anatomical” makes sensitive persons shudder; to the uninstructed it presents no definite attraction. Anatomy, the noblest of sciences, has still to conquer the ancient prejudice, which was briefly expressed in our hearing the other day by a very clever man—“Thank God, I know nothing whatever of my own body!” Yet surely a moment's reflection would suffice to show that nothing could be so well worth knowing, its dominant importance, and its wondrous complexity of mechanism taken into consideration.

Be that as it may, let anatomy be regarded as a superior kind of butcher's work, the objection will not apply to Dr. Kahn's Museum. That is an exhibition where scientific minds will find curious material, where ordinary minds may be brought to consider most extraordinary facts. There is also an Anatomical Museum now open in Leicester-square to which we can advise no one to pay a visit; it is a vulgar *ad captandum* affair, containing very little of interest to any one. Not so Dr. Kahn's. The most delicate susceptibility will see nothing there to alarm it—a separate room being provided for certain pathological and obstetric specimens, into which only medical visitors need enter. Every Friday a time is set apart for the visit of ladies, the wife of Dr. Leach being present to lecture and explain. There they may learn pleasantly much of what must be intensely interesting to them all,—the progress and development of the child in the womb. There they may see the process of digestion illustrated, and the dangers of tight lacing demonstrated. There they may turn their reading of popular works on physiology to account, by seeing the structure and relations of organs. There they may gain some definite idea of the brain and nervous system. And this they can learn pleasantly, if superficially, without the drudgery and disagreeable attending dissections: surely a very desirable result! We earnestly recommend both our male and female readers to avail themselves of this opportunity. It is worth coming up to London to spend two days in that Museum.

But having given this advice, which we do from the sincerest motives, we will add to it advice on the way in which the opportunity should be used that real profit may result. You should first carefully read some popular work on physiology (at this moment we can only think of the one published by the Useful Knowledge Society, and one by the Messrs. Chambers in their Educational Course, but there are doubtless several); having done so, a long visit or two to Dr. Kahn's rooms will give definite precision to your ideas of structure, and furnish a rudimentary knowledge of anatomy such as no plates can give. This done, there still remains the far less accessible, and yet equally interesting subject of Embryology—a subject better illustrated in this Museum than in any other place we can name. There are seventy-seven preparations, and nearly one hundred wax models, besides several engravings. In popular works on Physiology, an absurd prejudice has unwarrantably excluded almost

everything but vague generalities on the subject of the Embryo and its development; you will therefore find yourself in a difficulty with all these specimens. But Dr. Kahn here comes to your assistance. He has published an *Atlas of the Formation of the Human Body*, containing sixty figures, and brief letter-press explanations. This work, which you may either buy in the Museum itself, or at Mr. Churchill, the publisher's, previous to your visit, will, after a little attention, enable you to understand enough of the subject to give your visit a keen interest, and also to enable you to read more scientific and detailed works.

The course we suggest is a little more serious than what is demanded by other Exhibitions, but one week of moderate study, and three or four visits to the Museum, will give such a general and precise conception of the structure and functions of man's wondrous organism as will be a "possession for all time," an acquisition for life.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

THE deaths registered in London during the week ending Saturday, September 3rd, numbered 1029, whilst the average of the corresponding weeks for the last ten years, not including the cholera in 1849, was 950. The mortality little exceeds the average raised in the same proportion as the increase of population. Cholera was fatal to 16 persons, viz., 12 children and 4 adults. In the last 8 weeks from the week ending 16th July, 3, 6, 9, 4, 19, 10, 18, and 16, deaths from cholera were registered. Diarrhoea in the same period was fatal to 54, 73, 81, 110, 139, 126, 137, 152 persons, and shows a tendency to increase. The deaths from typhus, which in the preceding week were 37, rose last week to 48; scarlatina has increased from 18 in the previous week to nearly double that number, namely, 32 deaths in the last week.

The tubercular diseases and those of the heart and blood-vessels show but little variation in the mortality from that of the former week. 5 persons died in childbirth, 123 from consumption, 4 from aneurism, 4 from delirium tremens, and 2 from intemperance. Of the 1029 persons whose deaths are recorded, 520 were children under 15 years of age, 317 of the age of 15 to 60, and 191 of the age of 60 years and upwards. The births in the week were 1582, or 553 more than the deaths.

At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean height of the barometer in the week was 29.732 in. The mean temperature of the week was 55.7 degs., which is 3.3 degs. below the average of the same week in 38 years. The highest temperature of the week was 70.2 degs. on Tuesday; the lowest was 45.0 degs. on Saturday. The wind blew from the west and south-west during the first five days of the week, and from the north for the remainder: its horizontal movement averaged 110 miles a day. More than an inch of rain fell during the week; of this large quantity for the season nearly half an inch fell on Thursday.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 21st of August, at the City Prison, Camden-road, Holloway, the wife of George Wright, Esq., Royal Navy, governor: a son.

On the 26th, at Shute-house, Devon, the wife of Temple West, Esq., late Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel Grenadier Guards: a daughter.

On the 3rd of September, at Ramsgate, the wife of the Rev. Charles Carus Wilson: a son.

On the 4th, at Stackpole-court, Viscountess Emlyn: a daughter.

On the 5th, at Mount Craig, Ross, Herefordshire, the wife of Bellingham Barnard Hankey, Esq.: a daughter.

On the 5th, at Barwell, Leicestershire, the wife of Major Pearson: a daughter.

On the 7th, at 18, Savile-row, Burlington-gardens, the wife of Joseph Toynbee, Esq., F.R.S.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On the 1st of September, at Sydney-lodge, Edinburgh, John Rutherford Russell, Esq., M.D., to Georgina Isabella, only surviving daughter of Sir David Maxwell, Bart., of Cardross.

On the 1st, at Catsfield, Richard Thomas Lee, Esq., of Grove-hall, Yorkshire, to Louisa Elizabeth, daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Sir Andrew Pilkington, of Catsfield-place, Sussex.

On the 1st, in the parish church of Len, Portarlington, the Rev. J. W. Benn, incumbent of St. Paul's, Portarlington, to Maria Louisa, daughter of the late Major-General Hamilton, C.B., and the Hon. Mrs. Hamilton.

On the 1st, at Trinity Church, Chelsea, John Tenniel, Esq., to Julia, daughter of the late Julius Giani, Esq.

On the 6th, at St. Mary's Chapel, Hamilton, John Boyle, Esq., barrister-at-law, third son of the late Right Hon. David Boyle, Esq., of Calder-park, Lanarkshire.

On the 6th, at Hartlebury Church, Herbert Richard Peel, Esq., second son of the Very Rev. the Dean of Worcester, to Georgiana Maria, only daughter of the Rev. Thomas Baker, rector of Hartlebury, and honorary canon of Worcester.

On the 6th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, the Rev. William L. Fielden, third son of Joseph Fielden, Esq., of Wotton-house, Lancashire, to the Hon. J. Elizabeth St. Clair, youngest daughter of the Right Hon. Lord Sinclair.

On the 6th, at St. George's, Hanover-square, Captain Arthur Cumming, R.N., son of General Sir Henry Cumming, Colonel of the Twelfth Royal Lancers, to Adelaide, daughter of Charles Stuart, Esq., of Norfolk-street, Park-Lane.

DEATHS.

On the 1st of September, at Brussels, Lieutenant-General Sir Neil Douglas, K.C.B. and K.C.H., Colonel of her Majesty's Seventy-eighth Highlanders.

On the 1st, at 17, Park-crescent, George Lyall, Esq., formerly M.P. for the city of London.

On the 2nd, aged thirty-six, Anna, the beloved wife of Thomas Platt, of Burton-crescent, and of Lincoln's-inn, Esq., barrister-at-law.

On the 2nd, at Wrotham-park, Frances Elizabeth, only child of Viscount and Viscountess Torrington, aged eighteen.

On the 3rd, at Iridge-place, Sussex, Sir Peckham B. S. Micklethwait, in his sixty-eighth year.

On the 3rd, in his seventy-ninth year, Charles Linton, Esq., of the Royal Navy, one of the medical officers who attended at the battle of Trafalgar, in Codrington's ship the *Orion*.

On the 3rd, at Brighton, the Rev. Henry J. Lloyd, Rector of Selatyn, Shropshire, youngest son of the late Francis Lloyd, Esq., of Domesday, and M.P. for the county of Montgomery.

On the 4th, at 16, Chesham-place, Eleanor Sophia, the wife of the Hon. and Rev. William H. Scott.

On the 5th, at his residence, King Edward's-road, South Hackney, the Rev. F. A. Cox, D.D., LL.D., aged seventy.

On the 7th, at Westwood-hall, Staffordshire, Lieutenant-Colonel Powys, in his fifty-ninth year.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, September 9, 1853.

THERE has not been so great and general depression as occurred on Thursday last, for some time past. Consols fell to 96½; Great Western Stock, 84½ at ½ x. d.; Birmingham Stock, 106½-7; London and South Western, 80½ 1; London and Brighton, 100 99½. French Stock experienced a like fall, Paris and Strasbourg being quoted at one time at 36½; and Paris and Lyons, 26½. A reaction, however, occurred later in the day, and the markets closed at advanced prices. The great fall on that day had been preceded during the week by a gradual decline in Funds and Stock. Consols were settled for the last account at 97½, the bears receiving as much as ½ contango for carrying over to the next account on the 13th October. Heavy money sales of Consols have been reported, effected, and very likely have been a cause of the fall noticed.

The Gold Mining and Land Markets have been nearly deserted, and apparently only in speculative Stock has much business been transacted. The market opened yesterday with an improved appearance, Consols quoted at 96½, afterwards 96½ to 96½, and closing at 96½ and ½ for money, and 96½ for account 13th October; Exchequer Bills, 2 dis. and 1 pm.; Calcuttians, 64½ and 64½; Cork and Brandon, 18, 19; Eastern Counties, 12½, 13½; East Lancashire, 70½ and 71½; Great Northern, 79, 80 x. d.; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 108, 110; Great Westerns, 84½, 85½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 72½ and ¾; London and Blackwall, 84, ½ x. d.; London and Brighton, 99, 100 (done at 99½); London and North Western, 106½, 107½; London and South Western, 81, 2 (done at 81½); Midland, 65½, 66½ x. d.; North London, 50, 53 x. d. and x. n.; North Western, 8, 8½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 45½, 46½; South Eastern, 66½, 67½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 67 to 68 x. d.; York and North Midland, 53½, 54½.

Consols shaky, and bears holding on.

Foreign Shares, last prices:—Beziers and Graessessac, ½ dis. par.; Dijon and Besancon, 1½, 2½ pm.; Grand Junction France, 2½, ¾; Grand Trunk Upper Canada, and Shares and Bonds, 5 and 3 dis.; Great Central France, 1½ and 1½ pm.; Northern of France, 34½, 35½; Paris and Lyons, 27½, ¾; Paris and Strasbourg, 37 ½ (business done at 37 and ¾, and 6½); Great Eastern France, ¾ and ¾ pm.; Upper India Scrip, par and ¾ pm.; Western of France, 9½, 9½ pm.

Land Shares still lower than last week:—Australian Agricultural, 31, 33; South Australian Land, 34, 36 (done at 35 and 34); Van Dieman's Land, 16, 17 (done at 16½).

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday, September 9, 1853.

Notwithstanding large arrivals of wheat and oats, the trade remains firm. Barley is scarce, and is dearer.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	227½	227	226½	226		
3 per Cent. Red.	98½	98½	97½	97½	97½	
3 per Cent. Con. Ans. ..	97½	97½	97½	97½	96½	
Consols for Account....	97½	97½	97½	97	97	
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Long Ans., 1860	5 9-16		5 15-16		5½	
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Ditto Bonds, £1000		10	13			
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Ditto, £500	2 d	1 d	3 d	1 p	2 d	
Ditto, Small	2 d	1 d	3 d	1 p	2 d	

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Peruvian 4½ per Cents....	82	Swedish Loan	94
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