

Read Edmund Galloway, Esq. Hand.

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1857.

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## Review of the Week.

BLINK-BONNY is the most distinguished individual of the week. Having judiciously reserved herself in the Newmarket race, having abstained from snatching the tempting prize of one thousand guineas, she has enjoyed a 'dark' reputation by her apparent defeat then, and was entirely omitted in the calculations of rational bettors; thus, when conscious of her strength, she entered into the race for the Derby. Those who knew her qualities were able to obtain odds of a magnificent kind. Great is the fortune of those that believed in Bonny-Blink, notwithstanding the adversity that appeared to come over her at Newmarket. It is sometimes useful to believe even in those who appear to be under a cloud for a time. That *Blink-Bonny* should win, however, and that neither *Tournament* nor *Skirmisher* should be 'placed,' is an amazement for the whole world: it has completely upset everybody, as much as if PALMERSTON had resigned—much more than if there were a revolution in France.

Having suspended business in order to witness the solution of that important trial at Epsom, the Parliament has proceeded with the business of the country. Some daring members have endeavoured to defend the interests of the country either abroad or at home; but the House of Commons at large is not at present disposed to be popular in its attentions. When Mr. ROEBUCK asked for a select committee on the subject of our relations with Brazil, he made out a strong case; but he could only find 17 members to stand by him against 312 with the Government. The state of the case is this: Brazil has been *bonâ fide* for a long time discontinuing slavery, both in policy and in fact. She has a constitutional Government, closely resembling our own, in matters of legislation and commerce. Her leading men are virtually bent upon a close alliance with the community of England; but the Government stickles at being called upon as she has been for some years past to give English cruisers right of seizing Brazilian vessels in the very waters of Brazil, and judging them to be slavers. Brazil is willing to make new arrangements for the suppression of the slave trade; has declared the slave trade piracy; has always treated her negroes with remarkable humanity, they enjoying a social recognition not allowed to them anywhere else, without excepting

even the West Indies. And altogether we have, and on the very subject of slavery, the sympathy and co-operation of Brazil. But our officials insist, in the most arrogant manner, that Brazil shall submit to them as an inferior submits to a superior; and they have broken off the official intercourse with the country, except of the formal kind, until Brazil shall give in. Mr. ROEBUCK asked for inquiry. Lord PALMERSTON says that to grant a select committee will seem to give encouragement to the slave trade; and the House of Commons follow like sheep.

Mr. DISRAELI's inquiry about the DALLAS-CLARENDON treaty was quite natural; the only surprising fact is, that it should not have come out before. Has the treaty between this country and the United States respecting Central America been ratified or not? Everybody knows, through the United States, that it has not; everybody might have assumed that it was not, from the silence of the Government when the time for exchanging the ratifications expired. But the House of Commons has not felt interest enough in the subject to inquire, until the very close of this week, when Mr. DISRAELI is calling upon the Government to explain. The House does not think it worth while to inquire into the state of our relations with Brazil, which takes annually 12,000,000*l.* of our exports, although the Government might embroil us with that independent state, and bring about a state of things that might transfer its commerce to the United States. Again, the Commons did not think it worth while to inquire why our Government has not concluded the DALLAS-CLARENDON treaty, which settled some dangerous subject of dispute, although the United States take the largest portion of our exports, and send to us an enormous proportion of our raw material and supplies for every household in the country.

The army estimates have been debated, or rather they have been brought forward by Ministers; and some members who take a professional or amateur interest in such matters, have made a few remarks upon points here and there. A great reduction is boasted since last year,—as if the reduction between a period of warfare and a period of peace must not necessarily be large. The true comparison is with a year of peace, and here, instead of reduction, we have a large increase. The increase amounts to 1,600,000*l.* upon 7,400,000*l.*, the amount of the last peace estimate, and there are 6000 men retained in a permanent augmentation of the army, more especially in its artillery. Several excuses

were advanced for this increase, in the shape of improvements; but surely the House of Commons ought to have said a word or two more about the 'improvement;' but perhaps some of them are not improvements at all. For instance, one of the excuses for the increase is the expense of the camp at Aldershot; but Aldershot is becoming *not* a camp. It is, as the *Times* says, a town of huts, and it is likely to become a town of barracks; so that the camp at Aldershot, for evolution of armies, is degenerating into an ordinary barrack-yard; while the squadron of evolution at sea has been given up, or at least suspended. With regard to the other improvements that adorn the Ministerial statement, we have not yet got them: the staff school is one—and where is it? When it comes it will probably form the apology for a *further* increase of the expense. Here, again, the House of Commons made no inquiry.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER is among the few who have the courage to stand out. He wanted a select committee on the organisation of the Board of Admiralty, and he showed how ill-constructed the Board is, how conflicting are its orders, how productive of waste and expense. The reply of Mr. OSBORNE was simply the production of authorities to prove that the Board of Admiralty is the most perfectly formed administration which human ingenuity could construct, and that Admiral NAPIER had not been a very good commander in the Baltic. Mr. OSBORNE once distinguished himself by metaphorically mounting on the top of the Admiralty, and looking over into the Horse Guards to spy out abuses. Perhaps the Secretary to the Horse Guards, or Sir JOHN RAMSDEN as Under-Secretary for War, could mount the top of his own mansion and tell us something about the Admiralty. However, the question for the House of Commons was to decide upon the two statements before it, after inquiry into the facts, the very thing which Sir CHARLES NAPIER invited. He could only obtain 35 to 152 to vindicate the duty of the House of Commons as 'the grand inquest of the nation.'

Mr. CONINGHAM challenged a debate on the dowry for the PRINCESS ROYAL, and Mr. MAGUIRE would not let it pass without some consideration; the one proposed to reduce the annuity from 8000*l.* to 6000*l.*; the other to dispense with the 40,000*l.* down. But minorities resembling that which stood by Sir CHARLES NAPIER and Mr. ROEBUCK were all that could be found to fulfil the duty of watching our public expenditure. In fact, the new Members and the old, absorbed in the one duty of

supporting the Minister, have deferred until next year all the other duties of the Commons.

The death of Mr. HALL occasions a vacancy in the representation of Leeds, and the constituency is busy looking out for the best candidate. To us it appears that there are only two considerations which should have paramount weight in such a case. A constituency like Leeds should either select some man from its own part of the country who can represent manufacturing Yorkshire in a manner equal to the intellect, energy, and opinion of the district, or it should choose a man on national grounds. RICHARD COBDEN is without a seat. And there is a gentleman, resident not far from Leeds, who has long been considered the best man to represent manufacturing Yorkshire in the House of Commons,—an accomplished scholar, who understands public affairs and commerce. That man is WILLIAM EDWARD FORSTER.

Among the announcements of the week is one of much interest and promise; an educational conference is to be held in Willis's Rooms for three days, commencing on the 22nd June, in order to consider the reasons why the working classes withdraw their children prematurely from school, and the expedients by which that great obstruction to popular education can be overcome. Prince ALBERT will preside. There are some reasons for apprehending that among the promoters of the meeting are those who desire to make it simply the instrument for extending the operations for the Department of Science and Art at South Kensington; for, simultaneously with the conference, an educational museum is to be opened, and an exhibition of maps, globes, instruction books, paint-boxes, and other instruments of study. But there are others who have most deeply at heart the proposed object of the meeting, such as the Rev. Mr. ROGERS, of Golden-lane, Canon MOSELEY, of Bristol, and many gentlemen, who have exerted themselves to promote education amongst the very poorest, and have encountered the obstacle practically. The debate, at all events, will throw some light upon the subject.

The Neufchâtel business is settled, after all, without much more than squabbling on paper; the King is allowed to retain his title of 'Prince,' though he gives up the sovereignty; a mistake, we think, since history gives us many cases in which a titular claim has been made the handle for reviving a more substantial claim.

Although we have no new event in France, rather an interesting correspondence has thrown a stronger light upon the commercial state of that country. Letters in the *Times* and *Globe* had noticed the failure of M. CHARLES THURNEYSSEN, connecting the name with that of M. PEREIRE, of the *Crédit Mobilier*; M. PEREIRE has replied to both journals in a letter denying any connexion between his family and that of M. THURNEYSSEN, and any connexion between the defaulter and the *Crédit Mobilier*; and he says that the failure has been 'exaggerated.' In this very interesting letter, however, he states that a cousin of M. THURNEYSSEN married a niece of M. PEREIRE; that he, PEREIRE, is a creditor of CHARLES THURNEYSSEN, on account of a loan of 20,000*l.* which the great capitalist made to the young man, three and a half years ago, to extricate him from land speculations; that two other creditors—he makes no mention of the Poles and private persons who have been victimised—are M. GEORGE THURNEYSSEN, a well-known capitalist, and M. AUGUSTE THURNEYSSEN, the head of that monetary family, who was a partner in the Russian house of STIEGLITZ. And strange to say, although this failure has been 'exaggerated,' it has, says M. ISAAC PEREIRE, 'largely diminished' the fortune of the affluent AUGUSTE THURNEYSSEN. M. PEREIRE's letter is a valuable contribution to the history of these matters; while it shows how considerable an effect the English press has, even in a country where the national press is in fetters.

**THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.**—By the ship *Sutlej*, Captain James, which arrived on Monday from Calcutta, Cape Town papers to the 28th of March have been received in London. The posture of affairs on the eastern frontier had not changed. The Governor had thought it better to prolong his stay in that quarter, on account of the unsettled state of affairs and the doubtful disposition of the Kaffirs; he had, therefore, again prorogued the Parliament to April the 7th. His Excellency was transporting into the interior Kaffirs convicted either of stealing cattle or of prowling in the colony without passes. The wine-growers in the colony are full of activity and hope.

Mr. KEATING has been appointed to the Solicitor-Generalship.

## IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, May 25th.

### CONVICTION OF INNOCENT PERSONS.

IN the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord CAMPBELL presented a petition from a large meeting in Marylebone, praying that some remedy might be devised for the evil which arises when, notwithstanding the pure and generally satisfactory administration of justice, a prisoner is convicted, and afterwards proved to be altogether innocent. The petitioners observed that at present all that can be done is for the Crown to grant a pardon; but they thought that a tribunal should be established by which the matter might be investigated, and the judgment reversed, and that the party unjustly convicted should receive some compensation for the injury inflicted on him.

### THE OATHS BILL.

The Earl of WICKLOW put a question to the Lord Chancellor connected with a petition presented by the latter on the previous Friday night. That petition was from a magistrate of the county of Hertford, who complained that he was unable to execute the duties of his office because he could not take that part of the oath of allegiance which declares that "no foreign prince, prelate, state, or potentate, hath, or ought to have, any jurisdiction, power, or authority, ecclesiastical or spiritual, within this realm." The question he asked was, whether the Government could hold out any prospect that the Oaths Bill would be divested of that objectionable provision; or whether it would be extended to all the members of her Majesty's Government who are required to take oaths, instead of being confined, as it now appears to be, to the members of the two Houses of Parliament?—The LORD CHANCELLOR said it was true that he had presented the petition which had been mentioned; but he could not give any other information than this: that when the bill came up from the other House would be the proper time for any amendment to be proposed.

### DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

Before the order of the day for going into committee on this bill was read, Lord LYNCHURST commented on the scandalous nature of actions for *crim. con.*—actions which excite the utmost surprise and indignation among foreigners, and which are peculiar to this country. He hoped that, as the bill passed through the committee, a sufficient substitute would be provided for so disgraceful a species of action. A husband who could be satisfied for the destruction of his wife's honour by the payment of damages by the seducer deserves no redress whatever from a court of justice. Such actions are outrages on public decency; and, as their most filthy details are sent forth by the newspapers, the minds of many persons are corrupted. It was said that the object of the action is to prevent collusion; but in truth it has no such effect. Their Lordships ought to put an end to so objectionable a state of things.

The House then went into committee, when the Duke of NORFOLK moved that the bill be referred to a select committee for the purposes of taking evidence and resolving as to whether the permission for divorced persons to marry again has any warrant in Scripture.—The Bishop of ST. DAVID'S thought the motion of the Duke of Norfolk did him infinite credit, but, as it could lead to no satisfactory result, he (the Bishop of St. David's) must oppose it. At the same time he regarded the bill with grave apprehension, for he feared it would open the door to collusion, and would fail to satisfy the abstract principle on which it was founded.—The Earl of HARROWBY admired the manliness of character which had prompted the Duke of Norfolk to propose this amendment, but felt it his duty to oppose it. Neither the country nor the House would feel bound by the opinion of the proposed select committee.—Lord REDESDALE and Lord DUNGEON expressed their intention of voting with the noble Duke.—The Duke of ARGYLL characterized the motion as an attempt to get rid of the bill altogether.—Lord DENMAN created much laughter and led to many cries of "Order!" by attempting to read from his hat a speech in support of the bill; but he was reminded by Lord DERBY that a distinct regulation of the House forbids the reading of speeches.—Their Lordships then divided, when there appeared:—

For the Duke of Norfolk's motion ... 26  
Against ... 123—97

The House then went into committee, when clauses 1 to 5 inclusive were agreed to without opposition.—Clause 6, which specifies the tribunals to which divorce cases should be referred, was opposed by Earl GREY on the ground that the time of the judges who are to constitute the highest court is already fully occupied, and that the expense would place a separation out of the reach of the poor.—The LORD CHANCELLOR defended the clause, which was ultimately agreed to.

On clause 15, Lord ST. LEONARDS proposed an amendment to protect women who, having been deserted by their husbands, become possessed of property. In such cases it often happens that the husband steps in and claims the property.—The LORD CHANCELLOR thought the bill gave women in this position sufficient protection.—After considerable discussion, in which Lord CAMPBELL, Lord DERBY, and Lord GRANVILLE opposed the amendment, and Earl GREY and the Bishop of OXFORD supported it, the Committee divided, when the numbers were:—

Contents ... 52  
Non-contents ... 44  
Majority ... —8

On clause 16, Lord WESTMEATH moved a clause to precede it, giving powers of re-marriage in cases where the husband and wife have been separated for twenty years and upwards. He then entered into the question of his own separation from his wife, and the attacks that had been made on him, but was called to order by Lord REDESDALE and Lord DERBY, who advised him to defer this vindication of his character to a more fitting opportunity. He accordingly withdrew his motion.

On clause 19, Lord DONOUGHMORE proposed an amendment, placing married women in the same position as their husbands with regard to divorce *à vinculo matrimonii*.—The LORD CHANCELLOR opposed the amendment, which, though *prima facie* reasonable, was practically inexpedient.—Lord LYNCHURST declared his intention of supporting the amendment.—Lord CAMPBELL thought the law ought not to be relaxed in this respect.—The Committee then divided, when there appeared:—

For the amendment ... 20  
Against ... 71  
Majority ... —51

Lord LYNCHURST then moved another amendment to the clause, to the effect that wilful and malicious desertion for five years should be a sufficient ground for dissolving a marriage. All the great authorities of the Church agree in this matter, and, by the existing law of Scotland, desertion for four years is sufficient to annul a marriage.—The LORD CHANCELLOR opposed the amendment, as one which would lead to the greatest difficulties.—After some further discussion, their Lordships divided, when the numbers were:—

Contents ... 8  
Non-contents ... 97  
Majority against the amendment ... —89

The remaining clauses down to clause 43 were then agreed to, after some discussion.

Clause 43, giving parties liberty to re-marry, was opposed by the Bishop of OXFORD, on the ground that the Scriptural argument against such re-marriages is plain. He moved the omission of the clause.—The Bishop of BANGOR dissented from the views expressed by the previous speaker.—Lord CAMPBELL accused the Bishop of Oxford of 'quibbling,' and affirmed that it would be changing the law of England if they dissolved marriages without letting the parties marry again.—This opinion was impugned by Lord WENSDALE, who, however, was reminded by the LORD CHANCELLOR that, inasmuch as *privilegia* are granted by that House, the Lord Chief Justice was right in what he had said.—The Earl of DERBY recommended the Lord Primate that he should introduce into the clause itself his proposed amendment restricting the liberty of re-marriage of the party proceeding in the suit. That would be far more convenient than to grant the liberty generally, and then to restrict it by means of a proviso.—The Archbishop of CANTERBURY moved his amendment as suggested.—The LORD CHANCELLOR did not think the amendment would prove conducive to morality. It might be a question whether they should allow the guilty paramours to marry each other; but, surely, their Lordships would not prevent even the guilty parties from marrying again at all? (*Hear, hear.*) They would not wish to see a divorced person living the rest of his days with a mistress? (*Hear, hear.*)—Earl GREY felt the cogency of these arguments, but, on the other hand, he was afraid that to pass the clause as it stood would open a most dangerous door.—Lord CAMPBELL said he was impatient to have the action for criminal conversation abolished, but he should not like to see it abolished without some substitute; for otherwise there would be a state of things which would operate as an encouragement to adultery.

The Committee then divided on the question "that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the clause," when there were—

Contents ... 47  
Non-contents ... 53  
Majority ... —6

The amendment was accordingly agreed to.

On the question that the clause, as amended, stand part of the bill, the Bishop of OXFORD said that, although he thought the clause was greatly improved by the amendment, he considered that it went beyond what was right and expedient, and he moved that it be omitted from the bill.—The amendment was not pressed to a division.

Lord LYNCHURST then proposed to strike out the word 'unless,' and the remaining words of the clause down to the end. The clause would then stand in substance thus:—"That no action for criminal conversation shall hereafter be brought." The bill as it stood made the law in reference to that subject worse than it is at present. To provide that no action for criminal conversation should be brought till a divorce had been obtained would prevent a Roman Catholic, who cannot sue for a divorce, from bringing an action.

After a little desultory conversation, the House, on the motion of Lord CAMPBELL, resumed, and immediately afterwards adjourned till Thursday.

### CUSTOMS DUTIES.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. EWART, referring to a return from which it appeared that in the table of customs duties there are 60 articles each producing to

venue not more than 200l. yearly, 53 articles not more than 100l., 36 producing not more 0l., and 13 producing only 5l. or less than 5l. each, asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if it is the intention of the Government to consider expediency of abolishing any of these duties in interests of commerce, and for further simplifying of customs duties?—The CHANCELLOR OF THE QUEER said that there would be no objection to the duties referred to.

#### IMPROVEMENTS IN HYDE PARK.

LAURIE asked the First Commissioner of Works if he means to include in the new lodge he is to erect at the Marble Arch certain public conveniences; or whether he had selected a more sequestered spot in the interior of Hyde Park.—Sir BENJAMIN said that it was proposed to erect on the western side of the arch a lodge corresponding with that on the east to provide on the basement story public conveniences in order to put an end to the disgraceful scenes constantly taking place, and of which frequent notices are made.

#### THE PROBATE AND DIVORCE BILLS.

JOHN PAKINGTON asked whether bills upon this applying to Ireland would be introduced.—The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said that the Attorney-General had bills ready to lay on the table of the House relating to divorce and probate of wills in Ireland, as the bills on the subject relating to England were from the House of Lords. He would also introduce a measure applying to Ireland alone, for the amendment of a general ecclesiastical registry.

#### THE SOUND DUES.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, a paragraph in her Majesty's speech at the opening of the session relative to the King of Denmark and the Sound dues was read; and the right hon. baronet then stated that the House take the same into consideration on Friday, the 5th of June.

#### THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

On bringing up of the report of the Committee on the Princess Royal, Mr. CONINGHAM objected to the vote on principle and as a precedent for the future, and also to the amount of the vote, which he moved to reduce from 8000l. a year to 6000l. was seconded by Mr. COX.—Lord PALMERSTON said his regret that Mr. Coningham should have raised this question, and trusted that the House would decide by the vote of the committee.—Colonel REGG said that the Premier had spoken at all.—Mr. COX said that, had Mr. Roebuck divided the House (here there were cries of "Oh!"). He begged pardon for calling the hon. and learned gentleman by name. Had the hon. and learned member for Exeter thought proper to divide the House the other side should have voted with him; but he did not propose to divide again.

Cries of "Withdraw!" were here raised; but Mr. CONINGHAM did not respond to them. The question before put, when the SPEAKER and Mr. CONINGHAM agreed as to whether the 'Ayes' or the 'Noes' should be taken. The House then divided, and the result showed a resolution, 328; against, 14; majority, 314. A vote was ordered to be brought in founded on the report of the Committee of Supply, Mr. MAJIBJECTED to the vote of 40,000l. for the marriage of the Princess Royal, considering that the annual 8000l. is sufficient.—Mr. CONINGHAM and Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY likewise opposed the vote. The Duke of Devonshire, who had been in the House of Lords, moved to the effect that the Duke of Devonshire was entirely *sui generis*.—Upon a vote was affirmed by 361 to 18.

Report of the Committee of Supply on the Navy was brought up and agreed to.

#### ARMY ESTIMATES.

On the motion that the SPEAKER leave the chair, for the Committee of Supply on the Army estimates, Mr. WILLIAMS moved that the estimates be referred to a select committee. They were more extravagant than the termination of the French war, and some means were taken to put an end to the continually increasing expenditure. Even in the French Chambers, and is paid to retrenchments and economy in the estimates than in England. The Army Estimates of Lord Melbourne were 7,560,000l.; under Lord Aberdeen's Government, 9,020,000l.; this year a demand for 11,247,000l., or, making an increase of 227,000l. for the 7227 additional men, an increase of 2,000,000l. over the estimate of 1852-3. In the year of the borough-mongering Parliament, Lord Melbourne was Minister-at-War, the expense of army, navy, and ordnance was only 100l.; this year it was 5,850,000l. more. Sir Peel's estimates in 1835 were 11,657,000l., or a half millions less than the 19,150,000l. of the present Government for the present year, exceeding the amount of the income-tax at 7d. in the pound. He might be told that it was not possible to reduce the army to a peace establishment; but was meant by the item of 10,000l. for recruitment. There were establishments costing including four general officers, and at Aldershot, including five general officers and two

colonels. He did not see the necessity for these heavy expenses.—The amendment fell to the ground for want of a seconder, though Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY said he should not object to second it.

Some brief conversation ensued as to who is responsible for the entire expenditure included in the Army Estimates, when Sir JOHN RAMSDEN explained that the War Secretary is the responsible person. The House then went into Committee, and

Lord PALMERSTON rose to present the Army Estimates, explaining that unusual course by observing that the new Under Secretary for War (Sir John Ramsden) had held office so short a time that it was thought better to let the present task be performed by more experienced hands. Going into details, he remarked that our regimental organisation had been as perfect as possible; not so the brigade and divisional system, which could only be practised by the movement of troops in bodies. Provision had been made for remedying this defect at Aldershot. Other defects (such as the want of a field train and an hospital staff) were now remedied; and these, with the supernumeraries and the augmentation of the artillery, contributed to increase the present estimates as compared with those of 1853-54. There was no increase in the infantry of the Line; but there was a slight increase of the cavalry, and an increase of the engineers and artillery, the number of men being 6917 men above the estimates of 1853-54. The total amount required for the effective service of the army was 9,025,360l.; for the non-effective, 2,221,875l., the increase above the estimates of 1853-54 being 1,611,000l.

Votes were then agreed to, after much discussion, to make up, in addition to the sums already voted, the following amounts:—4,388,017l. for pay and allowances; 553,055l. for miscellaneous charges; 50,282l. for volunteer corps; and 184,909l. for the Departments of the Secretary for War and the General Commanding in Chief.—The CHAIRMAN was then ordered to report progress.

#### BANKRUPTCY AND INSOLVENCY (IRELAND) BILL.

On the motion for going into committee on this bill, Mr. WHITESIDE objected on account of the lateness of the hour.—Upon a division, the motion was carried by 121 to 67.—The House then went into committee; but the CHAIRMAN was ordered to report progress before any advance was made in the details of the bill.

Several bills were advanced a stage; and, at half-past twelve, the House adjourned till Thursday. Tuesday being the anniversary of the Queen's birthday, and Wednesday the Derby Day.

Thursday, May 28th.

#### PREACHING IN EXETER HALL.

In the House of Lords, Lord DUNGANNON called the attention of the Bishop of London to certain services performed in Exeter Hall on Sunday evenings by prelates and clergymen of the Church of England. He wished to know whether the Bishop considered these proceedings in accordance with the rules and discipline of the Church?—The Bishop of London replied, that the request made to him that two prelates of the Church, two learned deans, and several other clergymen, should, on successive Sunday evenings, address the assembled people in Exeter Hall, was strictly in accordance with the act he held in his hand, called, 'An Act for the Better Securing Liberty of Religious Worship,' by which it is provided that meeting occasionally in buildings not usually appropriated for religious purposes is strictly legal. Not only did he consider the practice legal, but he thought it in the highest degree expedient. (Hear, hear.) There are thousands and thousands of people in this metropolis who had never entered a place of worship for many, many years. He believed that such persons would go to the meeting to which the noble Viscount alluded, and he trusted they would not be brought there without receiving benefit.—Lord KINNAIRD and the Archbishop of CANTERBURY also expressed approval of the meetings in question.

#### SHEPHERD'S DISABILITIES REMOVAL BILL.

On the motion for the second reading of this bill, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY objected, on the ground that it would place a clergyman ordained in the Episcopal Church of Scotland on the same footing as a clergyman ordained in the Church of England, without subscribing, as the latter was obliged to do, the third article set forth in the 36th canon, acknowledging the supremacy of the Crown.—Lord REDESDALE explained that by this bill it was provided that Mr. Shepherd might be presented to the benefice, but before taking possession he must subscribe the necessary articles.—The Bishops of BANGOR and CRICHESTER, and the Archbishop of CANTERBURY, spoke to the same effect, and the bill was read a second time.

#### PROBATE AND ADMINISTRATION BILL.

The report on this bill was brought up and received, after speeches from Lord STANHOPE, who protested against the right of appeal proposed to be granted in testamentary matters to their Lordships' house, instead of to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; from Lord MALMESBURY and Lord WYNDHAM, who urged on the Lord Chancellor the necessity of granting some compensation to proctors for the losses they would sustain by the operation of the bill (to which the Lord CHANCELLOR replied that such a grant would be impossible—an opinion in which he was supported by Lord St. LEONARDS); and from the Earl of DONOUGHMORE, who spoke in favour of retaining the services of proctors.

#### DIVORCE AND MATRIMONIAL CAUSES BILL.

The House resumed their committee on this bill, when The Bishop of OXFORD asked permission, before the discussion on the proposition to abolish the action of damages for criminal conversation was resumed, to move the following proviso at the end of the 43rd clause:—"Provided nevertheless, that, inasmuch as by the law of this realm and church the bond of marriage hath hitherto been indissoluble, no clerk in holy orders of the Church of England shall, after the passing of this Act, be liable to any censure, penalty, or punishment whatever, in any court, ecclesiastical or civil, for refusing to perform the marriage service over any person or persons who, having been married and divorced, shall seek to be married again during the lifetime of the husband or wife from whom they have been divorced under the provisions of this Act."—After some discussion, the proviso was negatived on a division, the numbers being:—

Contents	...	26
Non-contents	...	78
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On clause 44, relating to the action for criminal conversation, considerable discussion arose, during which the LORD CHANCELLOR said he thought that this action ought to follow and not precede the proof of the wife's guilt; Lord LYNTHURST moved an amendment, the effect of which was to abolish the action altogether; Lord St. LEONARDS proposed a fine on the adulterer; the Bishop of OXFORD thought that, if facilities were given to divorce a more distinctly criminal character should be given to the act of adultery; Lord WENSLEYDALE defended the action for criminal conversation as one coeval with the law of England; and Lord CAMPBELL declared it to be a disgrace to the law, observing, amidst some laughter, that, when asked about it by foreigners, he could only blush. Ultimately, Lord Derby suggested an amalgamation of Lord St. LEONARDS's and Lord LYNTHURST's amendments, so that the effect of the clause would be to provide that it should not be competent for any person to bring an action for damages for criminal conversation, but that whoever should commit adultery with a married woman should be deemed guilty of a misdemeanour.—This suggestion was adopted, and the clause, as amended, was agreed to.—The remaining clauses and the preamble were agreed to.

The House then resumed, and the bill was reported.

Their Lordships then adjourned till next Thursday.

#### CHURCH-RATES.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Sir JOHN TRELAWNEY gave notice that on the 5th of June he should move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish church-rates. He understood that this motion would be unopposed.

#### POPULAR EDUCATION.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON gave notice that on that day fortnight he should call attention to the condition of popular education, and move a resolution to the effect that the present system of national education in England is unequal and insufficient, and that it was therefore advisable to raise rates in aid of existing education funds, provision being made for securing rights of conscience to all religious denominations.

#### THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S DOWRY.

Mr. BOWYER gave notice that in committee on the bill relating to the Princess Royal's annuity, he should move an amendment to the effect that, in the event of her Royal Highness becoming Queen of Prussia, the annuity should cease.

#### JOINT-STOCK BANKS.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in answer to Mr. HEADLAM, stated that it was the intention of Government to introduce a bill in the course of the session for the regulation of the construction of joint-stock banks.

#### THE NEUCHÂTEL QUESTION.

Mr. KINNAIRD asked whether the Government had received any information of the ratification of the treaty between Prussia and Switzerland respecting Neuchâtel.—Lord PALMERSTON was happy to be able to state that the treaty had been accepted by both parties, and was signed a few days ago. He presumed the hon. gentleman meant 'signed' when he said 'ratified.' The question might now be considered as satisfactorily settled. (Hear, hear.)

#### BRAZIL AND THE SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. ROEBUCK called attention to our relations with Brazil. In 1826, we entered into a treaty with that power, by which participation in the slave trade was declared to be piracy. In 1845, Lord Aberdeen, the Foreign Secretary under Sir Robert Peel's Government, introduced into the House of Lords a bill giving to English courts of justice power to adjudicate on ships taken under the treaty of 1826. It was then clearly and distinctly stated that the operation of the Act should terminate if the slave trade were abolished in Brazil. Now, the slave trade had ceased in that empire, thanks to the reaction in public opinion and the enlightened character of the present Emperor of Brazil. Mr. Roebuck consequently thought that the act of 1845 should be repealed. It attacked the sovereignty of Brazil; and the consequence was that the people of Brazil refused to enter into any treaty with us while it existed. Brazil is a great commercial nation; it imports 12,000,000l. annually, and her alliance is of great importance to us commercially. Her fluvial system is the most magnificent on the globe. Most of her internal traffic is carried on on her waters, and that traffic is in-

terfered with by our cruisers going into her waters, seising her ships, and taking them for adjudication to courts wholly British. What would be the consequence of our cruisers seising an American ship with slaves on board? (*Hear, hear.*) We are abject and subservient to the strong; we bully and oppress the weak. (*Hear, hear.*) Why did we not interfere with Cuba? Brazil could supply us with coffee, sugar, and cotton, and render us independent of the insolence of America, to which we are now slaves. He moved to refer the subject to a select committee.

Lord PALMERSTON, after expressing his surprise that a person like Mr. Roebuck should have given countenance to the vulgar and unfounded assertion that it is the practice of England to bully the weak and succumb to the strong, stated that the act of 1845 had been suspended by mutual consent for some years past, and is in fact a dead letter. The act had previously been put in operation because the Brazilian Government, after repeated warnings, had neglected, and even refused, to do anything to stop the infamous traffic in negroes. This had the desired effect, and the act, as he had already said, was now in effect suspended. Nevertheless, it would be most dangerous to repeal it, as there are parties in Rio who only desire an opportunity to reintroduce the trade. He therefore entreated Mr. Roebuck and the House not to take a step which might lead to the revival of so odious a state of things as that which had been abolished.

Mr. BRAMLEY MOORE supported the motion, but remarked that the question is a difficult one, as the slave trade exists in our own colonies, as, for instance, at Sierra Leone.—Mr. MONCKTON MILNES opposed the motion; and Mr. ROEBUCK, in the course of a brief reply, contended that Lord Palmerston had shown no reason for opposing the motion, and repeated his charge against the Government of pursuing a different policy with weak and strong states. Would the noble Lord, he asked, dare to send a cruiser up the Chesapeake, to search American vessels?—Mr. DISRAELI observed that the motion was a very strong one, inasmuch as it proposed to take the management of our diplomatic relations with a foreign Power out of the hands of the Government, and thereby implied a want of confidence in the Government. He understood that Mr. Roebuck did not represent any particular complaint on the part of the Brazilian Government with reference to the act in question, and he understood from Lord Palmerston that the act is at this moment in suspense by mutual agreement between the two countries. Under these circumstances, he could not support the motion. At the same time, the subject was one which ought to interest the House.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL was also in favour of leaving the matter in the hands of the Government; and the motion was negatived, to the great amusement of the House, by 312 to 17.

#### THE BOARD OF ADMIRALTY.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER moved for a select committee to inquire into the constitution of the Board of Admiralty, with the view of rendering it more efficient, and better adapted to the various duties it has to perform. He had never met with a naval officer or clerk in any of the departments who did not complain of the manner in which naval affairs were managed. The navy costs an immense sum without adequate value, and confusion prevails amongst the various departments. Of that confusion he had had ample experience in the contradictory orders he had himself received when in the command of fleets. A slight change in the constitution of the Board would suffice to bring about great and salutary improvements. If France and Russia were to unite against England, he did not think the Crown of England would be worth six months' purchase unless the navy were better manned.—Mr. BENTINCK seconded the motion, and spoke of the anomaly of having a civilian at the head of the Admiralty.

Mr. BERNAL OSBORNE replied, and observed, in answer to a complaint of Sir Charles, that the post of the First Lord of the Admiralty is not a permanent one, but varies with the Government, that the head of no other department is permanent, and that such changes are inseparable from popular representation. In 1846, Sir Charles applied for a seat at the Board of Admiralty; but now, in 1857, he wishes to blow the board up. Whenever naval officers are at the head of the Admiralty, the greatest amount of dissatisfaction is always given both to the service and to the public. All great improvements in the navy had been effected by civilian First Lords; and indeed the duty of the First Lord is as much civil as professional. Sir Charles's assertion with respect to the probable effect of a combination between France and Russia was unworthy of an English Admiral.—The motion was further opposed by Mr. KER, Admiral WALCOTT (who advocated the appointment of a board of scientific men to consider improvements in shipbuilding), and Lord CHARLES PAGET. It was supported by Sir GEORGE PEECH, Mr. WARRIE, and Mr. LINDSAY.—Sir CHARLES WOOD defended the present constitution of the Board of Admiralty, and said he thought it undesirable that the First Lord should always be a naval officer.

Sir CHARLES NAPIER replied, and the House divided, when only 35 voted in favour of the motion to 152 against it. It was therefore lost by a majority of 117.

#### THE LAND TAX.

Mr. MACKINNON moved for a select committee "to

consider the expediency of a more equitable adjustment of the land tax; also of allowing a further redemption of the same; and whether by any other means the land tax might be made more beneficial to the revenue of the country, and to the reduction of the national debt."—Sir JOHN TROLLOPE thought the difficulties in the way of a new assessment too great to be dealt with by a select committee.—Mr. NEATE supported the motion, which was opposed by the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, who advised Mr. Mackinnon to withdraw his motion. This was accordingly done.

#### TENANT RIGHT.

Mr. MOORE obtained leave to bring in a bill to provide for the better securing of and regulating the custom of tenant right as practised in the province of Ulster, and to secure compensation to improving tenants who may not make claim under the said custom, and to limit the power of eviction in certain cases.

#### SURGERY IN IRELAND.

Mr. FAGAN obtained leave to bring in a bill for securing the more effectual promotion of the medical and surgical sciences in the Queen's University, Ireland.

#### AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS.

Viscount RAYNHAM moved for a select committee to inquire into the operation of the act for the punishment of persons convicted of aggravated assaults.—Sir GEORGE GREY thought the existing law sufficient to meet the evils complained of, and opposed the motion.—Mr. BENTINCK supported the motion, and strongly advocated corporal punishment in such cases.—After some further conversation, the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 125 to 84.

Mr. DODSON obtained a select committee to inquire into the operation of the excise and customs duties upon hops.—The report of the Committee of Supply was brought up and agreed to; and the House shortly afterwards adjourned, at twenty minutes past twelve o'clock.

#### MR. BRIGHT AND PARLIAMENTARY REFORM.

The following letter has been received by Mr. Alexander Laing, Hawick, in acknowledgment of certain resolutions of sympathy with Messrs. Cobden, Bright, and Gibson, on the result of the Huddersfield and Manchester elections, passed at a meeting held in that town some weeks ago. A letter on the subject from Mr. Cobden has already been published:—

Geneva, May 17, 1857.

"Dear Sir,—Your kind note, enclosing a copy of the resolution passed at a public meeting of the inhabitants of Hawick, reached me only last evening. I lose no time in writing to say that I am very glad to find that in your town the cause of reform, free trade, and retrenchment has so many warm friends, and that you have understood and approved the policy which Mr. Cobden, Mr. Gibson, and myself have supported in the House of Commons. In the question of free trade little progress has been made for some years past; as to retrenchment, the word has become almost obsolete, and the military expenditure of the country is now nearly double the amount which the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel thought necessary in 1835, although we have no more territory to defend, and although a large army is no longer necessary to maintain tranquillity in Ireland. As to reform, while almost everybody professes to be in favour of it in some shape, the preparation of the particular bill to be brought forward next year is left in the hands of a Minister whose hostility to every proposition for reform since the year 1832 is notorious and undeniable. Whether on these three points, to which your resolution refers, the country is in a satisfactory position, I must leave the friends of free trade, reform, and retrenchment to decide.

"With regard to the promised reform, let me warn you to look not more to the question of franchise than to the other arrangements of the measure. It would be easy to double the number of electors, and at the same time to increase the aristocratic influence in Parliament. To give votes without giving representatives, in some fair degree, in proportion to the votes, is but to cheat the people; and to give a large increase of votes without the security of the ballot will subject increased numbers of our countrymen to the degrading influences which wealth and power now exercise so unscrupulously upon the existing electoral body. A moderate measure, and an honest one so far as it goes, is far more to be desired than one of great pretensions with some fraudulent scheme for defeating the wishes of the nation. A dishonest apportionment of members may effectually destroy a representation; and any trick to obstruct the free action of majorities, such as that proposed in Lord John Russell's last bill, should be strenuously resisted, as calculated to undermine the very basis of representative institutions, and designed only to cheat the people of that increased power which the bill would profess to confer upon them.

"Whether I shall ever again in Parliament support the policy you approve, is extremely uncertain; but I shall always retain a grateful sense of the kindness which I have received in past times, and at the present time, from the intelligent community on whose behalf you have written to me.

"Believe me to be, very sincerely yours,

"JOHN BRIGHT."

"To Alex. Laing, Esq., Hawick."

#### THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

##### DIVISION LIST ON THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

(Monday, May 25th.)

Princess Royal.—Resolution on Queen's Message [18th May] reported;

"That the annual sum of eight thousand pounds be granted to her Majesty, out of the Consolidated Fund of Great Britain and Ireland, the said annuity to be settled on her Royal Highness the Princess Royal for her life, in such manner as her Majesty shall think proper, and to commence from the date of the Marriage of her Royal Highness with his Royal Highness Prince Frederic William of Prussia."

Resolution read 2<sup>d</sup>; Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "eight," in order to insert the "six"—(*Mr. Coningham*)—instead thereof:—Question put, "That the word 'eight' stand part of the Resolution?"—The House divided; Ayes 328, Noes 14.

#### AYES.

Alderley, C. B.	French, Colonel	Noel, Hon. G. J.
Alcock, Thomas	Gallwey, Sir W. P.	Norreys, Sir D. J.
Althorp, Viscount	Gard, Richard S.	North, Frederick
Antrobus, Edmund	Glover, Edward A.	O'Flaherty, A.
Arbuthnot, Hn. Glyn	George Carr	Ogilvy, Sir John
Bagshaw, John	Glyn, George G.	Osborne, Ralph
Bagwell, John	Goderich, Viscount	Pakington, Rt. Hon.
Bailey, Sir Joseph	Grace, O. D. J.	Sir John
Baillie, Henry J.	Graham, Rt. Hon. Sir	Palmerston, Vis.
Baines, Rt. Hon. M. T.	James	Patten, Colonel W.
Ball, Edward	Gregory, W. H.	Paul, Henry
Baring, Rt. Hon. Sir	Gregson, Samuel	Pechell, Sir G. B.
F. T.	Grenfell, C. W.	Pennant, Hn. Col.
Barnard, Thomas	Gray, Captain	Perry, Sir T. E.
Barnard, Hn. W. S.	Gray, Rt. Hon. Sir G.	Pevenssey, Viscount
Barrow, W. H.	Gray, Ralph W.	Platt, James
Bathurst, A. A.	Grosvenor, Lord R.	Potter, Sir John
Baxter, W. E.	Gordon, Brampton	Powell, Francis S.
Beale, Samuel	Hackblock, William	Price, Wm. P.
Beamish, Francis B.	Hadfield, George	Pugh, David
Bethell, Sir Richard	Hall, Rt. Hon. Sir B.	Puller, C. W.
Biggs, John	Hamilton, Lord C.	Ramsden, Sir J. W.
Black, Adam	Hamilton, G. A.	Ramsay, Sir A.
Bland, Loftus H.	Hamilton, J. Haas	Raynham, Viscount
Blanford, Marq. of	Hambury, Robert	Rebow, John G.
Boldero, Colonel	Handley, John	Repton, G. W. J.
Bouverie, Hn. P. P.	Hankey, Thomson	Ricardo, John L.
Bramley-Moore, J.	Haumer, Sir John	Ricardo, Osman
Brand, Hn. Henry	Hardestie, J. A.	Ridley, Henry
Bridges, Sir B. W.	Hassard, Michael	Ridley, George
Briscoe, John Ivatt	Hastie, Archibald	Routledge, William
Bruce, H. Austin	Hay, Lord John	Russell, Lord John
Bruen, Henry	Headlam, T. E.	Russell, Francis W.
Buchanan, Walter	Heard, John Isaac	Russell, Sir Wm.
Buller, James W.	Henley, Rt. Hon. J. W.	Salisbury, Enoch G.
Bunbury, W. Bunb.	Herbert, Henry A.	Schneider, H. W.
McClintock	Herbert, Rt. Hon. S.	Scholefield, W.
Butler, Charles S.	Herbert, Hn. P. E.	Sclater, George
Buxton, Sir E. N.	Hill, Hn. R. C.	Scott, Hon. Francis
Byng, Hon. George	Hodgson, Wm. N.	Scott, Captain E.
Caird, James	Holford, Robert S.	Seymour, Henry D.
Cairns, H. M. C.	Holland, Edward	Shelley, Sir John V.
Calcutt, Francis M.	Hope, A. J. B.	Sheridan, H. B.
Carnac, Sir J. R.	Hopwood, John T.	Sibthorp, Major
Castlerosse, Vis.	Hornby, William H.	Slaney, Robert A.
Cavendish, Lord	Horsfall, Thomas B.	Smith, Rt. Hon. R. V.
Cavendish, Hn. G.	Horsman, Rt. Hon. Smith	Smith, Augustus
Cecil, Lord Robert	Edward	Smith, Sir E.
Charlesworth, J. C. D.	Hotham, Lord	Smollett, Alexander
Chatham, John	Howard, Hon. Chas.	Somers, John P.
Christy, Samuel	W. G.	Somerville, R. Hon.
Clifford, Chas. C.	Hudson, George	Sir W. Mered.
Codrington, Gen.	Hutt, William	Spencer, Augustus
Cole, Hon. H. A.	Jackson, William	Stafford, James B.
Colbrooke, Sir T. E.	Jervoise, Sir J. C.	Stanhope, James B.
Collier, Robert P.	Johnstone, Hn. H. B.	Stanley, Lord
Collins, Thomas	Kelly, Sir Fitzroy	Stanley, Hn. W. O.
Conolly, Thomas	Kerrison, Sir E. C.	Stapleton, John
Cowper, Rt. Hon. W. F.	Kershaw, James	Steel, John
Coote, Sir C. H.	King, James King	Stewart, Sir M. R. S.
Conyngnam, Lord F.	King, E. Bolton	Stewart, Colonel
Cottrell, Sir H. G.	Kinglake, Alex. W.	Sykes, Col. W. H.
Crawford, R. W.	Kinglake, John A.	Talbott, C. R. M.
Crossley, Frank	Kingscote, R. N. F.	Thesiger, Sir F.
Curzon, Viscount	Kingsford, Hn. A. F.	Thompson, General
Dalkeith, Earl of	Kirk, William	Thornley, Thomas
Damer, Lionel D.	Kitchin, Hugh	Tollmach, Hon. F.
Davey, Richard	sen, E.	James
Davis, Sir H. R. F.	Knox, Hn. W. S.	Tollmach, Charles
Denison, Edmund	Labouchere, Rt. Hon.	Townsend, John
Dering, Sir Edward	Henry	Trevelyan, Hn. Chas.
De Vere, S. E.	Langton, James H.	Henry Rolle
Disraeli, Rt. Hon. B.	Langton, W. Gore	Trotter, Rt. Hon. Sir
Divet, Edward	Laure, John	Trotter, John
Dodson, John G.	Leigh, George C.	Trotter, James A.
Drummond, Henry	Leshie, Charles P.	Tynte, Col. Kenys
Du Cane, Charles	Levis, Rt. Hon. Sir	Tynte, Col. Kenys
Duncan, Viscount	C. C.	Vane, Lord Harv.
Duncombe, Thomas	Liddell, Hon. H. G.	Villiers, Rt. Hon. C.
Dundas, Frederick	Lincoln, Earl of	Pelham
Dunlop, Alex. M.	Lovaine, Lord	Vivian, Henry H.
Du Pre, C. G.	Lowry, Rt. Hon. R.	Waddington, H. S.
Dutton, Hn. R. H.	Lytton, Sir G. E. L.	Walcott, Admiral
East, Sir James B.	Bulwer	Waldron, Laurence
Egerton, Sir P.	Macartney, George	Warburton, G. D.
Egerton, W. Tatt.	Macaulay, Kenneth	Warre, John A.
Egerton, E. C.	Mackie, James	Warren, Samuel
Elcho, Lord	Mackinnon, Wm. A.	Watkins, Col. Lloyd
Ellice, Rt. Hon. E.	McClintock, John	Wegelin, T. M.
Ellice, Edward	McCullagh, W. T.	Western, Sutton
Elphinstone, Sir J.	Mallins, Richard	Watman, James
Elton, Sir A. H.	Mangles, Ross D.	White, Henry
Emm, John	Mangles, Charles E.	White, Henry
Escombe, John	Manners, Lord J.	Wickham, H. W.
Estcourt, T. H. S.	Marjoribanks, D. C.	Wickham, Loftus T.
Evans, Thomas W.	Masscy, William N.	Widdowson, H. S.
Ewart, William	Matheson, Alex.	Widdowson, H. S.
Ewart, Joseph C.	Matheson, Sir W. F.	Widdowson, H. S.
Fagan, William	Matheson, Viscount	Widdowson, H. S.
Farquhar, Sir W. M.	Melroy, James	Widdowson, H. S.
Fergus, John	Mills, William	Widdowson, H. S.
Fergusson, Sir R.	Mills, Arthur	Widdowson, H. S.
Finlay, A. S.	Mills, Thomas	Widdowson, H. S.
Fitzgerald, Rt. Hon.	Milnes, Richard M.	Widdowson, H. S.
John D.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Fitzroy, Rt. Hon. H.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Foley, John H.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Foley, Henry J. W.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Forde, Colonel	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Forster, Sir George	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Foster, Wm. Orme	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Fortescue, Hn. F. D.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Fortescue, C. S.	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Freeston, Colonel	Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J.	Widdowson, H. S.
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr. Hayter and the Earl of Mulgrave.		

Blackburn, Peter Jones, David Stirling, William  
Blake, John MacEvoy, Edward Taylor, Simon Wat-  
Bowler, George Maguire, John F. son  
Corbally M. E. O'Donoghoe, The Trelawny, Sir J. S.  
Dalglish, Robert Pease, Henry Williams, William  
Tellers for the Noes, Mr. Coningham and Mr. Cox.

## Supply.—Resolutions reported;

"1. That the sum of 40,000*l.* be granted to her Majesty, for the Marriage Portion of her Royal Highness the Princess Royal."

Resolution read 2<sup>d</sup>; Motion made, and Question put, "That this House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolution."—The House divided; Ayes, 361, Noes 18.

## AYES.

Althorp, Viscount Fitzgerald, Rt. Hon. Montgomery, H. L.  
Anderson, Sir J. John D. Montgomery, Sir G.  
Annesley, Hon. H. FitzRoy, Rt. Hon. H. Morris, David  
Antrobus, Edmund Foley, John H. Mowbray, J. R.  
Arbuthnot, Hn. Gl. Foley, Henry J. W. Naas, Lord  
Ashley, Lord Forster, Rt. Hon. Cl. Newark, Viscount  
Bagwell, John Forster, Sir G. Newdegate, C. N.  
Bailey, Sir Joseph Foster, William O. Newport, Viscount  
Baillie, Henry J. Fortescue, Hn. F. D. Nicoll, Donald  
Baines, Rt. Hon. M. T. Fortescue, C. S. Nisbet, R. P.  
Ball, Edward Fortescue, C. S. Noel, Hon. G. J.  
Baring, Rt. Hon. Sir Fraser, Sir W. A. Noels, Sir D. J.  
T. T. Freestun, Colonel North, Colonel  
Baring, Thomas French, Colonel North, Colonel  
Barnard, Thomas Gallwey, Sir W. P. North, Frederick  
Bernard, Hn. W. S. Gard, Richard S. O'Flaherty, A.  
Barrow, W. H. Gilpin, Charles Oglivy, Sir John  
Bathurst, A. A. Glover, E. A. Osborne, Ralph  
Baxter, W. E. Glyn, George C. Ossulston, Lord  
Beale, Samuel Glyn, George C. Paget, Lord Alfred  
Beamish, Francis B. Goderich, Viscount Pakenham, Colonel  
Beaumont, W. B. Grace, O. D. J. Pakenham, Rt. Hon.  
Beetie, Earl of Graham, Rt. Hon. Sir John  
Bethell, Sir James Palmer, Robert  
Biddulph, R. M. Greer, S. McCurdy Palmerston, Vise.  
Biggs, John Gregory, W. H. Patten, Colonel W.  
Black, Adam Gregson, Samuel Paull, Henry  
Blandford, Marq. of Gray, Captain Pease, Henry  
Boldero, Colonel Grey, Rt. Hon. Sir G. Pechell, Sir G. B.  
Bonham-Carter, J. Grey, Ralph W. Peel, General  
Booth, Sir R. G. Grosvenor, Lord R. Pennant, Hon. Col.  
Booth, Beriah Gurdon, Brampton Perry, Sir T. E.  
Bouverie, Hn. P. P. Gurney, Samuel Pevenssey, Viscount  
Bovill, William Hackblock, W. Platt, James  
Bramley-Moore, J. Hall, Rt. Hon. Sir B. Potter, Sir John  
Bramley, Hon. Henry Hamilton, Lord C. Powell, F. C.  
Bridges, Sir B. W. Hamilton, G. A. Price, W. P.  
Briscoe, John Ivatt Hamilton, J. Hans Pritchard, John  
Brown, James Hanbury, Robert Pugh, David  
Bruce, Henry A. Hankey, Thomson Puller, C. W.  
Bruen, Henry Haumer, Sir John Ramsden, Sir J. W.  
Buchanan, Walter Hardcastle, J. A. Ramsay, Sir A.  
Buller, James W. Hassard, Michael Raynham, Vise.  
Burrell, Sir C. M. Hastic, Archibald Rebow, J. G.  
Butler, Charles S. Hatchell, John Repton, G. W. J.  
Buxton, Charles Hay, Lord John Ricardo, J. L.  
Buxton, Sir E. N. Headlam, T. E. Ricardo, Osman  
Byng, Hon. George Heard, John Isaac Rich, Henry  
Caird, James Heathcote, Hn. G. H. Ridley, George  
Calcraft, John H. Herby, Rt. Hon. J. W. Roupell, William  
Carnac, Sir John H. Herbert, H. A. Russell, Lord John  
Castlerosse, Vis. Herbert, Rt. Hon. S. Russell, F. W.  
Cavendish, Lord Herbert, Hn. P. E. Russell, Sir W.  
Cavendish, Hn. G. Hill, Hn. R. C. Salisbury, E. G.  
Cecil, Lord Robert Hodgson, W. N. Schneider H. W.  
Charlesworth, J. C. Holford, R. S. Scholefield, W.  
Dodgson Holland, Edward  
Cheetham, John Hope, A. J. B. B. Scott, Captain E.  
Christy, Samuel Hopwood, J. T. Seymour, Henry Ker  
Clark, James J. Hornby, W. H. Seymour, H. D.  
Clifford, Charles C. Horsfall, T. B. Shelley, Sir J. V.  
Codrington, Gen. Horsman, Rt. Hon. E. Sheridan, H. B.  
Cole, Hon. H. A. Hotham, Lord Sibthorp, Major  
Colebrooke, Sir T. E. Howard, Hn. C. W. G. Slaney, R. A.  
Collier, R. P. Hudson, George Smith, J. B.  
Collins, Thomas Hume, W. F. Smith, Rt. Hon. R. V.  
Colville, Charles R. Hutt, William Smith, Augustus  
Conolly, Thomas Ingram, Herbert Smith, Sir F.  
Cowper, Rt. Hon. W. Jackson, William Smyth, Colonel  
Francis Jernyn, Earl Smollett, Alexander  
Coot, Sir C. H. Jervoise, Sir J. C. Somerville, Rt. Hon.  
Conyngham, Lord F. Johnstone, Hn. H. B. Sir W. M.  
Cottrell, Sir H. G. Johnstone, J. J. H. Spooner, Richard  
Crawford, R. W. Jones, David Stafford, Augustus  
Crossley, Frank Kerrison, Sir E. C. Stafford, Marq. of  
Curzon, Viscount Kershaw, James Stanhope, J. B.  
Dalglish, Robert King, James King Stanley, Lord  
Dalketh, Earl of King, E. B. Stanley, Hn. W. O.  
Damer, Lionel D. Kinglake, A. W. Stapleton, John  
Davey, Richard Kinglake, J. A. Steel, John  
Davie, Sir H. R. F. Kincaid, Rt. N. F. Stephenson, Robert  
Davison, Richard Kinnaird, Hn. A. F. Stewart, Sir M. R. S.  
Denison, Edmund Kirk, William Stuart, Colonel  
Derby, Sir E. Knatchbull-Hugess, Stuart, H. G.  
De Vere, S. E. sen, E. Sykes, Col. W. H.  
Disraeli, Rt. Hon. B. Knox, Hn. W. S. Talbot, C. E. M.  
Divett, Edward Lambouche, Rt. Hon. Tempest, Lord A. V.  
Dodson, John G. Henry Thesiger, Sir F.  
Drummond, Henry Langston, J. H. Thompson, General  
Du Cane, Charles Langston, W. G. Thornely, Thomas  
Duncan, Viscount Langton, H. G. Tottenham, Charles  
Dundas, Frederick Laurie, John Trevelyan, Hn. C. H. R.  
Dunlop, A. M. Legh, G. C. Trollope, Rt. Hon.  
Du Pre, C. George Lewis, Rt. Hon. Sir John  
Dutton, Hn. R. H. G. Cornwall Turner, J. A.  
East, Sir James B. Liddell, Hon. H. G. Tynte, Colonel K.  
Egerton, Sir Philip Lincoln, Earl of Vaue, Lord Harry  
Egerton, W. Tat. Lovaine, Lord Verner, Sir W.  
Egerton, E. C. Lowe, Rt. Hon. R. Villiers, Rt. Hon. C. P.  
Elcho, Lord Lytton, Sir E. L. B. Vivian, Hn. J. C. W.  
Ellice, Rt. Hon. E. Macartney, George Vivian, H. H.  
Ellice, Edward Macaulay, Kenneth Waddington, H. S.  
Elphinstone, Sir J. Mackie, James Walcott, Admiral  
Elton, Sir A. H. Mackinnon, W. A. Waldron, Laurence  
Emis, John Mallin, Richard Warburton, G. D.  
Esmonde, John Mangles, R. D. Warren, Samuel  
Esteourt, T. H. S. Mangles, C. B. Watkin, B. W.  
Euston, Earl of Manners, Lord John Watkins, Col. L.  
Evans, Thomas W. Marjoribanks, D. C. Weguelin, T. M.  
Ewart, William Massey, W. N. Western, Sutton  
Ewart, Joseph O. Matheson, Alex. Whitman, James  
Fagan, William Melgund, Viscount Whiteside, Henry  
Farquhar, Sir W. M. Merry, James Whitmore, Henry  
Fenwick, Henry Miles, William Wickham, H. W.  
Fergus, John Mills, Thomas Wigram, Loftus T.  
Ferguson, Colonel Milton, Viscount Wilcox, B. M. Ghie  
Finlay, Alex. S. Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. J. Williams, William  
Fitzgerald, W. R. S. Moncrieff, Rt. Hon. W. Williams, Sir W. F.

Williams, E. W. B. Woodd, Basil T. Wyndham, William  
Willoughby, Sir H. Wrightson, W. B. Wynn, Colonel  
Willoughby, J. P. Wyld, James Wynn, Sir W. W.  
Wingfield, R. B. Windham, General Wynn, W. E.  
Wise, John A. Wyndham, General Wyvill, Marmaduke  
Wood, Rt. Hon. Sir C. Wyndham, Henry  
Tellers for the Ayes, Mr. Hayter and the Earl of Mulgrave.

## NOES.

Ayrton, Acton Smee Dunne, Michael Stirling, William  
Blackburn, Peter Evans, Sir De Lacy Sullivan, Michael  
Blake, John Greene, John Taylor, S. W.  
Bowler, George Hadfield, George Townsend, John S.  
Corbally, M. E. MacEvoy, Edward Trelawny, Sir J.  
Cox, William O'Donoghoe, The White, James  
Tellers for the Noes, Mr. Coningham and Mr. Maguire.

## THREE VISITS TO THE MANCHESTER ART TREASURES EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

## III.

## TREASURES AND TRASH.

If the Executive Committee of the Art Treasures Exhibition had kept steadily in view the title which was given to their undertaking, and the eclectic severity which that title implied, they would have made a smaller but a much better collection. We have stated that there are about sixteen thousand objects in the Exhibition; but it is not too much to say that at least one half of these are not Art Treasures. What was the object in view: to collect examples of every school and every style, good or bad, or to illustrate the highest pinnacles of the Arts by an assemblage of masterpieces? If the former, then the object is certainly carried out, but at the expense of falsifying the title; if the latter, it must be admitted that works of the highest excellence are largely adulterated with a plentiful sprinkling of inferior things.

It has been already explained that the plan of arrangement ostensibly adopted, imperfect as it is, is still more imperfectly carried out. Those who examine the collection of paintings with the view to extracting from it an intelligible history of Art must go prepared with enough knowledge to render such an analytical process superfluous. What the compilers and editor of the catalogue have been unable to effect in a volume of three hundred pages, we cannot certainly undertake to accomplish in three columns. All that we can do is to take a sort of 'Voyage autour de l'Exposition,' in the company of the reader, pointing out to him, as we go, such objects of interest as seem to us most worthy of notice.

And, in the first place, to begin at the beginning, we will proceed to Saloon A, which is the furthest room on the left-hand side of the nave, before you come to the transept, and there we shall find the earlier of the ancient masters, from the Byzantine school down to Raphael and Michael Angelo. After this, we proceed down that side of the building until we are stopped by the east wall, with the noble portrait of Charles the First by Van Dyck occupying the centre, and looking as if he were about to prance out of the wall.

The specimens of the Byzantine school, at the west end of saloon A, are extremely good and interesting, and if the visitor will compare them with the masters of the early Italian school (Giotto, Cimabue, Gaddi, Angelico da Fiesole, Massaccio, Botticelli and Lippi) he will understand how the art of painting gradually grew out of the simplest and rudest forms into the state which it attained before the coming of those great Apostles of Beauty, Raphael and Michael Angelo. In Massaccio (38, 'His own Portrait,' and 67, 'A Male Portrait') will be found a portrait painter of no mean order. The Virgins of Giotto and his contemporaries are insipid enough, but they are gracefully painted nevertheless. In Perugia we begin to perceive decided indications of that rapid advance which was fully carried out by his great pupil, Raphael. Leonardo da Vinci and Fra Bartolommeo were great prophets of the new Art Evangelic, powerful draughtsmen, and masters of colour. Under the head of Michael Angelo there are but two pictures in the whole Exhibition, and one of these (Mr. Labouchere's 'Holy Family,' 140) is, to say the least of it, doubtful. The two portraits of Andrea del Sarto (107 and 108) must be examined with care, as also the two fine Carlo Dolceis (124, 'The Marriage of St. Catherine,' and 127, 'The Nativity'). To those whose minds are not yet made up upon the pretensions of the so-called pre-Raphaelites of the present day, we recommend a careful examination of the specimens of Mabuse to be found in this collection, more especially of 517, the 'Adoration of the Kings,' the examples of Mantegna and of Van Eyck, and the ancient copy of the celebrated 'Adoration of the Lamb' altar-piece by the latter, may be profitably examined with the same end, for they are not only among the finest pictures in the collection, but they prove that the pre-Raphaelites of the present day copy the vices without being able to imitate the virtues of their great prototypes. Mabuse's 'Adoration' is indeed a splendid painting. The jewels and embroidery are drawn with microscopic fidelity; but the composition is so good, and the figures so well painted, that it looks well at a distance when all the pretty niceties are no longer discernible. In going over the ancient masters, the visitor must disregard entirely the arrangement of the catalogue. He must turn over the list of the whole collection, and mark the dates for

himself, and he will find himself putting Francia and Van Eyck before Raphael and Tintoretto. Before coming to these last he must examine the fine Mantegnas in the collection; Lord Craven's fine portrait of 'Luther and the Reformers,' by Lucas Cranach (451); the celebrated portraits of Henry VIII. and Francis I., by Holbein (454, 455); Albert Durer's 'Portrait of his Father' (462); the fine diptychs and triptychs by Memling; the famous 'Misers,' by Quentin Matsys, from Windsor Castle (499); and many others belonging to the same age which will be found on the north wall of Saloon A. Under the name of Raphael himself we find not less than thirty-three separate works catalogued, but none of them (except, perhaps, Lord Ward's little cabinet-picture of 'The Three Graces') can be considered first-rate, and none can hardly be reckoned genuine. There are, however, fair specimens of the three different styles into which his pictures are generally divided. The best pictures under this honoured name are, 133, a fragment of a predella on 'The Agony in the Garden' (belonging to Miss Burdett Coutts); 136, 'Madonna and Child' (belonging to Lord Cowper); 140, 'Madonna and Child' (belonging to Mr. Mackintosh); 148, 'The Madonna with the Pink' (belonging to Lord Pembroke), and 159, 'The Crucifixion,' from the Fesch collection, now belonging to Lord Ward. Of the Titians exhibited we have not much to say in praise; indeed, with the exception of 'A Richly Wooded Landscape' (230) contributed by her Majesty, and which is as valuable for its beauty as it is curious on account of the rarity of a landscape by that master, and two or three of the portraits, there is not much to occupy very serious attention. Lord Darnley's 'Europa' (231) is a coarse offence against the laws of public morals which is entirely unredeemed by the slightest spark of genius, and certainly challenges the attention of the Society for the Suppression of Vice. The Tintoretos are not much better; and those contributed from Hampton Court are, perhaps, the worst of the lot. Of Paolo Veronese, the best examples, in our opinion, are—275, 'The Magdalen' (belonging to Miss Burdett Coutts), and 279, Mr. Angerstein's 'Diana and Actæon.' Out of the eleven Annibale Carraccis exhibited, three stand conspicuously prominent, and one is celebrated all over the world: these are, the Duke of Newcastle's 'Coronation of the Virgin' (335), from the Rogers collection, Mr. Denison's 'Madonna and Child' (331), and Lord Carlisle's celebrated picture of 'The Three Marys' (327). We must confess to no very great sympathy with either of these works, for we rank ourselves among those heretics in whose estimation both the Carraccis lack all the qualities which go to the making of a great master; but the visitor will do well to examine them, for they are celebrated, and he may come to a different conclusion. Of Guido Reni, the best three are, 336, 'Cleopatra and the Asp' (belonging to the Queen); 337, 'Assumption of the Virgin' (belonging to Lord Ellesmere); and 341, 'St. Sebastian' (belonging to Lord Ward). Some frescoes by Correggio, belonging to Lord Ward (403 and 404), are charming and full of power, and the visitor will examine with interest the reduced original repetition of the celebrated Dresden 'Magdalen' (402), belonging to the same nobleman. Perhaps, of all the masters belonging to the earlier part of the seventeenth century, the most thoroughly and nobly represented is Rubens. There are altogether forty specimens of this great master in the collection, and some of them are the best examples of his pencil that are to be found anywhere. Of these, we would speak of 'The Rainbow Landscape' (21 of the Hertford collection); the portrait of 'Himself and Wife carrying Fruit and Game' (577); the 'Prometheus,' with the Vulture by Snyders (578); the 'St. Martin,' from Windsor Castle (587); and 'His own Portrait' (595). The student who does not know much of Rubens as a landscape painter has here an opportunity of studying him in that character which may never occur again; for not only is there the famous 'Rainbow Landscape,' about which so much has been written and said, but there are three more very fine landscapes by the same hand. In 577 we find the great Peter Paul competing with (and beating) Landseer in the representation of game; such a fawn and such snipes were never seen upon canvas; and in 595 he gives us a portrait as noble as if it were by Rembrandt, or Velasquez, or our own Sir Joshua. The portraits by Van Dyck in the collection are almost uniformly good. The specimens of the master are twenty-five in number, and we would recommend for special examination the 'Portrait of Rubens' (597), 'Charles I. on Horseback' (599), 'Killigrew and Carew' (601), and 'Philip and Madame Le Roy' (6 and 7 of the Hertford collection). There are five splendid pictures of Snyders in Saloon B, the most noticeable of which is the splendid 'Market Piece' from Clumber, and the 'Stork in the Air beset by Hawks' (655), from Mr. Tollemache's collection. The Dutch painters of Still Life are well represented in some noble specimens of De Heem, Van Huysum, and Weenix (from 892 to 900). Out of the twenty-eight examples of Rembrandt of the Rhine which enrich the collection, some choice specimens may be picked; the four in the Hertford collection (14, 15, 16, and 17); 'His own Portrait,' from the Buckingham Palace collection (661); 'Daniel before Nebuchadnezzar,' (676), a wonderful

picture, in which the mirror behind the throne of the monarch has all the appearance of being inlaid mother-of-pearl; and a very fine 'Landscape,' belonging to Lord Overstone (664)—a landscape by this master being always a great rarity. But at the same time it must be admitted that the effect of these fine masterpieces is somewhat deadened by being placed in juxtaposition with works of most inferior merit which are pretended to be by the same hand. What can be said of such a production as the 'Belshazzar's Feast' (683), when it comes under the sanction of Lord Derby's judgment and taste? The French school is very rich, there being no less than sixteen specimens of Nicolas Poussin, and five of Gaspar—some of them very fine; sixteen of Claude de Lorraine, illustrating several styles adopted by that master; two good examples of Mignard; three of Philip de Champagne; two of Watteau; one of Lancret; four of Greuze; and a Paterre. The Spanish, also, is particularly rich; containing some splendid examples of Zurbaran; twenty-eight of Murillo, among which are the two pictures brought over by Mr. Ford, and sold to Lord Overstone, and which must certainly be ranked among the most priceless gems in the collection; we refer of course to 1040, 'Virgin and Child,' and 1027, 'A Head of the Saviour.' Words are impotent to describe the matchless beauties of this latter masterpiece. It is, indeed, 'the man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.' There is a fine portrait of El Mudo, by himself (1030). The collection of the works of Velasquez is particularly rich; the four in the Hertford collection being certainly among the finest; but there are also some good specimens to be found in Saloon C, at the east end of the building—notably, 1066, 'Duke Olivarez on Horseback,' 1057, 'Philip IV. when a Boy,' 1056, 'Adrian Palido Pareja.' A Monk, by Zurbaran, in the same saloon, is among the gems of the Spanish school. Lastly, we come to the Dutch school, and the lover of genuinely humorous illustration of simple rusticity will find enough to feast upon to his heart's content in the saloon called 'The Hertford Gallery,' at the extreme west end of the building, beyond the transept. There is a screen in the room which is hung with gems, every one worth a Jew's eye: Gerard Dow's 'La Ménagère,' (684); three delicious little pieces by Maas (696, 697, 698); 'The Intruder,' by Metz; two beautiful little cabinet-pictures by Franz and William Mieris, (746 and 748), and 'The Satin Gown,' by Terburg. Paul Potter is not so well represented as he might have been, but there are ten fine specimens of Cuyp, and twenty magnificent landscapes with water by Ruysdael, all of which will repay the most careful examination. Of Hobbemas, too (wherein foreign collections usually fall short—there is not even one in the Louvre), there are eight fine examples, that in the Hertford collection being probably the masterpiece of the master. Under the names of Vandervelde, Wowerman, Bakhuizen and Berghem, too, the visitor will find much to admire.

Crossing over the nave at the east end, and beginning the English school with Hogarth, Gainsborough, and Reynolds, the visitor will find himself in Saloon D. If he be much pressed for time we cannot recommend him to extend his researches much beyond the Lawrence period, inasmuch as if he be a connoisseur, almost all the modern pictures will recall nothing but *souvenirs* of former exhibitions of the Royal Academy, and if he be not, but merely a critic guided by his own emotions and sense of the beautiful, the visit to the old masters will have put him greatly out of conceit with our modern gentlemen. We fear that Turner himself (especially as represented in the Art Treasures Exhibition) will scarcely do after Claude Lorraine, that Maclise will look but poorly after Rubens, that Goodall will be no great account after Rembrandt, and that Grant will scarcely seem like the great portrait-painter we thought him when our eyes are yet full of Velasquez and Van Dyck. But in Sir Joshua, Gainsborough, and Lawrence, we have nothing to be ashamed of. These are our three great painters; these are the men with whom, after all, we must make head against the world. Of these, Sir Joshua is perhaps the best represented in this collection. Without mentioning the matchless 'Strawberry Girl' and 'Nelly O'Brien,' in the Hertford Gallery, there are some thirty-three good specimens of Sir Joshua to be found in Saloon D, and these include some of his finest and most celebrated works: 44, 'Mrs. Tollemache as Miranda,' 45, 'The Captive,' 48, the Royal Academy 'Portrait of Himself,' 52, 'The Braddyl Family,' 75, the celebrated 'Pack,' from the Rogers collection; 118, 'Miss Bertie as Thais,' and 155, 'Mrs. Anderson Pelham feeding Chickens.' Three pictures arranged side by side at the east end of Saloon D challenge admiration; the centre one is the famous 'Blue Boy' of Gainsborough; on the right stands 'Mrs. Graham,' by the same artist; and on the left Sir Joshua's 'Mrs. Pelham.' The 'Blue Boy,' especially, is a work which proves that in Gainsborough we have not only the first of landscape painters, but one of the finest portrait-painters that the world ever saw.

We have little to say about the pictures which disfigure the north wall of Saloon D and illustrate the decadence of art in England after Reynolds—the pompous nothings, the pretentious failures of West, Northcote, Sir Martin Shee, and their compeers. Joyfully we

hasten on to the Lawrences, of which there is a fine collection in Vestibule 3 and Saloon E. Here we find 'Lady Leicester as Hope,' 'John Kemble as Coriolanus,' 'Miss Farren, Countess of Derby,' and the well-known 'Portrait of Master Lambton,' the very *beau idéal* of high-bred youth. In the same vestibule with 'John Kemble as Coriolanus' the visitor will not fail to notice Ward's splendid picture of a 'Bull, Cow, and Calf'—perhaps the finest piece of animal painting in the Exhibition.

And here, leaving the visitor who wishes to make a more intimate acquaintance with our 'modern masters' to pursue his own sweet will, we turn into the nave, and take a brief survey of Mr. Peter Cunningham's well-arranged British Portrait Gallery. Here the object is rather variety and importance of subject than excellence of painting. Yet there are some fine pictures here—portraits by Holbein, by Van Dyck, by Kneller, by Lely, by Sir Joshua, by Gainsborough, and by Sir Thomas Lawrence. The subjects, too, are as various as could be desired. The Eton portrait of Jane Shore smiles down upon us with its small mouth, large front, and golden hair; Anna Boleyn too, the reverse of pretty; bluff Hal, the most murderous of Bluebeards; Sir Christopher Hatton, of saltatory memory; Holbein's 'Sir Walter Raleigh,' gravely pondering over a map. Half-way up the nave, on the left side, is the Chandos portrait of Shakespeare, brown and grave, and with earrings in his ears. Of poets and actors, there is (as Mr. Cunningham expresses it) quite 'a nest of singing birds,' witness the names which bring up the list of the more modern portion of the collection—Scott, Byron, Crabbe, Southey, Coleridge, Gifford, Lockhart, Rogers, and Keats.

The collection of Miniatures and Enamels will be found arranged in frames upon the wall of the staircase leading up to the gallery on the south side of the transept. If the visitor have the time and material to spell the identities out of his own knowledge, this collection may be very interesting; but for the present it is rendered all but useless by the fact that it is only generally described in the catalogue. A few general notes are given as to the period supposed to be embraced; but that is all.

The Sculpture occupying the nave next claims attention. It may be that the collection is as good as could possibly be managed, but it must be admitted that there is not a *chef d'œuvre* to be found, and scarcely a great master represented. Gibson's 'Hunter' (7) is, perhaps, the finest piece in the palace; and surely when we remember the value of these easily-broken treasures, and the impossibility of repair, instead of feeling surprised that there are so few we ought only to be astonished that so many have been brought together. And here we should mention that the greatest credit is due to Mr. Dudley and Mr. Redford, not only for the collection and arrangement of the Statuary, but also for having organised and superintended the whole system of packing and transit by which the entire collection of Ornamental Art has been brought to the palace. So efficiently has this work been accomplished, that it is a positive fact that not a single important case of damage has as yet occurred.

The general collection of miscellanea, called the Museum of Ornamental Art, is arranged in cases against the hall and upon either side of the nave, and it is uniformly good. Here, also, the catalogue is very meagre, and renders very little assistance to the visitor in discovering the chief objects of interest. The classification of the objects is into Glass, Enamels, Porcelain, Oriental China, Majolica, Goldsmiths' Work, Sculpture in Bronze and Terra Cotta, Medallions and Glyptics, Carvings in Ivory, and Armour and Arms. The Soulagés collection is arranged in three cases on the north side of the nave; Lord Hastings sends a fine collection of Majolica and Raffaele ware, which fills a large case; and the Government contribution from Marlborough House is arranged in five cases on the north side. When we remind the reader that the Museum of Ornamental Art consists of ten thousand articles, and that each separate object is worthy of being made the subject of special remark, it will be understood why we can do no more than refer to the collection in the most general terms. Even to indicate the things of more prominent interest would occupy an entire impression of the *Leader*.

We do not quite understand the propriety of including armour at all in a collection of Art Treasures, and the prominence here given to it is certainly a great mistake. Nothing can be uglier or more out of place (however curious or in place they may be in the Horse Armoury at the Tower) than the row of mounted skeletons on either side of the west extremity of the nave. There are some fine pieces of tapestry, which have been well arranged by Mr. Redford, to be found against the north wall of the transept.

Passing once more through the Hertford Gallery we come to the strip of room extending all along the west end of the building, and allotted to the rich collection of Modern Water Colours. Most of the works here found will be recognised by the *habitus* of water-colour exhibitions, and all our best men are well represented. At the time we visited this collection it was remarkable, however, for nothing more than the deplorable want of care and judgment with which it was arranged.

The same remark which we applied to the armour collection may be directed with tenfold force against the collection of Indian Curiosities. They are curious, rich, and well arranged; but have about as good a title to admission into a collection of Art Treasures as the injected preparations from Surgeons' Hall or the mummies from the British Museum would have.

In the galleries over the transept will be found the collection of engravings and photographs. To the amateur the former will prove immensely attractive, for it is really full of gems and rarities. The latter collection is well arranged, and the features of many well-known persons will become popularly known through its means. The specimens sent by Mr. Herbert Watkins, of Regent-street, take a decided lead in the collection.

Such is a general outline of the mighty collection at Old Trafford; an outline which we would willingly fill in did time and opportunity offer; an outline which, as perfect as it may be, includes within its sweeping boundaries the whole domain of Art. The scheme of the Exhibition is grand and comprehensive, and if to the execution some objections may be fairly taken, the preponderance is certainly in favour of the good which has been done.

#### STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports for the week ending last Saturday show increasing dullness at Manchester, and a further disposition on the part of the manufacturers to avoid the risks of production at the present price of the raw material. From Birmingham, the advices describe steadiness in the iron-market, and no alteration in the general trades of the place. The hosiery business at Leicester and elsewhere is inactive. In the woollen districts there has been a slight increase of firmness, and the Irish linen-markets are without animation.—*Times*.

In the general business of the port of London during the same week, there has been considerable activity. Owing to the favourable change of wind, the arrivals have been large. The number of vessels reported inward was 303, being 111 more than in the previous week. These included 33 with cargoes of corn, rice, &c.; 4 with cargoes of coffee; 4 with cargoes of tea, amounting in all to 57,107 packages, in addition to 773 bales of silk; and the unusually large number of 41 cargoes of sugar, the greater portion being from the West Indies. The number of ships cleared outward was 103, including 9 in ballast, showing a decrease of 38. The number of vessels on the berth loading for the Australian colonies is 57, being 10 more than at the last account. Of these, 8 are for Adelaide, 4 for Geelong, 3 for Hobart Town, 4 for Launceston, 2 for Melbourne, 1 for Moreton Bay, 5 for New Zealand, 14 for Port Philip, 2 for Portland Bay, 1 for Port Fairy, and 13 for Sydney.—*Idem*.

The board of Trade returns for the past month were issued on Tuesday, and again show a large increase in the declared value of our exports, although not to the extraordinary extent observable during the three preceding months. The augmentation is 569,918*l.*, or five per cent., as compared with the corresponding period of last year, and 1,899,880*l.*, or twenty-three per cent., as compared with April, 1855. With regard to imported commodities, a decrease continues to be shown in the arrivals of wheat and flour. Indian corn, however, has been largely taken. In animals and salted provisions there has again been an increase, consequent upon the advancing prices of meat. The importations of coffee and tea show a reduction, while in the deliveries for home consumption there has been an immense increase, owing to the dealers having waited till the commencement of the month for the reduction of duties. Of wines, spirits, and tobacco, the arrivals have been very large, but the consumption has not exceeded the average.—*Idem*.

#### IRELAND.

A TETOTAL LECTURE FROM THE BENCH.—Mr. Justice Crampton, a noted advocate of tectotal principles, took occasion, in his charge to the grand juries at Dublin on Friday week, to make some observations on the undue number of public-houses in Ireland, and on the frequency with which crime is begotten by drink. He denied that much revenue is derivable from the spirit duties, the national expenditure necessary to collect the revenue being so great as to absorb the larger part; and he added that, even if much profit *did* accrue to the state, the advantage is entirely counterbalanced by the injury done to humanity by the sale of spirituous liquors. 'Then, he observed, consider the millions of barrels of wholesome bread corn which must of necessity be consumed in the making of spirits! He proceeded:—'I need not tell you, gentlemen, that the number of public-houses in Dublin, and in every town and district in Ireland, far exceeds the number of bakers and victuallers' shops. It has been computed upon the best authority that upon an average throughout the United Kingdom there is not less than one place at which intoxicating liquors are sold for every twenty families. A startling position, this, for every twenty families. I need not say, therefore, that throughout our own country far greater facilities are afforded for the sale of a poisonous indulgence than for the supply of wholesome

our poor and excitable population. I need not say that, go where you will throughout this country or south, east or west—wherever you see a place of public worship, adjacent thereto you are sure to find one or more public-houses. I have made this last remark by a sad experience in the course of my long circuit duties, that a greater number of crimes of violence and blood are in this country committed on the Lord's day than on any other day of the week, and that the public-house is generally the cause of the crime. The reason is obvious. The public-house is most frequented on Sunday: Sunday, in fact, the publican's harvest day. . . . Cork is first and chief scene of the meritorious and successful labours of the late benevolent Father Mathew. His reaction, I am sorry to say, has taken place and drunkenness prevails in that county to a alarming degree. And when I say that county, let me except other counties in Ireland. I look to my trials at the last Cork Assizes, and what do I find bearing upon this particular subject? I take up, almost immediately succeeding each other in the pages of my manuscript book. Of these, four were involving charges of murder and homicide, and the fifth a case of dangerous assault. Some of them involved several prisoners in one trial. There were convictions in all, and of course punishment was awarded in what I want to remark is, that these crimes were committed on a Sunday, and that they all grew out of drinking in a public-house on that day." The Judge said that distillation must still be allowed, but he thought it should be taxed to the utmost; and he wished that no intoxicating drinks should be sold in public-houses except to travellers and guests. But the learned Judge define what a traveller is?

### THE ORIENT.

#### CHINA.

*Amateur de la Flotte* (says a communication in the *Illustrated London News*) publishes accounts from China of the 2nd of which contain some interesting details from the war. Yeh, the Viceroy of the southern province of the empire, is at present at Sou-Tche-Ting, a large of Kouang-Tcheou, about fifteen miles from Hong-Kong. He has fortified himself in a good position, and flows him to maintain his communications with the other three provinces which, with Kouang-Tcheou, form his viceroyalty, and which are Kouang-Si, the Kouang-Toung, and the Konei. He is at present at the head of an army of 30,000 men, which he is increasing every day by means of levies and extraordinary taxes. A few days previous it became known at Hong-Kong that a British two non-commissioned officers, some soldiers, and a few seamen, who had been taken prisoners by the Chinese on various occasions, were at Yeh's headquarters, where they were suffering great distress. It was resolved to open negotiations to obtain an exchange of prisoners in their favour, and a foreign agent, who had previously had an interview with Yeh, undertook to the affair. Yeh consented to receive him, but, listened to his propositions, refused to comply with them. The next day, the first aide-de-camp of the Viceroy, said he was authorized by his master to pay the prisoners on payment of a ransom of five piastres each for them. The money was immediately sent from Hong-Kong, and the prisoners were released without injury. It was subsequently discovered that Yeh had fixed the sum at four hundred for each prisoner, and that Sinoo had increased the price to keep a portion for himself. A pleasant affair has occurred at Foo-chow-Foo, a large river Min, the principal market for black pepper. The Viceroy having heard that, contrary to his orders, a considerable amount of business was being done there, sent a company of his guards to the market-day, arrested several Chinese merchants, and burnt a considerable quantity of merchandise to the English.

#### AMERICA.

American papers are full of comments on the rejection of the English Government of the Dallas-Clarendon treaty with respect to Central America, on account of alterations introduced by the United States. The *Washington Union*, of the 9th inst., says: "We learn that the Cabinet have acquired considerable insight into the motives which prompted Lord Clarendon to reject the Dallas-Clarendon treaty. His professions only to desire certain very limited concessions to the Indians and to resident British subjects, modification of the treaty to that extent. This which has been semi-officially assigned to the Cabinet, is by no means comprehensible by the public; and his Cabinet. Indeed, if we consider the attitude of Lord Clarendon since the rejection of the treaty, it will be impossible to comprehend what is the object of her Majesty's Government in America." The *New York Times*, on the 12th inst., says: "Nothing is to be done relative to the Dallas-Clarendon treaty. There has been no correspondence between Mr. Dallas and Lord Clarendon, but merely a

conversation. Lord Napier has stated the grounds of objection, not only to the Secretary of State, but to others, and in terms of the most conciliatory nature. The Senate so altered the article of the treaty in regard to the Bay Islands as to require the absolute and unconditional cession of the islands to Honduras, instead of the qualified cession which was proposed. Herein rests the whole objection. I do not think from what I learn that the Administration is disposed to go into a new treaty; there is no danger of any collision, the whole matter must rest till the next Congress meets. The Administration will not instruct Mr. Dallas to offer new propositions."

The *Washington Union* of the 9th announces by authority:—"The Governments of England and France have notified to the Government of New Granada that they cannot approve its position towards the United States. Lord Clarendon has written to the British Envoy here, apprising him of the attitude of her Majesty's Cabinet upon this question, and we have reason to know that the contents of Lord Clarendon's despatch have been communicated to the State Department."

There has been a desperate, but unsuccessful, attempt of the convicts to escape from Sing Sing prison. One of them was shot.

After a trial of six days, Mrs. Emma Augusta Cunningham Burdell and Mr. Eckel have been acquitted of the murder of Mr. Burdell, the gentleman who was so foully and so mysteriously slaughtered in the early part of the present year, under circumstances which have been related in these columns. The story remains in all its original and ghastly obscurity.

The Hon. R. J. Walker, on the 11th inst., took the oath as Governor of Kansas.

The *Washington Despatch* of May 12 says that the negotiations which for some time past have been pending between the Governments of Great Britain and Honduras in reference to the Bay Islands, were concluded early in March, and that the treaty was ratified by Honduras on the 9th of that month.

The New York money market remains in a healthy condition; but trade is not very flourishing.

A report was prevalent at Carson Valley, at the last dates, to the effect that a serious dissension had arisen at Salt Lake City. It is said that Brigham Young had been compelled to flee the city to save himself from the fury of his flock. The "difficulty" had its origin in matters relating to the administration of the church property.

From Vera Cruz we hear that the archbishop has given in his adherence to the new constitution.

Some Filibusters, it is said, have taken Guaymas, in the State of Sonora. Slight symptoms of insurrection in several provinces have been suppressed.

### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

#### FRANCE.

The funeral of M. Vieillard, Senator, and preceptor of the Emperor's brother, took place on Friday week. It was attended by a great number of persons distinguished in letters and science; by deputations from the Senate, the Corps Législatif, the Council of State, the Institute, the various Ministerial departments, and the political press; by the Prefect of Police; by several gentlemen representing the Emperor's household; and by a battalion of infantry of the line. M. Boulay, de la Meurthe, Senator, pronounced a speech over the grave. Great surprise was created, a very short time before the setting out of the funeral, by the discovery of a document in which M. Vieillard expressly prohibited his remains being taken to any church, and ordered that they should be carried at once from his house to the burial-place. They were accordingly conveyed direct to Père la Chaise.

M. d'Argout, the Governor of the Bank of France, has at length resigned. He gave in his resignation to the Emperor in person, on Friday week, and at one o'clock the news was communicated to the Bank council. M. d'Argout has been Governor of the bank ever since 1834, except during two short periods, when, at the request of Louis Philippe, he accepted the portfolio of Minister of Finance. He is now seventy-five years of age.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

"An event," says the *Courier du Gard*, "which produced a great sensation at Nîmes on Tuesday week, is the unexpected arrest, by order of the authorities, of M. Chamerois, director of the public stores. That measure, it is said, has been caused by the disappearance of merchandise confided to his care. As the investigation ordered has only just been commenced, we refrain from saying more."

Levasseur, the great bass singer of the Opéra Français, retired from the stage last week, after forty-three years' professional exertion, in which, it is said, his vocal powers have scarcely suffered any diminution.

The Neufchâtel Conference met again on Monday at the house of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The treaty was concluded and signed on Tuesday evening. It renounces, on the part of the King of Prussia, the sovereignty which he has hitherto claimed over the Principality.

The Grand Duke Constantine has been visiting Indret, where he went over the foundry.

All the visitors at the palace at Fontainebleau took

leave of the Emperor and Empress last Saturday. The Emperor and Court have since returned to Paris.

The Budget was voted unanimously last Saturday by the Corps Législatif, in a house of 242 members.

Paris has been visited twice lately by very violent storms of rain, thunder, and lightning. The latter occurred last Monday, when the thunder was very loud, the lightning exceedingly vivid, the rain deluging, and the wind furious as a hurricane. This state of things lasted about half an hour.

The *Journal des Chemins de Fer* has received an official warning, in the person of M. Mirès, the editor, and M. Devina, a contributor, for an article published on the 23rd inst., in which, it is alleged that the motives of the ministerial note of March 9, and of the subsequent commercial policy of the Government, were calumniated, and an attempt was made to cast upon the Government the responsibility of the evils which may result from excessive speculation; whereas, on the contrary, declares the Minister of the Interior, all the measures adopted have been calculated to put a restraint upon such speculation.—*Daily News Paris Correspondent*.

The National Guard of the town of Avranches, in Normandy, has been dissolved by an imperial decree.

#### ITALY.

The Empress of Russia arrived at Turin on the night of Friday week. The National Guard and regular troops formed the line of the procession.

The Turin correspondent of the *Daily News* supplies a horrible picture of one of the Pope's prisons—a house of torture as horrible as any in the domains of the King of Naples himself. "Fort Urban," says the writer, "is built upon a small hill in the centre of a marshy moor. It is entirely surrounded by ditches and deep wells of stagnant water, from which issue during the summer the most pestilential vapours and smells, besides breeding myriads of all sorts of insects, with which the air round the castle is loaded. It has been used by the Government as a sort of penitentiary, but has always been looked upon as the most unwholesome in the Pope's dominions. At present, there are eight hundred prisoners here, of whom two hundred are detained without having been tried, and on the mere suspicion that if they were at liberty they might commit some political crime. Many of these poor creatures have been in confinement for years." They are chained night and day, and if any one offends the governor, he is chained to the ground, so that he can only creep about for three or four paces. "Every prisoner's letter to his family is read by the gaolers, and very often they cut all the letter away except the address and the signature. Visits of the prisoners' relations are sometimes allowed in the presence of the governor and his gaolers, but only for a few minutes. When a prisoner is ill, no medical man can order his chains to be taken off. This must be by order of, and in the presence of, the governor. It appears the medical men are anxious to mitigate the sufferings of the prisoners, but they not only have no power, but themselves are looked upon as suspicious characters. The poor prisoners are so altered that even their own relations do not know them. The mortality is very great among them. The healthy prisoners and those with the most offensive and disgusting diseases are all huddled together; but the air of this noisome prison is so bad that not the strongest constitution can bear up against it, and to this must be added that there is no provision for the common necessities of nature. Formerly the prisoners were allowed to attend the church, but this is now prevented—it is supposed, for fear of conspiracy. So here is the head of the church preventing his unfortunate prisoners from attending divine service." The Pope and Cardinal Antonelli are said to be aware of this state of things; yet they do nothing to prevent it. Some day, however, there will be a reckoning.

The Pope arrived at Loretto on the evening of the 14th inst.

"The Intendente of the province," says the *Times* Neapolitan correspondent, "visited the Bagno di Montesarchio, and in the royal name offered the prisoners the choice of voluntary emigration to the Argentine territory. The offer was not made to Poerio, the Duke, Nisco, Mollica, Dono, Braica, or Pica; but among those to whom the gracious privilege was accorded was the cripple Pironti, and the eyeless Schiavoni. All declined but four Calabrese, whose names are Palermo, Garcia, Stigliano, and Barino."

Two Englishmen have recently visited the Montesarchio prison, with a previous bias, it is said, towards not finding matters so bad as they had been reported. They saw the unhappy prisoners in the presence of all the authorities, who discouraged the captives from speaking of the past. The English gentlemen, on leaving, exhorted them to forget bygones, and to hope for the future! Forgetfulness of six years of slow and subtle torture, in defiance of justice, law, and humanity; and hope of the clemency of King Ferdinand!

A strange story is told by the *Opinione* of Turin. Chevalier Homodel, of Pavia, was on his way to an estate of his, situate in the province of Voghera, Piedmont. On presenting his passports at the frontier to the Austrian commissary, the latter informed him that he had orders to search both his carriage and his person. The chevalier sprang out of the coach, knocked down a soldier who opposed him, and fled over the fields, tearing a

letter to fragments. He was caught, and several of the bits of the letter were picked up, but nothing could be made out of them. Signor Homodei denied that the note contained any political matters, but said that it referred to private affairs. He subsequently appeared before the Imperial Delegate of Pavia, who said he must apply to Milan for further instructions. In the meanwhile, Signor Homodei has made his escape—it is thought, to Switzerland. His house has been searched, but nothing important has been discovered.

## RUSSIA.

The St. Petersburg journals of the 16th inst. state that the navigation between Cronstadt and St. Petersburg is interrupted, in consequence of the ice from Lake Ladoga. The postal steamer which was announced to start on the 16th could not leave.

## SPAIN.

A discussion took place in the Senate on the 18th ult. between O'Donnell and Marshal Narvaez. The former endeavoured to vindicate his political conduct, and to prove that Narvaez entirely agreed with him as to the propriety of the military insurrection of July, 1854. In his reply, the present Prime Minister admitted having expressed himself to the effect that matters had come to so bad a pass that a revolution was inevitable, and that he was willing to take part in it; but he added that he refused to league himself with the Progresistas. Narvaez was extremely cool during the argument; O'Donnell was boiling with rage and excitement. The wordy war was resumed on a subsequent night, when a great many other eminent Senators were drawn into the vortex, and the Chamber was disgraced by the bitterest criminations and recriminations. Much discussion has been stirred up in consequence, and not a few duels are expected to take place.

## AUSTRIA.

Marshal Radetzky, while walking in his room a few days ago, fell and broke the upper part of the bone of his left thigh.

The Emperor has refused to receive a petition from the Hungarian magnates touching various grievances affecting their nationality. The Cardinal Archbishop of Gran, Primate of Hungary, was to have presented it. He had an audience of the Emperor, and was received, as he afterwards stated, with the utmost kindness; but his Majesty declined to accept the petition, 'because it might contain requests which could not possibly be granted,' and he added that he did not wish to know the names of the persons who had signed the document.

A messenger has arrived at Vienna from Copenhagen with a despatch, in which it is said that the newly-formed Danish Government will convoke the Holstein Estates (*Stände*) in the month of August, and settle the questions relative to the provincial constitution, domains, &c., in a way that will satisfy the two great German Powers. Austria and Prussia have accordingly abandoned their intention of bringing the matter before the German Confederation.

## TURKEY.

Izmir Pacha, the new governor of Bulgaria, and Mifid Effendi, commissioner of the Porte, are making great efforts to put down the abuses encouraged by former governors. Hairi Effendi, former treasurer, has been arrested on the charge of embezzling thirty-five million piastres (about 280,000*l.*), and has been sent to Constantinople for trial; he has already made important confessions. Said Pacha, formerly governor of Rousschuk, is under surveillance, and his administrative acts are being looked into.

## THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Ottoman authorities continue to exercise a very despotic power over all who openly advocate the union of the Principalities, and to reward those who support a contrary policy. The Liberal party complain bitterly, and apparently with great justice, of the exclusion from Wallachia of four patriots who were concerned in the events of 1848, but who were included in the recent amnesty. They have complied with all the necessary forms to enable them to re-enter their native land; but, from some unexplained cause, they are detained on the frontiers.

## THE EPSOM RACES.

THE DERBY is a national institution. Royalty patronises it; aristocracy smiles on it; the Houses of Lords and Commons bow before it, and are content for four-and-twenty hours to let the world go by without their supervision; Palmers die for it, and make others die before them; universal Cockneydom, and many from beyond the limits of Cockaigne, crowd to it; Paterfamilias takes his wife and daughters to its sphere; and ragged rascaldom, fresh—or rather foul—from the back slums, suns itself in its beams. There is no democracy like that of your race-course. Death himself is not a greater leveller, nor will Love more surely bring extremes together within his ring, than the Derby within its. The road is an epitome of life itself, though the costermonger's go-cart is at liberty to pole the duke's carriage, and the plebeian donkeys that browse on dusty thistles may rub noses with the thorough bloods airily whirling my lady down to

Epsom. An amalgam is made of society expressly for those few days; and the divine right of betting supersedes all other considerations, and over-rides all prejudices.

And not only do we see these things year after year with undiminished interest, but a perennial freshness exhibits itself unfaithfully in the newspaper accounts of the sport. Time after time have we had that wonderful narrative of the aspect of the road, with its motley characters and equine incidents; but again it appears—another, yet the same. We should probably ourselves reproduce it, were our space as elastic as our will. Suffice it then to say that on Wednesday the sun shone forth with summer brightness, and the roads were dusty white, and 'gentle' was in force, and the ladies were charming, and the tumblers, Ethiopian serenaders, and puppet-shows, were intolerable, and the breakdowns were up to the average, and the sharpers and pickpockets industriously improved the shining hours. And so swept the cavalcade to the course.

From the professional reporter of the daily papers we borrow a description of

## THE RACE FOR THE DERBY.

'The spectators became more and more impatient as false start after false start was made. Not until after a dozen ineffectual attempts were the horses despatched from the post, and no sooner had Mr. Hibbard given the word 'Go!' than Chevalier d'Industrie took the command, with Gaberlunzie, Commotion, Oakball, Turbit, Anton, Arsenal, Strathnaver, Blink Bonny, Wardermarske, Adamas, and Lady Hawthorn, forming a cluster in his wake; Saunterer, Skirmisher, Tournament, and M.D. being in the centre of the ruck. They ran thus to halfway up the hill, where Gaberlunzie went up to the Chevalier, and was soon in possession of a clear lead, the Chevalier lying second, Anton third, Strathnaver, Arsenal, and Commotion heading the next lot. No further change occurred until reaching the mile post, when Anton rushed to the front, Lambourn running into the second place, Chevalier d'Industrie going on third, Strathnaver and Arsenal next. On rounding Tattenham Corner, M.D. emerged from the ruck and showed in the third place, Lambourn at the same time joining Anton, with whom he ran nearly head and head round the turn. Adamas, Tournament, Strathnaver, and Skirmisher keeping close company, and Lady Hawthorn, who had up to this point run with the leading horses, gradually dropping away into the rear. When they had fairly landed in the straight, Commotion disappeared from the front, and Black Tommy, Adamas, Arsenal, M.D., Wardermarske, Blink Bonny, and Strathnaver showed nearly in a line behind Lambourn and Anton. On crossing the road, Lambourn gave way, and at the distance M.D. broke down, and stopped 'as if he was shot.' On nearing the stand, Strathnaver headed Anton, with Blink Bonny waiting upon them, Adamas, Arsenal, and Black Tommy going on in close attendance. In a few strides further, a most exciting set-to ensued, and Charlton 'let out' Blink Bonny, who immediately rushed to the front, Black Tommy, Adamas, Arsenal, and Anton being well up in her wake, and a close race in ending in favour of Blink Bonny by a neck, the second beating the third by a head only, and a neck separating the third from the fourth. Anton and Arsenal were fifth and sixth, close together—so well up, indeed, that the rider of each thought he was either second or third. Wardermarske, Lambourn, Commotion, Zuyder Zee, Skirmisher, Saunterer, Beeswax Colt, Tournament, and Sydney formed the next lot; but we were unable to determine their relative positions. The 'tail' consisted of Laertes, Bird-in-the-Hand, Turbit, Gaberlunzie, Special License, Dusty Miller, and Loyola.'—The Epsom Town Plate, of fifty sovs. (Handicap), one mile—the first race of the day—was won by Mr. Wilson's Questionable. After the Derby, the races were—the BENTINCK PLATE, of fifty sovs. (Handicap), one mile, walked over by Mr. F. Fisher's Ida; the EPSOM CUP, of one hundred sovs., added to a sweepstakes of ten sovs. each, won by Mr. F. Parr's Sir Colin; and the DURDANS STAKES, of five sovs. each, with thirty added, won by Mr. Midgley's Polly Johnson.

On the previous day—the real opening day of the races, to which, however, the general public pay but little attention—the business was as under:—The CRAVEN STAKES, of five sovs. each, with fifty added, won by Mr. J. S. Douglas's Blue Jacket; the MANOR PLATE, of fifty sovs. (Handicap), won by Mr. Mellish's Huntingdon; the WOODCOTE STAKES, of ten sovs. each, with one hundred added, won by Mr. Howard's Sedbury; the ROUS STAKES, a free handicap of twenty sovs. each, with two hundred added, won by the Duke of Beaufort's Vigil; the HORTON STAKES, of five sovs. each, with thirty added, won by Mr. Stevens's Unexpected; and the HEATHCOTE PLATE, of fifty sovs., won by Mr. John Barnard's Yaller Gal.

On Thursday, the contests were for—the EPSOM FOUR YEAR-OLD STAKES, of fifty sovs. each, with one hundred added, won by the Duke of Bedford's Walmer; the TWO-YEAR-OLD STAKES, of ten sovs. each, with fifty added, won by Mr. Saxon's Princess Royal; HER MAJESTY'S PLATE, of one hundred guineas, for mares only, won by Mr. Saxon's Mary; the GRAND STAND PLATE, of one hundred sovs. (Handicap), won by Mr.

Saxon's Tom Thumb; the SELLING STAKES, of five sovs. each, with thirty added, won by Captain Christie's Unexpected; and the COBHAM PLATE, of fifty sovs. (Handicap), won by Mr. Simpson's Fright.

On Friday (yesterday), Blink Bonny achieved another victory, being the winner of THE OAKS. The RAILWAY PLATE was won by Squire Watt; the PADDOCK PLATE by Unexpected; and the GLASGOW PLATE by Nereus. The FOAL STAKES were walked over for by Anton.

## LOSS BY FIRE OF THE JOSEPH SOMES.

THE Joseph Somes, a teak-built ship, 780 tons register, commanded by Captain Elmston, on its passage out from London to Australia, has been completely burnt to the water's edge, though her crew and passengers were saved. The fire burst out on the 25th of February, when the vessel was off the island of Tristan d'Acunha. On the morning of that day, the captain and some others went on shore. The party included a Mr. Goodall, late a member of Lloyds', who with his wife and family were passengers on board. He gives a very striking account of their discovery of the calamity. "We pulled," he writes, "into a beautiful sandy bay, bounded nearly from point to point by bold bluff cliffs, rising like a huge wall some 3000 feet perpendicularly from the shore. The captain made arrangements for coming ashore on the following day with the water casks. We then returned to the ship, which had stood off, and was now some seven miles distant. We rowed a considerable distance, and through a heavy sea, when we saw her go about and stand in for the land. The sun was just setting. We had noticed with some astonishment how badly the ship steered, and I joked the captain upon what I thought the smoke from the galley fire, for we had not dined. A minute more, my heart was in my throat, for a cry was raised, 'The ship is on fire!' The smoke was coming up about the main hatchway, where we knew the powder magazine was." Captain Elmston exhibited the utmost energy. He seemed as if he would have sprung from the boat into the ship, and he exhorted his men to pull for their lives. On the boat reaching the ship, he leaped on to the main chains, and ordered the passengers (though only just in time) to go forward immediately. When the flames were first discovered by those on board, it was thought they could be quenched by the buckets of water which were poured on them; but it soon became apparent that the mischief had made too great a head. Considerable alarm then prevailed lest the fire should reach the gunpowder. Mr. Stokes, the chief officer in the captain's absence, gave orders that it should be thrown overboard; and this was done safely, though, before the operation could be completed, some of the barrels got so hot that they could hardly be held. Alfred Marsh, the steward, and Cassim, the captain's black servant, showed the greatest coolness and intrepidity; and the women behaved remarkably well.

The pinnace being lowered, the captain stood guard, and saw all the women and children handed down before he allowed the others to follow. The remainder escaped by the lifeboat and gig. "After all the crew were in the boat, the captain had a struggle to get a Newfoundland dog of his over the ship's side, but, finding it impossible, he seized a rope and swung off into the boat. He was the last to leave the ship. She had an immense quantity of spirits on board—in fact, the great bulk of her cargo was brandy and gin—which accounts for the extraordinary rapidity of the ignition. From the time of the first alarm to the time of leaving the ship, an hour had not elapsed, and, as we cleared her, the flames rushed up in all directions. The gig, which had put off with five boys, was lost sight of, but we neared the pinnace, and were hailed to lighten her of some of her freight, for the water was fast gaining upon them, and they had little room to work their oars. We got alongside, and took Mrs. Elmston and two women into our boat, which made up our number to thirty. I had only time to hail my wife and child, and tell her to be of good courage, when the boats parted, and darkness completed our separation. On turning our eyes to the burning ship, we saw the fire run up her new rigging with innumerable flickering jets, like a brilliant gas illumination, and her main and mizen masts went over the side with a fearful crash. The foremast and bowsprit stood a short time longer. We pulled straight in for the land, so as to get under its lee and avoid the swell. On approaching the stupendous cliffs, the rollers and roar of the surf, tuned into a deeper note by the great boulders rolling over each other, gave us timely warning not to draw too near. At last, after five hours' pull, we rounded a point and made the sandy bay where the captain had landed on the previous day. The settlers had kindled a fire on the sands, and, as we neared the shore, we gave a cheer, but the echo from the overhanging rocks was the only response, and not the least striking scene of that night's drama was the landing on those black sands by the light of a clear bright fire and not a soul to meet us. The good islanders had retired from their watch at midnight in great doubt of our safety. On climbing up the cliffs, we found the islanders up, from whom we received the greatest kindness." The gig containing the boys came ashore during the night.

For nine days, the crew and passengers endured con-

derable privation, the islanders' stock of food being small; but, on the 6th of March, after seeing one ship ass, they were taken off by another, the Nimroud, captain H. Tilman, from London, for Kurrachee. This vessel went some hundreds of miles out of her course, and ended the shipwrecked people at Table Bay on the 20th of March, when the Government authorities took charge of them, and a public subscription was opened for their relief. Captain Elmston attributes the fire to spontaneous combustion among the cargo. The ship and its contents, which were valued at 80,000*l.*, were heavily insured.

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**THE NEW CAVALRY COLLEGE, RICHMOND.**—The foundation-stone of a new college for the practical and theoretical instruction of gentlemen intending to enter the cavalry service was laid on Monday afternoon by Lady Combermere, in presence of Viscount Combermere and numerous assemblage of the aristocracy and of military gentlemen. Among the ladies was Lady Raglan. Before the stone was laid, Mr. Stocqueler read an address. Lady Combermere, which pointed out the necessity that exists for the institution about to be founded, and said that "whatever was accomplished in the wars in which we have been engaged must be set down to the ring and discipline of our dragoons and the heroic examples of their leaders. They offered their blood in onement of professional ignorance, and England accepted the sacrifice without taking a single step there- to avert so cruel a waste of energy, intrepidity, and patriotism." After the ceremony of the day had taken place, the visitors partook of a handsome *déjeuner*. In responding to the health of Lord and Lady Combermere, a Field Marshal said that "he most cordially approved a principle of the Cavalry College, and knew that it is thought of hopefully at head-quarters. He considered it as of vital importance that professional occupation should fill up the time between young men leaving school and entering the service. He trusted that infantry officers who looked to being majors and adjutants would attend the college, if only to learn to ride." After the *déjeuner*, quadrille parties were formed in the ture-hall and under a marquee on the lawn.

**CHATHAM DOCKYARD.**—The works in progress atatham dockyard for improving and enlarging the sent slips and basins are in a very forward state, and is expected that the whole will be completed during present summer. The most important of the improvements now being carried out is that of constructing new tidal basin, which will be three hundred and ty feet in length, and capable of receiving the largest sels in the service.

**THE CURLEW,** Coastguard cutter, is being broken up the beach, at the Isle of Grain, it having been ascertained that her damage was of so extensive a nature as to warrant her being repaired.

**THE BAIKRAM AT PLYMOUTH.**—The completion of the mazon, or great Mahomedan fast month, has been subject of much rejoicing on board the Turkish line-battle ship Peiki Zaffer, 104, Captain Ismael Bey, v in Plymouth Sound.

**TOTAL WRECK OF THE EARL OF YARBOROUGH'S YACHT ZOE.**—As the Earl of Yarborough, the Hon. W. nson, and Dr. Duigan, R.N., were cruising in the rth Sea in his lordship's yacht Zoe, on the night of 24th inst., the vessel, owing to the wind falling it, drifted by the tide on to the Haisborough sand- ik, about fourteen miles off the coast of Norfolk. The ht, impelled by the force of the tide, struck the bank h great violence several times, and after some little e rolling over, became washed by the sea; sufficient e, however, elapsed to enable the noble owner and friends, together with the crew, to betake themselves riedly to the boats, and thereby to save all hands. unately for the boats the water was smooth and the ither fine, which enabled them, after about three rs hard pulling against a strong tide, to reach the st-guard station of Haisborough or Happisborough. yacht, which was most magnificently fitted up, has me a total wreck, and nothing whatever of the valu- s on board has been saved. No lives have been lost. *Times.*

#### OBITUARY.

**LIEUTENANT JOHN WOOD ROUSE, R.N.**, of Greenwich pital, died last Saturday at that asylum, in his nty-second year. The vacancy occasioned by his th is to be filled by Lieutenant Abraham Parks, R.N. 15), additional Lieutenant of the Saturn, Captain R. rt, K.H., at Pembroke. The late Lieutenant Rouse red the navy in 1799, and distinguished himself ing the wars. He was in receipt of a pension for the of one of his legs in action.

**MR. D. DAVIES, M.P.** for Carmarthenshire, died sud- ly, at the University Club, on the evening of Friday k. He was a barrister-at-law, and for many years rman of the Cardiganshire Quarter Sessions, and first returned for Carmarthenshire in 1842. In les he was a Conservative, and he voted against Government on the subject of the Chinese war. He in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

**MR. ROBERT HALL,** the Conservative member for ls, the Deputy Recorder of the same city, and the

Recorder of Doncaster, died on Tuesday morning. He had undergone great labour and excitement during the late general election, and, after his efforts were crowned with success, a reaction came on, and he was seized with severe depression. He appears to have caught cold in the House of Commons from sitting near one of the openings for air. Influenza supervened; then fever and delirium; and finally death terminated his sufferings in the fifty-seventh year of his age. He was much respected. About two years ago he met with a railway accident, which had the effect of weakening his constitution.

#### OUR CIVILIZATION.

##### ATTEMPTED WIFE MURDER.

A DREADFUL tragedy has occurred in the neighbourhood of Covent-garden. James Geary, a silk-weaver, about twenty-three years of age, lodged with his wife in a single room on the second-floor of a house in Little Russell-street, Covent-garden; and, shortly after ten o'clock last Saturday night, as Mrs. Baylis, the wife of a policeman lodging in the same house, was going down stairs from her own room, she heard cries of "Murder!" proceeding from the apartment occupied by the Gearys. Mrs. Baylis called the landlady of the house, and the two women then proceeded together to the room where the former had heard the cries. On going in, they perceived Geary and his wife struggling together on the floor in front of the fireplace, the woman bleeding profusely from a deep cut across her throat. The man was brandishing a small table-knife in his hand, and, on being separated from his wife by the landlady, attempted to escape, with the weapon still in his possession. The wounded woman clung to the landlady, exclaiming, "Oh, save me, save me!" while Mrs. Baylis, who was greatly alarmed, went out of the house to look for a policeman. It was not long before she met her husband, to whom she related what had occurred, and returned home with him. On re-entering the house, the constable took a light and proceeded up-stairs. When he reached the top of the second flight, he saw Geary on the landing, lying on his wife, just outside the door of his own room. His left hand was upon her head, and with the knife, which he still held in his other hand, he stabbed the woman under the ear, turning the blade round after it was in her neck. The policeman seized the assassin by the wrist, and drew the knife out of the wound; a scuffle then ensued between the two men, in the course of which the policeman dropped the candle which he held in his hand, and it went out, leaving the place in utter darkness. He nevertheless succeeded in capturing Geary, whom he at once conveyed to the station-house. The man appeared to be perfectly sober. Another police-constable shortly afterwards went to the house in Little Russell-street, and with his aid the woman was removed to King's College Hospital. She was then in a mangled and frightful state from the wounds she had received, and her clothes were saturated with blood. She was nevertheless perfectly conscious, and frequently expressed a wish to see her mother. The knife with which the wounds were inflicted was picked up on the second-floor landing, from the centre of a large pool of blood.

Geary was examined at Bow-street on Monday, and appeared greatly affected throughout the proceedings. He cried during the examination of one of the witnesses, and merely stated in his defence that he was driven to the commission of the crime. He was remanded until the result of his wife's injuries is known.

**JEALOUSY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.**—An attempt has been made on the life of a young woman named Freeborn, cook to Mr. Upson, a farmer, living at Witham, Essex, by Charles Finch, a man to whom she had previously been engaged to be married. The intended husband, up to the time of the marriage contract, had been a labourer on a neighbouring farm at Kelyvedon, but soon after his betrothal he went out to the Crimea to join the Army Works Corps, and has recently returned to this country. The young woman had formed an attachment to another man in his absence, on learning which, Finch was so exasperated that he determined to take the life of his former sweetheart. He accordingly went to Witham, and early last Sunday afternoon sat down on a bank by the roadside not far from Mr. Upson's farm. Presently he saw the young woman leave the house and proceed in the direction of the parish church, about half a mile distant. She of course almost immediately encountered Finch, and stared at seeing him, as she had believed him to be in London. The man waited until she was close, when he rushed on her, and, without uttering a word, cut her throat with a razor, and then ran away, but presently returned and made a second incision in the woman's throat, which cut the windpipe completely through. The man then again made off, but has since been apprehended, and is now in prison. Although the woman is greatly injured, the main arteries are untouched, so that there is some chance of her recovery.

**MURDER IN LIVERPOOL.**—A man named Davies, a tailor, formerly in the police force, and Robert Reuses, a sailor, belonging to one of the Cunard steamers, were drinking together on Monday night at a public-house in Liverpool. Reuses left Davies at the place, and the

latter, at whose house Reuses lodged, on going home found his wife and the sailor together in the bedroom. He ran out, and came back accompanied by an acquaintance named Hodson. They found Reuses alone in the bedroom, and Davies stabbed him several times in the breast with a pair of scissors, crying out to Hodson, "Keep out of my way, or I'll serve you the same." Reuses died in about ten minutes, without having uttered a word. Davies was brought before the magistrates the following day, when he admitted the murder, but urged that he had sufficient provocation.

**THE CANTERBURY MURDER.**—The magistrates of Canterbury having investigated the conduct of Inspector Parker, and Police-constable Elvey, in permitting the young man Fox to go at large after their attention had been called on the evening of May 13 to his murderous designs upon Mary Ann Hadley—designs which, through their neglect, he was able to execute on the following morning—the decision of the court was that Inspector Parker be suspended for the space of six calendar months, and that Police-constable Elvey be suspended for one month.

**RUFFIANLY SOLDIERS.**—Two soldiers of the 5th Dragoon Guards are in custody at Edinburgh for a rape committed at the Piershill barracks on a servant girl.

**ATTEMPTED MURDER AT DARTMOOR PRISON.**—A convict at Dartmoor, named Charles McCarthy, has just been committed to the Devon county gaol, at Exeter, on the charge of assaulting and wounding, with intent to murder, a warder of the prison. He has grossly misconducted himself since he has been lodged at Dartmoor prison, and has made three attempts to escape.

**MURDER IN STAFFORDSHIRE.**—A Mr. T. Charlesworth, a farmer, of Bromley Hurst, near Abbots Bromley, which is only four miles from Rugeley, was robbed and murdered last Saturday morning, about two o'clock, as he was returning home from a place where he had been spending the evening. Three persons are in custody under suspicion. One has confessed that he struck the fatal blow, but he adds that the others assisted. The plunder only consisted of a 5*l.* note and some gold and silver.

**CURIOUS CHARGE OF FELONY.**—Mr. James Davenport, saw manufacturer, has been charged before the Sheffield magistrates with felony, the accuser being Mr. Charles Brown, a rival manufacturer. Mr. Brown had recently received an order for a large quantity of matchet knives, of a peculiar pattern, used in the cutting of sugar canes in the East Indies, and it was alleged that Mr. Davenport, in order to copy the pattern and supplant Mr. Brown with his customers, had stolen one of the knives, which had been given out to a man named Hoyle to be ground. For the defence, evidence was given that, in consequence of great quantities of inferior goods having been sent from England, fraudulently bearing the mark of the Collins' Company, of Hartford, United States, Mr. Davenport had been applied to by the Sheffield agent of that firm to obtain evidence on which they might found proceedings against the parties. Mr. Davenport, having ascertained that an order for a large quantity of cane knives, bearing an imitation of the Collins' Company's mark, had been sent to Mr. Brown from a firm in Birmingham, got possession of the knife in question, which was one bearing the imitated mark, intending to submit it to the agents of the Collins' Company, and then return it. It was also shown that a bill in Chancery had been filed against Mr. Brown for fraudulently striking an imitation of the Collins' Company's mark on his goods. The magistrates dismissed the case, remarking that, though Mr. Davenport had obtained the knife in an unfair and unjustifiable manner, there was not sufficient evidence of felony to justify them in sending the case for trial. *Manchester Guardian.*

**CAPTURE OF A RUNAWAY CONVICT.**—Peter Hutchison, alias Blyth, alias Baillie, who recently escaped from Jedburgh prison while under sentence of fifteen years' transportation, has been recaptured, after being at large for ten days.

**WIFE-BEATING.**—A powerful man, named John Springate, has been sentenced by the Southwark magistrate to three months' hard labour for an assault on his wife.

**EXTENSIVE FRAUDS UPON THE DUKE OF RUTLAND.**—The Cambridge and Suffolk papers state that disclosures of a most astounding character have been made during the last few days in reference to the management of the estates of the Duke of Rutland and Cheveley, near Newmarket. Deficiencies and irregularities extending over a series of years have been discovered; and it has been ascertained that tradesmen's accounts, some of them very heavy, which were supposed by his Grace to have been paid, are still due. The books, which were submitted from time to time to the Duke's inspection, were so managed as to avert all suspicion. By these frauds, the Duke of Rutland will sustain the loss of many thousand pounds.

**ATTEMPTED MURDER.**—A young man, about twenty-four years old, named John Johnson, has received a severe wound from his brother-in-law, which has greatly endangered his life. Complaints having reached his ears that the latter had frequently ill-used his (Johnson's) mother, and that nobody had interfered to protect her, Johnson went to her house in Smith's-place, Devonshire-street, Lambeth. He there saw his brother-in-law ill-using his mother, and he desired him to desist. The other refused to do so, on which Johnson seized him,

and, being the stronger and stouter of the two, soon overpowered his antagonist. The latter then walked away, but presently returned with a large, sharp-pointed knife, and plunged it with such force into Johnson's left side, that it penetrated nearly to the heart, inflicting a very dangerous gash. The wounded man was immediately removed to Guy's Hospital, where he lies in a very precarious position. The people of the house where the assault was committed were so terror-stricken at the circumstance, that they did not interfere, and the man consequently escaped.

**TWO ATTEMPTED SUICIDES.**—A haggard woman of forty, and a good-looking girl of nineteen, were charged at Worship-street, on Tuesday, with attempting to poison themselves, the one with laudanum, the other with oxalic acid. The woman appears to have got a sufficient quantity of the poison by going about from shop to shop; while the girl obtained as much as three pennyworth of oxalic acid at the shop of one chemist. There appears to have been no connexion between the cases. The woman attempted her life because, being separated from her husband, she was unable, as she alleged, to see her child; the girl, because she had had a quarrel with a young man with whom she lived. The case being remanded, the husband of the woman came forward on the second examination, and asserted that it was a common thing for his wife to attempt suicide. He said she was quite welcome to see her child if she came in a proper manner. The girl, appearing to be penitent, was discharged; but the woman was ordered to find bail in 10*l*. for her good conduct for the next two months. Not being able to find this surety, she was removed to the cells, crying bitterly. During the progress of the case, Mr. Burch, the resident medical officer at the London Hospital, where the women were taken, and Mr. D'Eyncourt, the magistrate, commented severely on the reckless way in which chemists sell large quantities of deadly poisons to chance applicants, without any inquiries or precautions. Mr. Burch said of one of the women that she had "suicide photographed on her face," which should have put the chemist on his guard.

**FALSE PRETENCES.**—James Cahill and Mary Josephine Cahill have been re-examined at Clerkenwell police-office, and committed for trial, on the charge, already detailed in these columns, of obtaining 250*l*. from Mr. Alexander Duncan under pretence of providing him with a situation in the Admiralty.

**MURDEROUS ATTACK.**—About a fortnight ago, a man named James Buckley went to the house of Mrs. Eliza Davies, in Laurie-terrace, Westminster-road, and asked the servant-girl if her mistress was at home. He was told she was not, and he then said he would wait. The girl resumed her work in the wash-house, when the man, who had just before gone out into the back yard, came stealthily behind her, and struck her several times on the back of the head with great force, and apparently with a hammer. At the same time he said, "Don't halloo; I'll not hurt you." The girl broke away, ran through the garden, got over a wall to the front of the house, and brought in a man, by whom Buckley was secured. Mrs. Davies was in fact in the house at the time; but the servant had denied her being there, in accordance with general instructions respecting the man, who had been in the habit of calling. Alarmed at what had occurred, Mrs. Davies jumped out of her bedroom window on to the leads beneath, a distance of fifteen or sixteen feet, and, striking against the water-butt, received very serious injuries. The servant-girl was so much hurt that, for a time, her life was in some danger. Buckley is now under remand at the Lambeth police-court.

**BOX THIEVES.**—James Dillon and James Barr, two boys, who, at the age of fifteen, are already well known to the police, were brought up on remand at Bow-street, on Tuesday, Barr for stealing 65*l*. worth of property in a dwelling-house, and Dillon for being concerned with him in the robbery. Barr was found by the servant-maid at eight o'clock in the morning, stealing the plate; and Dillon was outside, but plainly in concert with the other. Dillon was further charged with stealing a teapot from the shop of Mrs. Sutcliffe, a gold and silver refiner in Long-acre, two days after the occurrence already related. He applied to Mrs. Sutcliffe to change two foreign coins for him, saying that he had taken them in mistake for fourpenny-pieces. She went to the back of the shop to show them to Thomas Pavey, her foreman, and she had no doubt that, at the moment when her back was turned, Dillon took the teapot from the counter. She had seen it there safe at the time he entered the shop. She offered him sixpence for the coins, which he refused to take, and he went away. After he had left, she missed the teapot. In a little while, Dillon, with the greatest effrontery, returned to the shop, and again producing the two coins, said he would take sixpence for them. She charged him with stealing the teapot, which he denied, and offered to satisfy her that he was an honest, respectable boy, if she would allow him to go in charge of the foreman to fetch his parents, who lived near Russell-square. This was agreed to, and Dillon took Pavey to a back street, and got him into a house, where he was set upon and hustled by a man and three women, who detained him while the boy escaped. Of course nothing more was heard of the teapot, which was worth 7*l*. Barr was committed for trial on the first charge, and Dillon upon both.

**SUPERFICIAL DEATH.**—An inquest has been held at

Kingston on the body of Mary Ann Keble, which was found drowned in the Thames. Some days ago, the woman had been seen in the company of James Smith, a hatter's cleaner. They had both been drinking, and were very quarrelsome, and the man had threatened the woman. Towards midnight, some piercing shrieks were heard close to the river, and next morning the woman's body was found. Smith showed much emotion when he saw it, and said it was the corpse of his wife. He had engaged a bedroom at the Black Lion, Kingston, on the previous night; at eleven o'clock he was seen in bed; the next morning, he was also found in bed; but in the course of the night the fastenings of the gate enclosing the premises at the back were forced, evidently by some one from within. At a quarter past eleven o'clock that night, Smith was seen by a policeman in the open road; but it does not appear that the persons who slept in the same room with the man were conscious during the night of his having left the chamber. The jury returned an open verdict.

**ALLEGED CONSPIRACY TO DEFRAUD.**—John Hind May, of Huggin-lane, City, and Staunley-street, Pinlicko, agent; William Taylor, of 1, Church-passage, Gresham-street, agent; and George David Myers, of 4, Malvern-terrace, Islington, also described as an agent, but who is reported to be a wealthy man, appeared before Alderman Humphrey, at Guildhall, on Wednesday, for final examination, relative to a charge of conspiracy to defraud Mr. Gorman, of Lurgan, in the county of Armagh, Ireland, of a quantity of cambric handkerchiefs to the value of 500*l*., and Mr. Lawson, a manufacturer of the same part, of similar goods to the value of about 600*l*. A large amount of evidence had been given at the previous examinations, and on Wednesday the case was completed. The facts were rather complex; but they were well epitomised in the summing up of Mr. Alderman Humphrey, who said:—"The charge against the defendants is for conspiring together to defraud Mr. Gorman and Mr. Lawson of their goods. I have carefully considered all the circumstances as affecting the defendants individually, and as being connected with each other, and my opinion in Gorman's case is that all the defendants acted together in concert to get possession of the goods. May first, through Taylor, attempts to get the goods, but upon Gorman refusing to sell to him, Taylor writes to say Myers will buy them at the terms, 27½ discount; Gorman accepts Myers as a purchaser, and accordingly sends the goods to Taylor, who, on the same day they arrive, delivers them to May at the warehouse used by Myers and May. This was on Saturday the 28th of March, and on Monday, the 30th, May takes the goods to Mr. Meeking's and sells them at something like fifty per cent. under the invoice price made out by Gorman. May receives the proceeds and out of that very money he pays Myers a sum he is indebted to him, but for what it does not appear, and he pays Taylor 100*l*., but Taylor does not send that amount to Gorman until he finds it likely to be found out. I think the goods might have been sold at a better price, but it does not appear that any attempt was made by the defendant to sell them in any other market. As regards the character of May's conduct in this transaction it is so apparent that I need not dwell upon that part of the case. It is equally clear that Myers lends his name to Taylor, which enables him to get these goods, and that May was so connected with Myers and Taylor in business that it was next to impossible for them not to know his transactions or for any of them to be ignorant that these goods went to Meeking's. What then is Taylor's position? He writes on the 7th of April to say that May intercepted the goods, and on the 11th he tells Gorman that May got the goods when he was out, and there is no doubt that Taylor knew on the 7th of April, that the goods had gone to Meeking's; for he writes on that day to say that May had sold the goods for Myers and Co., whereas Hairby, Taylor's confidential clerk, says that Taylor did not know where the goods were until five days ago, which is very improbable." The Alderman concluded by committing all the prisoners for trial. Taylor and Myers were allowed to go free on bail.

**THE GAROTTE AGAIN.**—Three men and two women are under remand at Southwark, charged with committing a garotte robbery on Mr. Saul Lawrence, a clerk, who had been drinking with them at night at a public house in the Mint. He was very seriously hurt, and, when before the magistrate, could hardly articulate.

**DROWNING A GIRL.**—A miner named Philip Clare is in custody at Bilston, on a charge of drowning a young woman in the canal at Bradley. The chief witness against him is a private watchman, who alleges that he saw the murder committed, and that he was afraid to interfere because of the threats of Clare to serve him in the same way should he take any steps in the matter. The prisoner was remanded by the magistrates.

**THREATENING SIR RICHARD MAYNE.**—James Casey, formerly a policeman, who some months ago was sent to prison for threatening the life of Sir Richard Mayne, but who, having sent a penitent letter to that gentleman, received, at Sir Richard's request, a commutation of his sentence, was on Thursday again charged at Bow-street with a similar offence. He was committed to prison for a year, in default of being able to provide sureties for good behaviour during that period.

**FEROCEOUS ASSAULT BY A SOLDIER.**—Joseph Wilson, a private in the 14th Light Dragoons, was charged on Thursday, at the Thames police-office, with assault-

ing Sarah King, a dressmaker, residing in Mulberry-street, Whitechapel. About twelve o'clock on the previous night, a policeman heard cries of 'Murder!' and, running to the house from which they came, found the panels of the door broken. On entering, he saw a scuffle between Wilson and a woman, whose face was covered with blood. She was taken to the London Hospital, and a certificate was now produced, stating that she was in great danger. The soldier told the policeman that on going to the Crimea he had allowed the woman 20*l*. a year, and that on his return he found she had 'taken up with another man.' He was remanded for a week.

**MURDER AT NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYNE.**—A brutal murder was perpetrated about one o'clock on Sunday morning, in Blue-buildings, Fletcher-street, Newcastle, Staffordshire. The name of the victim is James Rogers. He was about forty, an Irishman, and unmarried. He was lounging at the door of the house at which he lodged, when a young countryman, named Rogan, who had some grudge against him, and had often sworn to be revenged, went up to him armed with a poker, with which he deliberately beat in his skull. Death was instantaneous. Rogan has absconded, and a reward of 20*l*. is offered for his apprehension.

#### GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

THE Lord Chancellor gave judgment last Saturday in the Court of Chancery on an appeal from a decree of Vice-Chancellor Stuart in connexion with a rather singular claim for payment of a sum of 500*l*. in virtue of a bond which could not be shown to exist. The facts travelled back to more than half a century ago. In the early part of the present century, Captain Edge, R.N., seduced one Peggy Nunn, the daughter of a respectable yeoman of Suffolk. A son was born; and an annuity of 20*l*. was paid by the captain to the mother until the time of his death in 1812. William Nunn, his illegitimate child, married in 1827 when he was three-and-twenty years old, and died in 1843; and Peggy Nunn died in 1847. In 1846, the widow of William Nunn was informed by an acquaintance that a bond, binding the executors of the late Captain Edge to pay the sum of 500*l*. to her late husband, had been executed by Captain Edge. In consequence of this information, she proceeded to make inquiries, and, after long search, found the draught copy, as settled by counsel, and a copy of the bond, in the possession of Mr. George Bower, of Tokenhouse-yard, the successor of the solicitors with whom the bond had been deposited by the trustees. No trace of the original bond, however, has ever been discovered. Being reduced to great poverty, Mrs. Nunn applied to William Edge, one of the executors of the late captain's will, for a little temporary assistance; and she was paid 10*l*. out of charity (although the executors alleged that she was an impostor), on her signing a paper engaging not to make any further claim on the estate of Captain Edge. In December, 1855, a bill was filed, praying to have the release executed by Mrs. Nunn declared invalid and void, on the ground that it had been obtained from her by fraud, misrepresentation, and surprise, and to have it declared that she was entitled to be paid what might be found due for principal and interest on the bond. Vice-Chancellor Stuart was so dissatisfied with the case made out by the plaintiff that he dismissed the bill without even hearing the defendant's counsel in reply. From this decision Mrs. Nunn now appealed to the Lord Chancellor, who said there was no proof of a bond ever having been executed, or that, if executed, it had not been cancelled. Mr. Bower, the lawyer in whose possession the copies and draught of the bond were found, was not called to account for their existence, which was a suspicious circumstance; and no steps were taken in the matter until several years after Mrs. Nunn first heard of the alleged existence of the bond, when death had removed all persons capable of throwing a light on the matter. The former decision was therefore confirmed, and the appeal was dismissed.

On the same day, the Lords Justices of Appeal heard another appeal from a decision of Vice-Chancellor Stuart, who had dismissed an appeal from a judgment of Master Richards, allowing the claim of Miss Marion Boyd and Miss Mary Boyd, as holders of four debentures of the Royal Bank of Australia, three for 500*l*. each and one for 200*l*. The claim arose in the following manner:—The late Mr. Boyd, the father of the ladies, insured his life in 1837 in the United Kingdom Life Assurance-office, of which he was resident director, in the names of his sons, Benjamin and Mark Boyd, for the sum of 2099*l*. 19*s*., "in trust for Miss Marion Boyd, Miss Mary Boyd, and Miss Joanna Stewart Boyd." The last-named lady died in her father's lifetime, and he regularly paid the premiums until his death in 1846. The company paid the amount due on the insurance, 1748*l*. 4*s*. 5*d*., by cheque to Mr. Mark Boyd, one of the trustees, some material deductions being made. The trustees, who were the stockbrokers of the Royal Bank of Australia, laid out 1700*l*. of the money in the purchase of the four debentures in the names of their sisters, the purchase being dated November 4, 1846. On the 18th of March, 1857, Mr. Richards, acting in the winding-up of the affairs of the bank, allowed the claim of the ladies as a debt against the bank for 1700*l*. and for 207*l*. 7*s*. 10*d*., the amount of the coupons attached to the de-

ures. From this order the official manager of the appeal to the Vice-Chancellor, who affirmed his opinion with costs, and hence the present appeal, which the Lords Justices dismissed.

In reference to the recent examinations in bankruptcy in connexion with the Royal British Bank, Mr. Heston, counsel for Mr. John Stapleton, M.P., has appeared before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd that, upon being called upon to sign the depositions of his examination, Mr. Stapleton expressed a wish to attach a short statement of some of the answers he had given. Mr. Commissioner read the statement, which in substance was as follows:—"He proposed that Mr. Matheson should take the bill. All that he (Mr. Stapleton) had received from the bank in respect of his duties as a director was 80% of the dividend, and that was irrespective of the dividend which he received on his shares. Since the bankruptcy, he had paid 2500*l.* towards satisfying the liabilities of the bank." The Commissioner said there could be no objection to the explanation being put on the proceedings. The rule for the Master to review his taxation of an attorney's bill of costs, came before the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. The defendant was the well-known Mr. Smith Wooller, who was tried for murder, and sentenced to death. The attorney who had conducted his defence was a gentleman named Marshall, then sent in his bill amounting to 1097*l.*, and Mr. Wooller took steps to have the bill taxed. The master taxed off a portion of the bill, and the chief portion so taxed related to a charge made by the attorney for an analysis of the evidence. The Master made an allowance of a certain rate per folio; but the attorney nowed a review of that taxation on the ground that he was entitled to be remunerated, not according to the length of the document, but in proportion to the time and skill expended in its preparation. Lord Campbell entirely agreed with this view; but as it appeared that the attorney had accepted payment of the bill as taxed, the court thought he was precluded from making the pre-application. The rule was therefore discharged, without costs.

An action has been brought by a Miss Bell, a governess of the St. John's National Infant School, Walham Green, against Miss Parker, another governess at the establishment. The latter lady wrote certain letters accusing Miss Bell of cruelty to the children and otherwise misconducting herself as a governess. It is alleged that Miss Parker had a spite against Miss Bell, but this was denied by her counsel. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff; damages, 10*l.*

A dividend meeting in the case of the bankrupt and late W. J. Robson was held in the Court of Bankruptcy on Tuesday. Some discussion took place touching the respective rights of the Crystal Palace Company and other creditors to the bankrupt's assets—about 1000*l.*

It was arranged that after the payment of expenses the assets shall be equally divided between the company and the assignees. The question also arose whether the company intended to settle with certain parties who claimed against the estate in respect to shares of the company. The bankrupt, it was understood, was instructed Mr. Clement to buy shares which the company would not recognise, as they did not appear in the books. No information was given on this point.

In the Court of Queen's Bench on Tuesday, Mr. Edwin Roper applied for a rule, calling upon Mr. James Dare, printer and publisher of the *Weston Mercury* and *the Somerset Herald*, to show cause why a criminal libel in that journal upon Mr. Joseph Stringfield, a zealous politician at Weston-super-Mare, where he holds some offices. It appeared that the question of support to the town with music became a subject of debate among the inhabitants. Two bands were proposed, but unfortunately led to anything but harmony. Mr. Stringfield took an active part with a large section of the townspeople in procuring what was called a "town band," and Mr. Dare, who seemed to have had benevolent feelings towards Mr. Stringfield, in consequence of his having sued him for a bill for medical attendance, joined with another portion of the inhabitants in publishing "the town band." This state of things led to a good deal of warm discussion in the town, and on the 19th of May last, Mr. Dare thought fit to insert what he was sure their lordships would think was a most scandalous libel, affecting the private character of Mr. Stringfield. It imputed to him a most inhuman conduct towards his father, and contained the libel, after giving the names of several of the inhabitants, said:—"In giving the foregoing lists, we have no idea that the publication will deter Mr. Joseph Stringfield from pursuing his criminal course—we believe him lost to all the feelings which should animate a good citizen, but we have that the few whom he might have deceived into thinking his anti-social and pernicious proceedings seriously ask themselves whether the prosperity of the town is more likely to be advanced by the steady exclusion of the gentlemen whose names appear above, or by the wild follies of Mr. Joseph Stringfield." This was followed by an allegory beginning:—"It was a cold, day of November, 1854, when an old man, who had been seen better days, was observed to be applying the door of a prettily situated house in the town of Westwater, which lies upon the coast in one of the storn counties. The weary traveller had trudged

on that and the preceding day upwards of thirty miles from the chief city of the county, where he had formerly carried on a respectable business, but was now greatly reduced in circumstances—even to destitution. With tottering steps the old man reached the door, and, with a trembling hand, lifted the knocker." The narrative then went on to say that the old man had an interview with the owner of the house, and then "came forth, with tears fast flowing down his wrinkled cheeks, whilst the younger of the two, in a towering passion, was harshly bidding him at once to leave the premises, and never again dare approach his presence. The old man made two or three attempts to speak, but convulsive sobs checked his utterance; at length he said, in half-broken accents, 'Then your poor old father must perish of want.' 'Starve and be damned' was the impious response, and the next moment the door of the younger man's house of plenty had reached its fastenings. 'But God tempereth the wind for the shorn lamb.' As the old man wandered the streets of Westwater, he was recognised by an acquaintance—one who had known him ere adversity had set in—and who now gave him that much needed assistance which his own flesh and blood denied him. In a day or two the old man again reached the city, from whence he had wandered with a father's hope, and where he is now comfortably lodged in one of those asylums which the benevolent of times gone by had founded for decayed citizens. The son's curse, however, still rings in the old man's ears, and never does he retire to his humble pallet before on his knees imploring his Maker to change the heart of his unnatural son." The affidavit showed that this picture of the son's conduct was intended to apply to Mr. Stringfield, and the learned counsel characterized the article as one of the most wicked libels which had ever been published. The whole story was entirely fictitious, and he had the affidavit of the father, who stated that he had never been at Weston-super-Mare, which was evidently the place described in the libel as Westwater. Mr. Stringfield also stated that he contributed to the support of both his father and mother; and it seemed that his father, who had been a tradesman at Bath, had seen better days, but was now an inmate of a charity in that town, where, however, he only received a portion of what was necessary for his maintenance.—Lord Campbell: "The father denies positively that such an interview with his son ever took place?"—Mr. E. James: "Most distinctly."—Lord Campbell: "Take a rule."

A bill for the divorce of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Campbell, for adultery on the part of the latter, is now before the House of Lords. The facts have been argued this week, and the deliberations are adjourned.

The wearisome case of Campbell v. Corley came before the Lords Justices of Appeal on Thursday, when the Lords Justices Knight Bruce and Turner decided that Mr. Corley must be declared entitled to the whole of the dividends as from the death of his wife. With respect to the costs, it was decreed that the 12,500*l.* stock, in which Mr. Corley takes a life interest, is reduced by the full amount of all the costs in 'Corley v. Lord Stafford,' that Mr. Campbell will take the whole of his mother's personal estate, and Mr. Corley will pay all the costs of the suit of 'Campbell v. Corley,' excepting 10*l.*

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**THE COURT.**—The Queen's birthday was celebrated on Tuesday, when an inspection of the Household troops by the Duke of Cambridge (accompanied by Prince Leiningen and several officers of distinction) took place at ten o'clock on the parade in St. James's Park. Several official dinners were given in the evening by the nobility and gentry. At Woolwich, Chatham, and Aldershot, the troops were also inspected; and at Portsmouth, Sheerness, Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse, the ships were dressed out with flags, royal salutes were fired, and the soldiers were paraded. The illuminations in London at night were of the usual character. Her Majesty attained her thirty-eighth year last Sunday.

**THE PRINCE OF WALES IN A COAL PIT.**—The Prince of Wales, who has recently been visiting the Lake district, paid a visit some days ago to Houghton pit, the property of the Earl of Durham, near Newcastle. Accompanied by his suite, he descended the shaft in a coal tub, and remained below about an hour and a half.

**THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE** has hired, for a term of years, Glevering-hall, Suffolk, the property of Mr. Andrew Arcedeckne, late high sheriff of the county.

**GLUTTONY UTILISED.**—At the conclusion of the late fat cattle-show at Poissy, near Paris, a duly-constituted 'jury' was entertained at a dinner where portions of the various prize animals were served up, in order that the learned feeders might decide to what breeds of the respective beasts the palm of gastronomic superiority was due. On each dish the jurors came to a division, the votes being taken by show of hands; and the voting for or against a particular joint or soup sometimes ran neck and neck. In the course of this critical feast, the doughty trenchermen, thus devotedly stuffing themselves for the good of science, disposed of eight specimens of soup, ditto of mutton, thirteen of roast beef, and an unspecified number of roast pork. Of each of these but a small portion was tasted and tested; but between the trial courses there were refreshing interludes of fish, fowl, sweetbreads, asparagus, and so forth; and the whole was wound up with fruits and pastry. The

heroism of the knife and fork was perhaps never carried further.

**THE CROPS.**—The accounts from all parts of the country concur in stating that the recent rains, combined with a warm air, and alternating with sunshine, have done immense good to the young wheats, and indeed to all the crops. Vegetation, which was unusually backward until the last few weeks, has taken a sudden and remarkably rapid start forward; and the open country now presents every appearance of the richest summer verdure.

**THE DUTY ON CURRANTS.**—A deputation consisting of Messrs. C. W. Martin, M.P., J. Whatman, M.P., H. W. Wickham, M.P., — Ridley, M.P., D. Nicholl, M.P., J. Ewart, M.P., and other Members of Parliament, together with several gentlemen connected with the currant trade, waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer at Downing-street last Saturday, in order to urge a reduction of the duty on currants. Mr. Crawford, M.P., opened the subject, and said they wished to show the inequality existing between the duty upon currants and the duty upon raisins. A circumstance had occurred which gave additional weight to their arguments. A new tariff comes into force next month in the United States, which will reduce the duty on currants from forty per cent. *ad valorem* to eight per cent. This will place us at a disadvantage. In former times, currants were a luxury; but now they are a necessary of life. The Chancellor of the Exchequer: "How can they be considered a necessary of life?" Mr. Crawford: "When meat is dear, the working classes mix them with their bread. That practice particularly prevails in the northern districts." After some further conversation, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said he could not undertake, during the present session, to make any alteration in the rate of duty.

**THE NAWAB OF SURAT.**—Some further correspondence between Meer Jafer Ali Khan and the Directors of the East India Company, respecting the property of the late Nawab of Surat, was published last Saturday, by order of the House of Commons. It refers exclusively to arrangements respecting the Nawab's private property, and to proposals made by him with a view to a settlement of the question. Jafer Ali, on the 30th of last March, wrote a letter accepting the proposal of the Court of Directors to fix the sum of 1,50,000 rupees a year as a life pension for the family and descendants of the late Nawab, to raise the pension of the two widows from 14,400 to 20,000 rupees each, to continue the pensions of the servants and dependents of the late Nawab, and to divide the balance, 1,00,000 rupees (10,000*l.*), equally between himself (Jafer Ali) and his two daughters for life. Jafer Ali, however, accepts this proposal of necessity, "worn out, as he is, in the unequal and protracted struggle to obtain justice at the hands of the British Government."—*Times*.

**MONSTER BLAST AT HOLYHEAD.**—This magnificent operation took place with complete success on Thursday week, when, with an aggregate charge of 21,000*lb.* of powder, a section of Holyhead mountain, amounting in measurement to 160,000 tons of the hardest quartz rock, was dislodged.

**THE LUNDHILL COLLIERY EXPLOSION.**—The inquest on the one hundred and eighty-nine sufferers by this explosion was brought to a close on Friday week, when, after an elaborate summing up, by Mr. Badger, the coroner, of the eleven days' evidence, the jury returned the following verdict:—"The jury are of opinion that Abraham Turner, Thomas Grey, and others, met with their deaths from the effects consequent upon an explosion of carburetted hydrogen gas in the Lundhill coal mine, on the 19th day of February last, but the immediate cause of such explosion there is not any conclusive or sufficient evidence to show. The jury cannot come to the conclusion that it was criminally negligent, but accidental; they, however, must condemn the laxity of the discipline and the non-observance of the rules allowed by the manager and his deputies at the Lundhill mine. The jury also beg to add that they fully concur in the remarks made by Mr. Wood, Mr. Elliott, and Mr. Woodhouse, that an improved system of ventilation and a better subdivision thereof is requisite to be adopted, especially where day and night shifts are worked; they also approve generally the remarks of those gentlemen in reference to safety lamps, and other valuable suggestions made by them in their evidence yesterday. The jury are also glad that, although the subject of the education of the working miners was not alluded to by the before-mentioned gentlemen, yet that omission has been remedied in the able charge of the coroner, and the jury cannot too forcibly recommend that every practical effort should be resorted to to raise the miners to a higher moral and mental condition than is now unhappily too prevalent. The jury also beg to report their admiration and approval of the heroic conduct of Messrs. Webster, Maddison and others, in their arduous and dangerous efforts to recover the bodies. The jury cannot close their remarks on this awfully disastrous accident without expressing their deep and heartfelt sympathy for the bereaved sufferers. They are of opinion that the proprietors of the colliery were not cognisant of the laxity of the conduct of their underviewer, deputies, and workmen."

**THE LORD'S DIVISION LIST.**—The Lords have, within the last few days, consented for the first time to publish their division lists. Previously to this, however, lists

were supplied to the papers by the rival 'tellers;' but these had not the authority of the House, were in point of fact surreptitious, and were often incorrect. It is only some twenty years ago since even the Commons first condescended to let the public whom they assumed to represent know how they discharged their trust.

**FATAL ACCIDENT AT SHOBDON COURT.**—Shobdon Court, Herefordshire, the seat of Lord Bateman, has been the scene of a terrible catastrophe, which has thrown a gloom over the district. A number of workmen have been employed for some time past in making extensive alterations and enlargements on the premises. Among the alterations were some extensive arches, which were being constructed underneath the mansion; and, as a number of workmen—masons, carpenters, and others—were employed on these last Monday, an arch just completed, and which had been built upon old foundations, gave way, burying the workmen in the ruins. Two were killed and four severely injured.

**NEWSVENDORS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.**—The eighteenth anniversary of this society was celebrated by a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern on Wednesday evening. Mr. John Walter, M.P., the chief proprietor of the *Times*, presided.

**COLLIERY EXPLOSION AND FIVE PERSONS KILLED.**—A fearful explosion took place on Tuesday at a pit in the township of Ince, about three miles from Wigan. The pit is worked by the Kirkless Hall Company. Five persons were killed. Thirteen others were brought up more or less injured. No explanation of the cause of the explosion is given.

**BOAT ACCIDENT.**—Ensign George H. Bowles, of the 85th Regiment of Foot, and a man named James Cartmel, a servant, have been drowned by the upsetting of a boat in the river Ribble.

**THE CHARITY CHILDREN AT ST. PAUL'S.**—The annual meeting of the charity children in the metropolitan cathedral took place on Thursday. The singing of the children was of the usually impressive character, and the Bishop of London delivered an eloquent sermon on the words of Jesus, "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of God."

**ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.**—The anniversary meeting of this institution was held on Monday at the Society's house, 15, Whitehall, Sir Roderick Murchison, the president, in the chair. An address on the progress of geographical research during the past year was delivered by the chairman, and he was unanimously re-elected president for the ensuing year. In the evening, there was a dinner at the Freemasons' Tavern, when Sir Roderick Murchison again occupied the chair.

**THE SUNDAY PROMENADES** on the grand parterre, Windsor Castle, commenced last Sunday, when the band of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue) played, for the first time this season, from four till seven o'clock in the evening.

**THE FALL OF HOUSES AT TOTTENHAM-COURT-ROAD.**—The inquiry into this catastrophe was proceeded with on Friday week, when some technical evidence was received, and the inquest was again adjourned till Tuesday. On that day, the most important witnesses were Mr. Maples, who owned the houses numbered 145, 146, and 147, and who testified that he had never heard that Mr. Baker, the district surveyor, had condemned the party-wall; Mr. Raggett, a surveyor employed by Mr. Maples to superintend the alterations; and Mr. Joseph Taylor, the builder engaged on the works, and the father of one of the persons killed. These last-named gentlemen attributed the accident to the cutting away of the chimney breasts of the party-wall, the weak condition of that wall, and the making of the two holes at the bottom for the purpose of under-pinning. Mr. Taylor added:—"I ought to have had notice that such a work was going to be done to the party-wall, but this was not given me." The inquiry was again adjourned to Friday.

**ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.**—The annual ceremony of 'the Apposition' took place at this school on Wednesday afternoon, in the presence of a very brilliant gathering of ladies, noblemen, and gentlemen, and of about half a dozen bishops, who were all much pleased by the delivery of the prizes, the recitations, the speeches, and the acting. The pupils exhibited considerable ability, and great command over the Latin and French languages.

**THE CASUAL POOR OF THE CITY OF LONDON.**—A deputation from the Board of Guardians of the West London Union waited on the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House on Wednesday, to point out to him the necessity that exists for erecting a central ward or wards in the City of London, to be supported by the several City Unions, for the reception of casual poor. The Lord Mayor said there could be no doubt of the want of such an institution, and added that he would heartily join the deputation in their efforts to remedy the existing state of things.

**M. FRANCISCO TRAYASSOS VALDEZ** has been appointed by the Portuguese Government arbitrator to the mixed British and Portuguese Commission at the Cape of Good Hope for the adjudication of slave questions.

**EXHIBITION OF DESIGNS FOR THE NEW PUBLIC OFFICES.**—Notice has been affixed to the entrance of Westminster Hall that the exhibition will be closed on Saturday, June 6. The models for the monument proposed to be erected to the memory of the late Duke of Wellington in St. Paul's will be received by next Monday, the 1st of June, from artists residing within the

United Kingdom, and on or before the 25th of June from other artists. Westminster Hall will be open to the public for the exhibition of these models early in July, and those designs for public offices which shall have been selected by the judges to receive the premiums will be exhibited at the same time.

**CHARLOTTE BRONTE AND MR. CARUS WILSON.**—Mr. H. Shephard, M.A., 'late Fellow and Tutor of Oriel College, Oxford, Incumbent of Casterton, and Chaplain and Secretary of the Clergy Daughters School,' writes a long letter to the *Times* to repel the charges of cruelty and spiritual pride brought by the late Charlotte Brontë in *Jane Eyre*, and repeated by Mrs. Gaskell in her life of the novelist, against Mr. Carus Wilson in connexion with the Cowen-bridge or Casterton-school.

**THE MAINE LIQUOR LAW.**—A meeting of the members and friends of the United Kingdom Alliance, established for the total suppression of the liquor traffic, was held on Tuesday evening at Exeter Hall. The Hon. Judge Marshall, of Nova Scotia, occupied the chair; and, after a resolution, welcoming the Hon. Neal Dow, and expressing confidence in him as a statesman and a social reformer, had been unanimously carried, amidst great enthusiasm, the temperance orator from the United States addressed the meeting at considerable length. In this speech, besides enlarging on the crime and misery caused by the sale of spirituous liquors, Mr. Dow asserted that the suppression of the liquor traffic in England would effect a saving of 75,000,000*l.*, in addition to an equal saving in time, so that the whole saving would amount to 150,000,000*l.* The destruction of the national habit of drinking would preserve 60,000 lives a year now slain by the 'grogshops,' would rescue 600,000 women from starvation, and a million children from vice and crime, and would increase the physical strength of the people. In America, the Maine Liquor Law has spread into several of the States. The Queen of England might do an immense deal of good in this country by her personal influence; and, if she were thus to lead to the suppression of the traffic in intoxicating drinks, her glory would be far greater than that of the ancient Emperor who boasted that he had found Rome built of brick, and had left it built of marble.—On resuming his seat, the hon. gentleman was greeted with a fresh burst of enthusiasm, the audience rising from their seats. Various resolutions were then adopted in support of the objects of the association, and the meeting separated.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, May 30.

## LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

### NEW WRITS.

A new writ was ordered to issue for the election of a member for the borough of Leeds in the place of Mr. Robert Hall, deceased.

### PASSING TOLLS.

In answer to Mr. HUDSON, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that the question of passing tolls was in the hands of the Board of Trade, and after the holidays it would be stated whether any measure in that subject would be introduced; but in the present state of public business it was not likely that any such measure would be soon brought forward.

### ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE.

It was ordered that the House at its rising do adjourn to Thursday next.

### BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

On the motion of Lord PALMERSTON, it was ordered that on and after 18th June, orders of the day do take precedence of notices of motion on Thursdays.

### THE DUCHY OF CORNWALL.

Mr. CONINGHAM gave notice of his intention to bring the petition of Mr. Bertolacci, Auditor of the Duchy of Cornwall, before the House.

### THE CIVIL SERVICE.

Mr. BASS inquired whether candidates for employment in the Civil Service, nominated by Members of Parliament, were subjected to the same competitive examination as other candidates.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said the only course pursued with regard to candidates is contained in the Order in Council, directing a competitive examination.

LORD GODERICH gave notice that, on going into committee on the Civil Service Estimates, he should bring the question before the House.

### POLICE (SCOTLAND).

The Lord ADVOCATE, in answer to Mr. MACKIE, said, it was intended to bring in a Police Bill for Scotland this session.

### CORRUPT PRACTICES AT ELECTIONS.

In answer to Mr. CROSS, Sir GEORGE GREY said it was not intended to extend the provisions of the Corrupt Practices at Elections Bill to municipal elections.

### TREATY WITH THE UNITED STATES ON HONDURAS.

In answer to Mr. DISRAELI, Lord PALMERSTON said, that last year two treaties were negotiated by this country—one with the United States, the other with Honduras. The treaty with the latter related to the Bay

Islands, and the object was that those islands should not be military stations. The treaty with the United States was for the purpose of settling the differences with Central America, viz., Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and the Mosquito territory. Another part of it referred to the cession of the Bay Islands to Honduras, the object being to bind this country and the United States to that cession. The treaties were issued in England, and sent to Washington and Honduras. There had been no official account of the agreement of Honduras to that treaty. The treaty with the United States was sent to the Senate, altered in one important particular, and sent back to this country. The Senate had no doubt a right to modify a treaty; but it was not possible for this country to ratify a treaty which had been altered. If this country was willing to adopt the alterations in the treaty, it would be necessary that a new treaty should be signed. The Government waived objections to the changes, except one, which omitted all mention of the convention between Honduras and this country as to the cession of the Bay Islands; thus making it appear that we had made an unconditional cession of those islands. The Government had made a proposal for the modification of that alteration which was still under negotiation.

Mr. DISRAELI asked whether the alteration was not communicated to our Minister at Washington, and whether an answer was not made to that communication before the treaty was sent here to be ratified.—Lord PALMERSTON said that no doubt the alteration was communicated by anticipation to her Majesty's Government, but it was not made officially until the treaty was sent over.

### THE PRINCESS ROYAL'S ANNUITY.

The House went into committee on the Bill.—Mr. BOWYER moved that, on the Princess Royal becoming Queen of Prussia, the annuity should be suspended during the time she continued to occupy that position; but in the event of her surviving her husband, it should revive.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER opposed the amendment on the ground that it was a mere nibbling at the question.—Mr. WILLIAMS cordially supported the amendment.—Mr. WALTER said this discussion showed how much better it would have been to give the Princess Royal a round sum. He could not support this amendment but he could suggest an alteration, namely, that the annuity should cease on her Royal Highness becoming Queen of Prussia, but that it should be raised to 12,000*l.* a year.—Mr. DISRAELI said that he depreciated the necessity of the Crown coming to the House for these sums, when it had possessions which brought in 260,000*l.* a year. It was not the fact that this annuity was paid out of the taxes of the country. He objected to the amendment.

An animated discussion ensued, in which Mr. FRANCIS BARING, Mr. ROEBUCK, and Mr. DISRAELI took part. Mr. BOWYER then withdrew his amendment, and the Bill passed through committee.

### PAUPER LUNATICS (SCOTLAND).

Mr. ELLICE drew attention to the necessity for securing proper protection and maintenance for Pauper Lunatics in Scotland. The statement of the honourable gentleman went to show that the condition of lunatics, especially of pauper lunatics, in Scotland, is most disgraceful. Sir GEORGE GREY admitted the truth of the statement, and said that it was in consequence of the existing condition of things that a commission had been appointed. The matter is under the serious consideration of the Government. After more discussion, the subject dropped, and the House went into Committee of Supply on the ARMY ESTIMATES which occupied the remainder of the sitting.

### CHINA.

The position of affairs in Canton River remains unchanged. Great distress is said to prevail at Canton from the high price of rice. The Raleigh, 50-gun frigate, has run aground, and it is feared she is totally lost. The Bittern has gone to receive her guns. It is asserted that an Imperial duty upon opium has been imposed at Shanghai.

### ALGERIA.

Intelligence has been received in Paris from Algiers of a brilliant affair on the 24th inst., against Beni-Raten. All the positions were carried by the French troops.

### THE EAST.

#### PERSIA AND INDIA.

The news of the conclusion of peace with Persia reached the camp at Mohammerah on the 5th of April. The Jemadar of the 34th Bengal Native Infantry, the ringleader in the late disturbances, has been hanged. Fuzul Ali has been killed in an attack made upon his band to avenge the murder of M. Boileau. Meetings have been held at Singapore to congratulate Sir James Brooke on his just severity.

### THE GRAND DUKE CONSTANTINE.

Intelligence has reached Paris of the arrival at Cherbourg of the Admiralty yacht, the Osborne, from England, and that the Grand Duke Constantine was hourly expected in that port.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ROYAL ACADEMY.—Our third notice is unavoidably postponed.  
 ERRATUM.—An obvious misprint disfigured one of the opening sentences of our article on the 'Ballot Argument,' last week. For 'Four years ago Sir Robert Peel,' &c., read 'Some years ago Sir Robert Peel,' &c.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1857.

## 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.

## LIBERAL BOLTERS IN THE HOUSE.

THE Liberal party has no acknowledged chief. Mr. ROEBUCK frequently volunteers to act as standard-bearer; but the independent members of the House of Commons have discovered, not once or twice only, that he is capable of deliberately misleading and abandoning them. We think we have always done justice to his public character; but the truth must be told. He capitulated to Lord PALMERSTON on the first night of the session, and last week he surrendered the opposition to the PRINCESS ROYAL's pension and dowry. In both instances his conduct was entirely unauthorized by his political friends. We doubt even whether it was not offensive to his own parliamentary colleague, the second representative of Sheffield. Was it weakness, or was it insincerity? Was Mr. ROEBUCK cowed by the bluster of the Government, or had he too, with Mr. DISRAELI, made a compact with a very important personage? We dislike the necessity of raising so much as a doubt concerning the fidelity of a very forward patriot, yet there was something remarkable in the sequence of the proceedings on the evening of Friday week. Before the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER rose in his place, and on the motion that the House do resolve itself into a committee, Mr. ROEBUCK addressed himself to the SPEAKER, and neither Lord PALMERSTON nor Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS attempted to interrupt him. So far as we can learn, indeed, no surprise was manifested on the ministerial bench. But we can inform the honourable gentleman in what quarter there was astonishment, not unmingled with disgust, when an officious gentleman exposed the plans of his party before a word had been uttered by a member of the Cabinet. The blank cartridge was fired against a dead wall, and Lord PALMERSTON, getting upon his legs, hoped the discussion would not be anticipated. Why, it had been anticipated, and an uncomfortable apprehension began to be circulated that cutlery was not the only false ware bought and sold at Sheffield. This suspicion gained ground when, upon the termination of the ludicrous speech of Sir CORNEWALL LEWIS—a speech which a dexterous reply would have blown to shivers—Mr. ROEBUCK was instantly again in the breach, making a theatrical use of his hands in front, but kicking down his supporters behind him. From this moment there was a mere burlesque of a Parliamentary discussion. Lord JOHN RUSSELL simpered as though he were a courtier in a braided coat upon his knees before Queen ELIZABETH. Mr. DISRAELI, still bilious after the farmers' ordinary at Newport Pagnell, was serenely stupid in his enunciation of obsequious platitudes. The only men in the House

who seriously attacked the pension job of the PRINCESS ROYAL, were Mr. WILLIAM CONINGHAM and Mr. WILLIAM WILLIAMS; but there were others ready to carry on the debate, when, rushing hot from the lobbies, poured in the tide of representative wisdom, the white-waistcoated members who never listen to exposition or reply, but who vote away any sum proposed by the Treasury—millions or myriads—and swamp the conscientious economy of the hard-working, independent Liberals.

The drones of Parliament had clustered together thick as the humming-bees that hunt the golden dew, to pay out of the national property for the affability of the Queen Bee, for tickets to state balls, for possible baronetcies, and other good things in the gift of our WALPOLES and PELHAMS, when suddenly there was a loud burst of applause. Mr. ROEBUCK was seen to sit down with a countenance reflecting the benign smiles of Mr. SPEAKER, of Lord PALMERSTON, and of a House resounding with cheers. Some one on the distant cross benches asked for intelligence from the Ministerial empyrean. What had occasioned this singing of the spheres? Why did one honourable member for Sheffield smirk and another frown? Why did Mr. ROEBUCK seem, as Lord NORTH once seemed, according to BURKE, as though his face were the face of an angel? The answer was:—Mr. ROEBUCK has withdrawn his amendment; the question has been put and carried; the dowry has been granted; the pension has been granted; Mr. ROEBUCK has consulted nobody; the opportunity has been lost, and the popular representatives have not acted up to their duties.

Now we do not affirm that Mr. ROEBUCK actually bargained away the opposition to the PRINCESS ROYAL's pension, but this we say, it was the second occasion on which he had led the Liberal party into a hole. What right has he to put himself forward as the leader of a debate and proposer of an amendment if he has not the firmness and constancy to maintain his opinions—if they are his opinions—or to be true to his party? The vote was carried by consent, but the feeling of the House was far from unanimous. Had a distinct sum been proposed as a dowry—say a hundred thousand pounds sterling—excluding altogether the principle of a pension, there were numerous members in the House who dared not have voted against it. There were others who would certainly have gone all lengths to gain palace favour, but who, when Mr. ROEBUCK as usual hung out his white flag, boasted that they would have opposed the Government had a division taken place. Among the independent members, Mr. CONINGHAM was resolved to test the sentiments of the House when the question was again brought forward. On Monday evening he and his friends successively proposed a reduction of the pension and a refusal of the dowry. Fourteen members voted for the first amendment, eighteen for the second. The names of those gentlemen will be remembered by the country. But other gentlemen will be signalized as the bolters. They ran away and hid. Mr. ROEBUCK was one of them. What do the people of Sheffield think of their sharp-tongued Cicero? Can they trust him again with the management of a Liberal opposition? We are afraid that Mr. ROEBUCK will come to be regarded as a Government buffer, intended to break the force of any collision between Lord PALMERSTON and the deluded Liberals, especially since there are unpleasant insinuations afloat with respect to his conduct of the Sebastopol Inquiry. We should indeed be glad to see him cleared of that impeachment; it might also be possible to extenuate his ab-

ject attitude on the first night of the session, but nothing can excuse his recalcitration on Friday night, and we do not see how it can be explained except on the supposition of a questionable understanding between the patriot and the Premier.

Analyzing the list of the minority whose persistence excited the indignation of that Piccadilly politician in lemon gloves, Lord ROBERT CECIL, we regret to miss some names that should surely have been there. How happens it that the liberalism of Sir DE LACY EVANS is so much more unflinching than that of Sir JOHN VILLIERS SHELLEY? Upon what principle was Sir JOSEPH PAXTON absent? Where was Sir CHARLES NAPLIER, and where Mr. LOCKE? Could not Mr. AKROYD find it in his heart to protest against the Royal pension? Where was Manchester? Manchester has no seat in the New Parliament; but we need not brand separately the ruck of the bolters. Many would probably have voted with the Liberals on Friday who considered it too late to act in opposition on Monday. Mr. CONINGHAM's motion was not so much an economical manœuvre, as an effort to rescue the Liberal party from the false position into which they had been thrown by Mr. ROEBUCK's indiscreet professions of confidence on the first night of the session, and by his sacrifice of honesty to the representatives of Buckingham Palace. Unless the Liberals act upon their own responsibility, unless they move in a compact phalanx, and separate themselves by their votes, not only from the Tories, but from the overwhelming majority to which Lord PALMERSTON dictates, they will never form a party, and their policy will have no effect on the legislation of the empire. There are numerous mysteries of administration which a section of determined Liberals acting together might lay bare to the light of public opinion. Upon what statistics are the estimates founded? Who prepares them for the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER? Who audits and reports upon the actual expenditure of the year? Of what terrestrial value are the auditors at Somerset House? These and a hundred similar questions remain unanswered, but the sincere Liberals are deterred from pushing them home, because they cannot trust their friends. Here is Mr. ROXBELL betraying a disposition to bolt from the ballot, as he, and others who resemble him, bolted from the opposition to the Prussian pension. The only straight course we can discern amid this confusion of timidity, of bad faith, and broken pledges, is a resolve on the part of the public-spirited Liberals to force every debate to its legitimate issue, and let the division list stigmatize the deserters.

## THE PRISONS OF THE POPE.

THE position of the Italian patriots in prison is somewhat different from that which the world has ever seen. Perhaps there have been cases as horrible, although they are few. One prisoner under the charge of the pious King of NAPLES, PIRONI, has been a cripple for four years, having been deprived of the use of his limbs by the dampness of the prisons, and he moves about on crutches; from the same cause SCHIAVONI has entirely lost the use of one eye and is in danger of losing the other. The beatings of the stick are attended by the most horrible physical consequences; the endurance itself being a very small part of the danger. This is the manner in which the pious King treats the JOHN RUSSELL, the ROEBUCK, and JOHN TRELAUNY of Naples. Mr. GLADSTONE wrote a pamphlet about it, addressed to Lord ABERDEEN; Mr. GLADSTONE and Lord

ABERDEEN effected nothing when they were in office.

The POPE is engaged in a progress throughout his dominions, and as he goes he 'blesses' the people. The process is simple. With the thumb of the hand he holds down the little and third fingers; the middle and fore-fingers remain extended together; and with the hand in that condition he is competent to cast blessings upon all who kneel to receive them. It is not to be denied, then, that Italy is blessed; but, in the meanwhile, what do those who have endeavoured to bring substantial benefits for Italy endure? Take the prisoners in Fort Urban, which is built on a marshy moat, entirely surrounded by ditches and stagnant water. It is a place of retreat for the worst convicts. In it at present there are 800 prisoners, of whom 200 are detained without trial; they are, in fact, imprisoned—and many of them have been many years imprisoned—for the crime of being suspected. Some of these belong to the best families of Bologna. The picked prisoners are sent to the Collometa, in which the cells are only ventilated from a long corridor. Here the suffocating temperature inclines the prisoners to sleep, but that tendency is checked by German sentinels, who patrol the corridor day and night. The prisoners cannot complain, except through the Governor. But there is one provision that one would little have expected in the POPE's dominions—they are not allowed to attend Divine Service; so little faith has the POPE in the efficacy of that ceremonial, that the prisoners are debarred from it, lest they should conspire in presence!

It may be said that the Italians should not endure these things. There is great reason to believe that the Italians *would* not, if it were not for the fact that, by intrigues and combinations of foreign courts, which can bring together enormous armies of alien multitudes, the Italians would throw off their governments, which are, in fact, the worst criminals and malefactors of the country. We English assist in preventing them, by assisting to maintain the combinations against them. In diplomatic phrase, we call it 'the balance of power in Europe,' or 'a state of amity,' and one recommendation of the Prussian marriage is, that it will assist in maintaining that 'peace.' If it is disgraceful to the Italians to endure, it is disgraceful to every country which assists in maintaining the combination; it is doubly disgraceful when the country knows what it is doing. We English show that we know it, by continually talking about it; but who begins to alter the state of things? Is there not a single man who can begin amendments? Where is Lord JOHN?

#### TRUSTEES AND BANKRUPTS.

SOME time since, with the assistance of a pamphlet by Mr. MENZIES, the original Secretary to the Royal British Bank, we gave an account of that striking project, 'How we got it up, and how it went down.' Our readers will remember the strange manner in which appearances were kept up before the public, before shareholders, before directors, while the whole thing was a sham and a conspiracy. Even the disclosures before the Court of Bankruptcy present nothing like the clear and consecutive story which there showed us the working of the plan behind the scenes; and our readers will remember the solemn introduction of Mr. HUGH INNES CAMERON; his own most pious adjurations when he accepted the responsibility; his method of letting Mr. MULLENS know how MENZIES was to be disposed of; his plan of letting in the Newcastle people; and, indeed, the whole

method of making up the appearance of a bank, when the reality was nothing but an assemblage of gentlemen who supposed they were collecting capital, while HUGH INNES CAMERON was scheming away the money. Not long before that, we had the case of STRAHAN, PAUL and BATES, bankers by whom the property which other persons entrusted to them was used for their own purposes, appropriating it under false pretences. It so happened that they came within the cognizance of the criminal law by a species of illegal pawning and other mistakes of the kind; but if, like the members of the Royal British Bank, or some bankers that have failed not long since about the country, they had taken in the *money* of their customers to use for their own purposes, they would have been covered by our present law of trusts, and would have been only debtors, not conspirators guilty of a criminal offence. Again, we had the extraordinary schemes of JOSEPH WINDLE COLE, who cleverly manœuvred more than one half million out of people's pockets, and still more cleverly obtained assistance in his schemes. Some of the assistants got, like himself, involved in the criminal law; but there were others who were not so involved, yet nevertheless lent themselves to misrepresentations respecting the actual possession of property entrusted to their charge. Indeed, they were so lax upon the subject, that they scarcely knew to whom the property really belonged. But again, these persons—and the more respectable they are the more injurious to society is their connivance—wholly escaped any danger from the criminal law, because the most that could be made of them was, that they held the property in trust, or under the law of bailment. Now, it is a fiction of our law that when a man holds the property in trust he is the owner thereof, and the owner cannot steal his own property; so that the trustee who filches the property of the orphan is, in the eye of the criminal law, only disposing of his own property. If the wicked uncle had stopped short of the murder, the Children in the Wood would have had no remedy at law; and ancient as the tale is, it has its parallels in modern times.

But there is a great deal of 'fun' in our law, for it creates confusion as if for the very sport. When a plan for some great scheme turns out to have been a bubble, the object alike of shareholders and creditors must be to recover as much of the property as possible, to waste as little of it as possible in law expenses, and to settle the matter as soon as possible. There is scarcely a man of business who would not admit that statement as a simple truism. But what happened in the case of the Royal British Bank? Many of the contributors to that undertaking were persons of thorough respectability, and no small portion of them had sufficient means to meet all the liabilities. If they had been allowed to make the necessary arrangements, they would have got together the requisite amount of money; and, if they could not pay every farthing in full, they could have paid enough to constitute something more than an 'honourable bankruptcy.' The interest of the creditors was clearly to stand by and allow this process to be completed. Yet, what happened? Some of the shareholders saw that the best plan would be to wind-up the affairs, and consequently they put the bank into Chancery—the right course. But the creditors thought that Chancery would look more after the interests of the contributors than of the claimants, and they invoked the assistance of the Bankruptcy lawyers, who were nothing loth. Lawyers in both courts immediately saw the advantage that might be obtained by making

law business. A few of the creditors thought that they should be able to recover their own peculiar claims, whatever the rest might do, by snatching at the amount in a very summary and hurried manner; and they brought separate suits on their own account. One man brought twenty-five suits, another more than a hundred. Now, as there were nearly 300 shareholders, and about 6000 creditors, it would have been literally possible for nearly 1,800,000 suits to be going on at the same time. Such a possibility is like a Munchausen fiction, yet it was the actual result of recent legislation in the construction of the Winding-up Acts; for those Acts failed alike to give the majority of shareholders and creditors the power of settling matters, and they failed to establish a simple process.

The Bills introduced last week by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL aimed to remedy both these great defects. The minor Bill dictates a simple process for winding-up, and gives the requisite power to the majorities of shareholders and creditors. The larger Bill gives a list of persons who shall be accounted guilty of 'misdemeanour' if with intent to defraud they appropriate to their own use property placed in their hands as trustees, bankers, merchants, agents, and bailees. One clause of the Bill fastens the offence of misdemeanour upon any conniving receiver of the property obtained under a violation of the Act. The Bill is exceedingly simple in its structure. It affords ample security against malevolent or unconsidered propositions; in the case of private trustees, particularly, by requiring that no prosecution should be instituted without the concurrence of a Judge who sees probable cause for the criminal proceeding. This Bill, therefore, will fasten a criminal responsibility upon trustees and agents of all kinds who filch property entrusted to their charge by fraudulent acts or misrepresentations.

Let us see how it would have operated in the case of the Royal British Bank. Mr. MENZIES appears, from the account in his own pamphlet, to have been very uneasy at the turn affairs were taking, long before he was so unceremoniously ousted. He had had the courage to face Whitecross-street Prison and other perils, to which ingenious gentlemen in difficulties are exposed; but with this statute in the path, it is quite evident that, at a much earlier period, he would have brought his own relation with the bank to a stop. We may doubt whether any form of responsibility would have arrested the self-relying and pious HUGH. Perhaps there were one or two others whose confidence in their own integrity, notwithstanding the 'peculiar circumstances' which induced them to qualify the strict rules of ordinary conduct, would have sustained them in the belief that they *could* not become criminal, however 'unusual' their conduct might have been. But undoubtedly most of the directors would have been startled at irregularities that must have reminded them of this law, and they would have stopped; thus the crash of the Royal British Bank would never have happened, because the conspiracy could never have been completed by its authors, for want of presentable help. But if the crash had happened, the new Winding-up Law would have come in to save the wrecks for the proper owners,—the deluded shareholders, and the deluded creditors.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF CRIMINALS.

IN his earnest letter on secondary punishments, Mr. CHARLES PEARSON indicates three systems of convict treatment:—

- The hanging system of past days;
- The lock-up and do-nothing system of the present;
- The self-supporting work system of the future.

The first is gone, we hope, for ever; the second is fast going, and would, perhaps, be already a thing of the past, if the third were clearly and practically understood, undiscarded by maudlin philanthropy. It therefore becomes an important question to know what steps, down to the present time, have been taken to carry something like a self-supporting system of criminal labour into execution.

Ireland, for once, has beaten England in this race of progress. When in 1854 the new penal act (16 and 17 Vic. cap. 99) came into operation, the directors of convict prisons in Ireland inspected the establishments placed under their direction, and found, as their first Report declares, 3427 prisoners confined, though there was accommodation only for 3210. What was to be done? Unable now to draft them to the colonies, the directors had to look at home for means, not to *punish* criminals, but to make useful, honest men of them; and they set to work accordingly with an earnest, determined will. The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Captain CROFTON, took the lead in the great undertaking, and resolved to test the following plan in the Dublin house of correction known as the Smithfield Prison.

Finding that this place was no longer needed as a *prison*, he assembled all employed within its walls, and told them that he was about to use it in a peculiar manner, and that turnkeys, so-called, would be no longer needed. He described his plan thus: He was about to collect, from all the convict establishments in Ireland, the men of the very best character as prisoners, who should be entitled, at an early day, to tickets of leave. These men were to receive the suit of clothes given to ticket-of-leave men on quitting prison; and were to be brought to Smithfield; but although he could not make them free men, he would not, by any means, let them consider themselves prisoners. Each of these men ignorant of a trade should be taught one. No man should leave the establishment until, if possible, some means of honest livelihood had been obtained for him. Each of the turnkeys should know some trade, and he should act as foreman of his craft, and sit and work with his pupils; in fact, he told the prisoners that all within the establishment should be usefully employed.

Having made the necessary arrangements, Captain CROFTON began his operations on the 1st of February, 1856. The inmates of Smithfield were taught the trades of shoemakers, tailors, netmakers, carpenters, brush-makers, nailers, and other employments of an in-door kind; and at the end of December, 1856, the success had been such that 167 men had been discharged, 55 free, and 112 on ticket of leave. Of the 112 ticket-of-leave men, 5 have relapsed; but of the free men none. Of the total of 167, 40 of the ticket-of-leave men and 3 of the free men are working in Dublin and the county of Dublin, and are employed, some as tradesmen, others as labourers, at wages averaging from 7s. to 20s. per week.\*

The account of the receipts for the year ending 31st December, 1856,† shows that of the inmates of Smithfield, 16 tailors gained the sum of 4607. 16s.; 16 shoemakers, 1517. 19s.; 6 mattress-makers, 1097. 3s.; 1 carpenter, 237. 4s., &c.; and that altogether the establishment is very nearly self-supporting. Compare with this the sums spent on *transported* convicts. According to Mr. M. D. HILL, a Tasmanian convict costs 857. a year; a West Australian convict, 417., besides the expense of shipping; and, worst

of all, in spite of this heavy outlay, the convict does *not* become a better man, but often, very often, sinks deeper into crime.

At Spike Island, another Irish convict establishment, the prisoners are employed on works under the Royal Engineers Department, connected with the fortifications on the station—masonry, earthwork, quarrying, and the like; and under the same department, at Forts Camden and Carlisle, at the entrance to the harbour, and at Queenstown; also at Haulbowline, under the Naval Department; and in various works requisite for the repairs of the prison buildings at Spike Island.

At Philipstown a portion of the convicts confined have been employed in new buildings, and in alterations necessary towards the completion of that invalid establishment; and in the same place the Directors have latterly purchased some land adjoining the prison, for giving additional means of employment, in its cultivation, to a class of convicts not altogether suited for heavy labour on the public works.

The most valuable result of the whole movement is conveyed in the official statement\* that, generally speaking, the industry of the convicts has been very satisfactory, especially of those in the intermediate stages at Smithfield, and at Forts Camden and Carlisle. The record of industry is known to effect their progress in the classification, and it thus acts as a constant stimulus, which we hope will become still more powerful with the men now under sentence of penal servitude, when we are enabled to place before them some more tangible reward than is afforded by the mere increase of earnings consequent on their attaining higher classification. So much for Ireland, where indeed they seem to go ahead of us in this question, at least for the present.

And what is England doing? *Old England* is habitually rather backward in trying new schemes; but when once fairly persuaded of their intrinsic worth she does sometimes carry them out. It has been so with great ideas and discoveries during the last three hundred years, and will be most certainly the same with this important question of convict reform. At present the state of transition from the lock-up to the self-supporting system is clearly visible. Many of our convicts are, at this time, engaged in the construction of a harbour of refuge at the Isle of Portland; and undertakings of a similar kind might give them work for a century to come, if the public, the Parliament, and the Government could only be brought to appreciate the fact that more than a thousand vessels are annually shipwrecked on the coast of the British Isles, involving many hundreds of lives; a loss chiefly arising from the infrequency of such harbours of refuge. There, and in the millions of acres of waste land, of bogs and swamps to be reclaimed, is a field certainly wide enough for convict labour. Let nobody object to the cost of such enterprises, for the present system is most decidedly the costliest of all. It appears from the report of the Committee on Transportation, appointed during the last session of the House of Lords, that, although transportation to Tasmania has ceased for years, 4000 convicts yet remain there, at an annual cost to this country of 142,2367.; and in Western Australia 2000 convicts cost 82,000 a year.

\* Third Annual Report of the Directors of Convict Prisons in Ireland. (Dublin, 1857.) More details about Ireland, and chiefly about Captain Crofton's treatment of criminals, are to be found in a clear and well-written letter of Mr. Alfred Hill, from Cork, April 8, 1857, to his father, the Recorder of Birmingham. See M. D. Hill: *Suggestions for the Repression of Crime*, pp. 672-6.

"To send convicts," exclaimed Mr. M. D. Hill, in his charge to the Birmingham Grand Jury in 1856, "thousands of miles, to remain in prison at the end of their voyage, does appear to me repugnant to the most obvious dictates of common sense; to say nothing of its being condemned by all authority. If the convicts cannot, with propriety, be scattered abroad, but must be congregated upon public works in anticipation of the wants of further future colonists, who, the moment they become strong enough, will deprive us of our *dépôt* for our criminals, thus constructed at an enormous outlay, surely it would be far more expedient to keep them at home, labouring at public works on our own shores; especially when the absence of such works is a national disgrace."

#### WHERE ARE THE BRITISH BANK DIRECTORS?

WE hope it is not true that several of the British Bank Directors have been frightened beyond the seas by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL's promise of a prosecution. It would be a strange miscarriage of justice that Sir RICHARD BETHELL should give public warning to an accused person, a very natural consequence of which would be that the offender would put himself beyond the reach of warrants and detectives—perhaps join JAMES SADLER, or wander in search of JOHN. When a great crime was committed in Dublin the police made such a mystery of their suspicions that all clue to the criminal was lost; but the misdemeanants of London stand in happier circumstances. First, Mr. LINKLATER publicly advises their impeachment; then the Commissioner at Basinghall-street intimates it as a probability; next the ATTORNEY-GENERAL declares that it will take place; and it is supposed—so justice pretends—that the culprits will wait in meek expectancy until the law pleases to lay its hands on their neck. We fancy, however, that some at least of the British Bank will not be forthcoming when the agents of the Central Criminal Court are in want of them.

#### THE TYRANNY OF SILENCE.

WHAT is the *Times* if not a faithful record of events? The leading organ, however, relies on its privilege of suppression, not less than on its power of publicity. It has positively burked two notices of motion bearing on the administration of the Duchy of Lancaster—one by Mr. WISE for certain returns connected with the revenues, another by Mr. CONINGHAM respecting Mr. BERTOLACCI's petition. We are forced to ask whether a public journal has a right to make this use of its superiority. To taboo an expression of opinion is one thing, to burk a parliamentary incident is another. It has been believed—and we should not care to believe otherwise,—that the *Times* is a complete and accurate chronicle of events, but if two notices of motions are omitted from one evening's report, how much is suppressed in the course of each revolving year?

BISHOP VILLIERS AT EXETER HALL.—The first of the series of special religious services for the working classes, originating with certain evangelical clergymen and laymen of the Established Church, took place last Sunday night. The great hall was well filled; but the audience consisted only in a very small part of the working classes, and presented pretty much the aspect of our ordinary congregations. Some surprise was occasioned by Mr. Arthur Kinnaird (who, with the Earl of Shaftesbury, accompanied the Bishop on to the platform) introducing to a seat next the preacher a very poor and dirty-looking old man, with a large bundle in his hand.

MONUMENT TO THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.—Baron Marochetti is at present engaged in a colossal monument to the Duke of Wellington, which will be raised in St. Paul's, if the design should meet the approval of the Government.

\* Murray (P. J.) The Transportation Question. (Dublin, 1857.)

† Third Annual Report of the Directors of the Convict Prisons in Ireland.

## 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*.

ONE of the most striking features in the recent development of philosophic thought in France is the opposition arising within the bosom of the Church to the Catholic champions of the reaction, especially the two most celebrated, M. DE BONALD and Count JOSEPH DE MAISTRE. Of the two other distinguished men whose names were originally associated with the reaction, LAMENNAIS soon abandoned the side of authority he had at first espoused to unite himself with the people, and CHATEAUBRIAND had but little real influence, his plea in favour of the old régime being sentimental and æsthetic rather than political or philosophical. BONALD and MAISTRE, however, devoted themselves heart and soul to defend the extreme claims of absolutism in politics, and authority in religion. They were both, in different ways, not only men of great power, but also of extensive personal influence, and the effect of their vigorous polemic against the claims of reason and the advocates of progress was for a time considerable. Count JOSEPH DE MAISTRE, a man of society and of the world, taking a prominent part in public affairs, possessing lively passions, an immensely active and acute, though not profound, intellect, and writing in the easy, brilliant, paradoxical way so popular in France, became the political and literary champion of the reaction, while M. DE BONALD, devoted more to abstract pursuits, and fond of metaphysical refinements that often indeed impede the free action of his naturally powerful mind, undertook the defence of authority from the philosophic side. Each congratulated himself on the successful result of his labours, M. DE BONALD, in particular, evidently believing that by his celebrated theory of traditionalism he had overthrown, in the most unanswerable way, the claims of free inquiry, and finally established the principle of authority over every department of thought and life. Nevertheless, the great cause for which they thus contended is already lost. How, indeed, could it be otherwise? How is it possible, with any logical *chevaux-de-frise*, however cunningly fashioned, to keep back the rising tide of free opinion? It must advance equally against the authority of the monarch of thought who would stay its progress—the CANUTE upon the shore—and the senile fury of the unreasoning bigot—the Mrs. Partington of opinion—who stands on the margin, broom in hand, angrily beating back the waves. The views of BONALD and MAISTRE, which, even during their lifetime, made little real progress beyond the circle of their own followers, are now abandoned by the Church in whose interest they were advanced; the leading opponents of traditionalism, Father CHASTEL and the Abbé MARET, being both ecclesiastics of ability, position, and influence.

This singular ecclesiastical reaction in favour, if not of rationalism, at least of the rights of reason and free inquiry against the exclusive pretensions of authority, forms the subject of two able papers by M. DE RÉMUSAT in the current numbers of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*. The heading of these papers is *Traditionalisme*, a term which M. DE RÉMUSAT employs to designate in general the ideas and arguments, the whole polemic, in fact, of all who in philosophy, politics, or religion, tend to exclude the free use of reason; the first article being devoted to M. DE BONALD, who may fairly be taken as the ablest and most consistent representative of the class. Certainly, in his ingenious theory touching the origin of language, he has carried the principle of authority to the utmost possible extreme. According to this theory, *tradition* is the one key that explains all the mysteries of human science and human life. The essence of his theory, which is, however, not always clearly seized or consistently kept in view even by himself, is as follows: All knowledge, all science and art, all law and government, all human life, in fact, depend on thought—thought depends on language, which is of divine origin, being in fact originally communicated to man directly from his Maker, and thus a *divine tradition*. In the nature of the case, man can never discover or invent anything, his very reason being the result of tradition—he thinks only on authority. This doctrine at once settles all the central questions ever agitated by philosophers or divines. It decides in the simplest manner the philosophic question touching the origin of knowledge. This must not be looked for in sense or understanding, in reason or experience, the true source of all science being tradition. It settles the fundamental question of politics touching the origin of government and the source of power, which is not to be found amongst the nobles or the people, but ever resides in an individual, who holds it in virtue of a divine tradition, and is himself the embodiment or representative of the divine authority. All government is thus theocratic. The theory obviously decides all religious questions in the same way, religion being in fact simply a tradition which the Church preserves and you accept. To talk about the exercise of reason in any department of intellectual or moral activity, is in fact simply an absurdity. A reaction from such an extreme view was obviously inevitable, though we should hardly have expected it to proceed in the first instance from the Church herself. The recent philosophical representatives of Catholicism, however, taking a more profound view of the whole question, have decided that their predecessors, in their zeal to prove the case to the utmost, proved too much. In their anxiety to destroy everything but the Church, the Church itself did not escape—they undermined the very ground on which they stood. If reason is destroyed, there is nothing to which the Church can appeal, no foundation on which it can build. Accordingly, Father CHASTEL,

at the outset of his work, *De la Valeur de la Raison*, a temperate, but, at the same time, spirited and philosophical attack on the whole doctrine of Traditionalism, says pertinently that M. DE BONALD's views leave to society no alternative between blind fanaticism and hopeless scepticism. He undertakes to vindicate the outraged rights of reason, and in doing so exposes, without pity, the numberless self-contradictions and paralogisms running through M. DE BONALD's writings. The Abbé MARET helps forward the same work in his *Philosophie et Religion*; and as his fellow-labourer opposes BONALD chiefly on philosophic grounds, so the Abbé attacks him on the side of authority, proving that the very tradition which is with him the test of truth, contradicts the leading propositions of his system.

The second article, devoted to M. DE MAISTRE and the recent works of his powerful opponent, M. BORDAS DEMOULIN, we cannot attempt to analyze, but would earnestly recommend both to the attention of all who are interested in the progress of religious and philosophical thought.

Two dignitaries of the Second Empire have lately been lost to France—M. VIEILLARD, the old and early friend of LOUIS NAPOLEON, and M. DE PASTORET, who after having served for years as tutor and guardian to the Comte DE CHAM-BORD, accepted, with a mysterious suddenness, the pay and trappings of a Napoleonic Senator, to the disgust and surprise of all honourable Legitimists. A veteran member of the French Academy, now lying dangerously ill, on hearing of these two deaths, exclaimed, *Ah! mon Dieu, je vais mourir comme Notre Seigneur, entre deux larrons.*

## ROMANY RYE.

*The Romany Rye: a Sequel to Lavengro.* By George Borrow, Author of 'The Bible in Spain,' &c. &c. 2 vols. Murray.

MR. BORROW is perfectly justified in making war upon gentility, since he is unquestionably the most unconventional writer of the present age. The objects of his special detestation are the Pope and the critics, and he attacks both after the most ferocious fashion. What he says of his Holiness is considerably too long to be quoted, and so, indeed, is his opinion of the critics; but when he comes to speak of the manner in which he would like to dispose of them, he has a pretty little passage which we think worth extracting: he will hold them up, he says, "by their tails, wriggling, blood and foam streaming from their broken jaws." In these classical expressions Mr. Borrow does nothing more, however, than express his disgust for those who find fault with his books. It is an extremely offensive practice, and we quite sympathize with Mr. Borrow—or, rather, we should if he were not so well able to defend himself.

The object of *The Romany Rye* it is extremely difficult to discover. It appears to be part of a narrative which will probably never be terminated, till Lavengro has solved the great problem, whether he has a soul or not. Every now and then, two or three volumes will make their avator in this world of critics, to whom they will reveal all that Mr. Borrow may have in the meantime discovered about the genesis of popery. We like his fancy of deriving his Holiness from the Dalai Lama. But he attributes to Buddhism an antiquity which its most celebrated Talapouts do not claim for it. In fact, it is only the reformed religion of Hindostan. About six hundred years before Christ, Brahmanism was nearly stifled beneath mountains of rites and ceremonies, fables and legends. Buddha, the Luther of northern India, entered his protest against the corrupt system, and introduced a religion far more pure and humane than that which it undertook to overthrow. Mr. Borrow, however, is extremely hostile to reformed Hindooism, because he believes the Pope and the Cardinals to have been given by it to the West. While he is in great strength upon this topic, he introduces a concise dissertation on the word Amen, which he derives from the Hindoo formula, Omani Vatsikhom. This strongly reminds us of Voltaire's epigram, in which he shows how Alfana came from Equus. We should have thought it more rational to derive Amen from the Arabic word Ameen; that is, 'Have mercy on us!'

But enough of this. There are very capital scenes in the book between the hero and gipsies. The author has a good deal of humour, by the help of which he often makes us laugh. His very prejudices render him amusing. He hates the Scotch excessively, which is surprising, considering that they generally sympathize with him in his detestation of the Scarlet Woman. It is said that the sound of a bagpipe would put the whole college of cardinals to flight, even if St. Peter himself were in the midst of them, so thoroughly is everything connected with North Britain detested on the banks of the Tiber. But perhaps Mr. Borrow is jealous of the Scotch hatred of the Pope, and has a suspicion that it goes beyond his own. However, he gives us the genealogy of his dislike: Scott's novels diffused a taste for Jacobite songs, the singing of which revived a partiality for the Jacobites themselves, who, after the apostasy of James II., went over in droves to the Vatican. This we take to be a very philosophical reason for hating everybody whose name begins with Mac, or who has even breakfasted on oatmeal. Next to the Scotch, Mr. Borrow most detests the Germans. He knows all about their literature, in which he finds no poem worth mentioning except 'Oberon.' We fear that Mr. Borrow knows a great deal too much. Look which way he will, some fragments of his multifarious knowledge starts up before his mind's eye, and leads him like a Will-o'-the-wisp away from his purpose. Welsh, Irish, Spanish, Chinese—all tongues are familiar to him. Probably he became a polyglot by reading all sorts of translations of the Bible. At any rate, many tongues he has, which we sincerely regret, since his works would be much pleasanter if his vagaries were restricted within the limits of our own dialect. Still, to read Mr. Borrow is to be often amused, oftener annoyed, and sometimes disgusted. He has a great deal of talent, but a great deal more vanity. It is this latter quality that makes him quarrel with the critics and the newspapers. If he had the least notion of justice, he would admit that they have just as much right to laugh at his nonsense as he has to enlarge upon theirs. We hold that newspapers are very good

things, and Mr. Borrow would be of the same opinion if they would adopt his ideas and swear by his theories. The interior of his head appears to be filled with notions of all sorts, good, bad, and indifferent. He puts his hand into the cavity as he might into a basket, and, taking out whatever he finds uppermost, he hurls it with a sort of burly independence into the face of the public. If the public likes it, we can have no possible objection. There is entertainment to be gained out of Mr. Borrow. If you can't laugh with him, you can laugh at him, which is every whit as satisfactory. Now and then he puts forward original whims, and makes you acquainted with original characters. Whether they are probable, or even possible, in the situations in which you find them, does not greatly signify. The characters are good in themselves, and you can converse with them in a dingle or on a moor, just as well as in a drawing-room. Perhaps Mrs. Petulengro never was in a drawing-room, but she would very much like to have been there, since she admired gentility, and everybody who could speak French. Jasper himself is a very edifying sort of person, cunning, roguish, full of lies, and not over addicted to honesty, but lively and frank as any one could desire. Isopel is a character which the writer could not manage. After suggesting something very curious and interesting, he breaks down. The man in black is an audacious priest, who is much more frank about the peculiarities of his church than priests are likely to be.

The style of the work is vigorous and original, but often coarse. The mind of the writer has been soured by hostile criticism, and he loses not only all dignity, but even all decency in his recriminations. Of course, there is a great deal of injustice discoverable in criticism, because there is a great deal of misapprehension. Personal motives also, jealousy, spite, envy, and other unamiable feelings, exert their influence over the judgment and warp it. But this is no reason why an author should get beside himself, and deal in frantic figures of speech, which enable the smallest of his critics to look down upon him. Mr. Borrow has good stuff in him, and might write clever and interesting books if he could restrain his propensity to get in a passion. The world is an imperturbable thing, and criticism itself is cold-blooded. Why cannot Mr. Borrow reconcile himself to things as they are, and take good-humouredly what is well intended. We like parts of his book, and feel an interest in the whole, but should like it much better if it were less aggressive.

#### THE MEMOIRS OF ST. SIMON.

*The Memoirs of the Duke of St. Simon on the Reign of Louis XIV. and the Regency.* Abridged from the French by Bayle St. John. First Series. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

WHEN Louis XIV. resolved to lay siege to Namur, he led into the field a superb cavalcade of nobles. "Among the musketeers of his household," writes Mr. Macaulay, "rode, for the first time, a stripling of seventeen, who soon afterwards succeeded to the title of Duke of St. Simon, and to whom we owe those inestimable *Mémoires* which have preserved, for the delight and instruction of many lands and of many generations, the vivid picture of a France which has long since passed away." The 'inestimable *Mémoires*,' nevertheless, have been surprisingly neglected in England. Even now, small critics affect to doubt whether their publication was a blow to the Bourbon monarchy. Yet it is certain that, upon opening these pages—a light kindled to exhibit an abyss of depravity—the French first understood how history had duped them, how the court of the Great King, the idol of camps, the demi-god of epics, was a theatre of shabby pretence, of abject selfishness, of Oriental profligacy. In France, the work became as an authority at once classic and popular; it abounded in literary defects as well as merits; it was suspected of occasional partiality, yet it was accepted as a text-book for students of the Louis Quatorze and Regency eras. Had it appeared in the last century, it would probably have aided in accelerating, as it undoubtedly did in justifying, the Revolution. As it was, Duclos, Marmontel, and Madame du Deffant had access to the St. Simon manuscripts; and even Voltaire, after publishing his romantic paraphrase of history in connexion with Louis XIV., caught a glimpse of these singular records. But the *Mémoires* were long kept under a government seal; and it was not until 1829 that anything like a complete edition appeared. What, then, in the sight of France, became of Voltaire's heroics? Forty volumes of pictures, anecdotes, epigrams, and minute personal narrations demonstrated the character of the monarch and of the court he decorated, degraded, and enslaved. For nearly thirty years, therefore, the French public has been familiar with the *Mémoires* of St. Simon; but in England they have hitherto been little known, though often quoted, or misquoted. Certainly, the majority even of persons who read have passed over a work which occupies twenty large octavo volumes of about four hundred and fifty pages each, nine of which are condensed in Mr. St. John's 'first series.' Mr. St. John quotes some amusing examples of misconception with regard to St. Simon. One literary gentleman has been pleased to describe the Duke as a republican associate of Robespierre; another asks why he was canonised; another mistakes him for the author of a new religion.

We are grateful for this publication. It is an abstract of St. Simon's narrative, referring chiefly to the latter days of Louis XIV. and to the Regency, and a collection of his anecdotes, the most varied, the lightest, and the most abundant contained in any set of French memoirs. Mr. St. John never deviates from his author's meaning or criticises his statements by the way, but is content with a preface, in which he denies the claims of Louis to be styled a soldier or a statesman, and calls him a lean and slippered pantaloon, a pitiful old gentleman, a mean and contemptible egotist, a smirking, grinning, old dancing-master, who patronised Lebrun, could not understand Lesueur, Claude de Lorraine, or Poussin, gave Molière the smallest pension accorded to any poet of his day, wasted the genius of Racine, and corrupted the morality of France by his patronage of the most ignoble and loathsome of persons.

Mr. St. John's abridgment is a careful reconstruction of the *Mémoires* upon a reduced scale. No important matter has been sacrificed; few stories have been omitted. Since the reader will find it easy and pleasant to follow the narrative for himself, we shall best characterize the book by a few quotations:—

#### THE POLISH OF COURT MANNERS.

A son of Montbron, no more made to dance at Court than his father was to be chevalier of the order (to which, however, he was promoted in 1688), was among the company. He had been asked if he danced well; and he had replied with a confidence which made every one hope that the contrary was the case. Every one was satisfied. From the very first bow he became confused, and he lost step at once. He tried to divert attention from his mistake by affected attitudes, and carrying his arms high; but this made him only more ridiculous, and excited bursts of laughter, which, in despite of the respect due to the person of the King (who likewise had great difficulty to hinder himself from laughing), degenerated at length into regular hooting. On the morrow, instead of flying the Court or holding his tongue, he excused himself by saying that the presence of the King had disconcerted him, and promised marvels for the ball which was to follow. He was one of my friends, and I felt for him. I should even have warned him against a second attempt, if the very different success I had met with had not made me fear that my advice would be taken in ill part. As soon as he began to dance at the second ball, those who were near stood up, those who were far off climbed wherever they could to get a sight; and the shouts of laughter were mingled with clapping of hands. Every one, even the King himself, laughed heartily, and most of us quite loud, so that I do not think any one was ever treated so before. Montbron disappeared immediately afterwards, and did not show himself again for a long time.

#### MADAME PANACHE A LADY BUFFOON.

She was a little and very old creature, with lips and eyes so disfigured that they were painful to look upon; a species of beggar who had obtained a footing at Court from being half-witted, who was now at the supper of the King, now at the dinner of Monseigneur, or at other places, where everybody amused themselves by tormenting her. She in turn abused the company at these parties, in order to cause diversion, but sometimes rated them very seriously and with strong words, which delighted still more those princes and princesses, who emptied into her pockets meat and ragouts, the saucers of which ran all down her petticoats: at these parties some gave her a pistole or a crown, and others a filip or a smack in the face, which put her in fury, because with her bleared eyes not being able to see to the end of her nose, she could not tell who had struck her;—she was, in a word, the pastime of the Court!

#### THE MAGIC OF CHARNACÉ.

About this time the King caused Charnacé to be arrested in a province to which he had been banished. He was accused of many wicked things, and, amongst others, of coining. Charnacé was a lad of spirit, who had been page to the King and officer in the body guard. Having retired to his own house, he often played off many a prank. One of these I will mention, as being full of wit and very laughable.

He had a long and perfectly beautiful avenue before his house in Anjou, but in the midst of it were the cottage and garden of a peasant; and neither Charnacé, nor his father before him, could prevail upon the man to remove, although they offered him large sums. Charnacé determined at last to gain his point by stratagem. The peasant was a tailor, and lived all alone, without wife or child. One day Charnacé sent for him, said he wanted a court suit in all haste, and, agreeing to lodge and feed him, stipulated that he should not leave the house until it was done. The tailor agreed, and set himself to the work. While he was thus occupied, Charnacé had the dimensions of his house and garden taken with the utmost exactitude; made a plan of the interior, showing the precise position of the furniture and the utensils; and, when all was done, pulled down the house and removed it a short distance off.

Then it was arranged as before with a similar-looking garden, and, at the same time, the spot on which it had previously stood was smoothed and levelled. All this was done before the suit was finished. The work being at length over on both sides, Charnacé amused the tailor until it was quite dark, paid him, and dismissed him content. The man went on his way down the avenue; but, finding the distance longer than usual, looked about, and perceived he had gone too far. Returning, he searched diligently for his house, but without being able to find it. The night passed in this exercise. When the day came he rubbed his eyes, thinking they might have been in fault; but as he found them as clear as usual, began to believe that the devil had carried away his house, garden and all. By dint of wandering to and fro, and casting his eyes in every direction, he saw at last a house which was as like to his as are two drops of water to each other. Curiosity tempted him to go and examine it. He did so, and became convinced it was his own. He entered, found everything inside as he had left it, and then became quite persuaded he had been tricked by a sorcerer. The day was not, however, very far advanced before he learned the truth through the banter of his neighbours. In fury he talked of going to law, of demanding justice, but was laughed at everywhere. The King when he heard of it laughed also; and Charnacé had his avenue free. If he had never done anything worse than this, he would have preserved his reputation and his liberty.

#### THE POLITE PRINCESSE D'HARCOURT.

Entering the room in which the ambassadors were to be received and where a large number of ladies were already collected, she glided behind the Duchesse de Rohan, and told her to pass to the left. The Duchesse de Rohan, much surprised, replied that she was very well placed already. Whereupon, the Princesse d'Harcourt, who was tall and strong, made no further ado, but with her two arms seized the Duchesse de Rohan, turned her round, and sat down in her place. All the ladies were strangely scandalized at this, but none dared say a word, not even Madame de Lude, lady in waiting on the Duchesse de Bourgogne, who, for her part also, felt the insolence of the act, but dared not speak, being so young. As for the Duchesse de Rohan, feeling that opposition must lead to fisticuffs, she curtseyed to the Duchesse and quietly retired to another place.

#### M. DE LUXEMBOURG AT A MASKED BALL.

Soon after my arrival at the ball, I saw a figure strangely clad in long flowing muslin, and with a head-dress on which was fixed the horns of a stag, so high that they became entangled in the chandelier. Of course everybody was much astonished at so strange a sight, and all thought that that mask must be very sure of his wife to deck himself so. Suddenly the mask turned round and showed us M. de Luxembourg. The burst of laughter at this was scandalous. Good M. de Luxembourg, who never was very remarkable for wit, benignly took all this laughter as having been excited simply by the singularity of his costume, and to the questions addressed him, replied quite simply that his dress had been arranged by M. le Prince; then, turning to the right and to the left, he admired himself and strutted with pleasure at having been masqued by M. le Prince. In a moment more the ladies arrived, and the King immediately after them. The laughter commenced anew as loudly as ever, and M. de Luxembourg presented himself to the company with a confidence that was ravishing. His wife had heard nothing of this masquerading, and when she saw it lost countenance, brazen as she was. Everybody stared at her and her husband, and seemed dying of laughter. M. le Prince looked at the scene from behind the King, and inwardly laughed at his malicious trick. This amusement lasted throughout all the ball, and the King, self-contained as he usually was, laughed also; people were never tired of admiring an invention so cruelly ridiculous, and spoke of it for several days.

#### THE INDIGESTION OF A KING'S SON.

They found Monseigneur half naked: his servants endeavouring to make him walk

erect, and dragging rather than leading him about. He did not know the King, who spoke to him, nor anybody else; and defended himself as long as he could against Felix, who, in this present necessity, hazarded bleeding him, and succeeded. Consciousness returned. Monseigneur asked for a confessor; the King had already sent for the curé. Many emetics were given to him; but two hours passed before they operated. At half-past two in the morning, no further danger appearing, the King, who had shed tears, went to bed, leaving orders that he was to be awakened if any fresh accident happened. At five o'clock, however, all the effect having passed, the doctors went away, and made everybody leave the sick chamber. During the night all Paris hastened thither. Monseigneur was compelled to keep his room for eight or ten days; and took care in future not to gorge himself so much with food.

## MADAME DE ST. HEREM.

Madame de St. Herem was the most singular creature in the world, not only in face but in manners. She half boiled her thigh one day in the Seine, near Fontainebleau, where she was bathing. The river was too cold; she wished to warm it, and had a quantity of water heated and thrown into the stream just above her. The water reaching her before it could grow cold, scalded her so much that she was forced to keep her bed.

When it thundered she used to squat herself under a couch, and make all her servants lie above, one upon the other, so that if the thunderbolt fell it might have its effect upon them before penetrating to her. She had ruined herself and her husband, though they were rich, through sheer imbecility; and it is incredible the amount of money she spent in her absurdities.

## THE MODEL OF A PRINCELY HUSBAND.

Madame la Princesse, his wife, was his continual victim. She was disgustingly ugly, virtuous, and foolish, a little hump-backed, and stank like a skunk, even from a distance. All these things did not hinder M. le Prince from being jealous of her even to fury up to the very last. The piety, the indefatigable attention of Madame la Princesse, her sweetness, her novice-like submission, could not guarantee her from frequent injuries, or from kicks, and blows with the fist, which were not rare. She was not mistress even of the most trifling things; she did not dare to propose or ask anything. He made her set out from one place to another the moment the fancy took him. Often when seated in their coach he made her descend, or return from the end of the street, then recommence the journey after dinner, or the next day. This see-sawing lasted once fifteen days running, before a trip to Fontainebleau. At other times he sent for her from church, made her quit high mass, and sometimes sent for her the moment she was going to receive the sacrament; she was obliged to return at once and put off her communion to another occasion. It was not that he wanted her, but it was merely to gratify his whim that he thus troubled her.

He was always of uncertain habits, and had four dinners ready for him every day; one at Paris, one at Ecouen, one at Chantilly, and one where the Court was.

## THE PRINCE'S GALLANTRIES.

He was the most ingenious man in the world. He once gave a grand fête solely for the purpose of retarding the journey into Italy of a lady with whom he was enamoured, with whom he was on good terms, and whose husband he amused by making verses. He hired all the houses on one side of a street near St. Sulpice, furnished them, and pierced the connecting walls, in order to be able thus to reach the place of rendezvous without being suspected.

## A COURT MOURNING.

The two Princes, and the two Princesses who sat by their sides, were more exposed to view than any other. The Duc de Bourgogne wept with tenderness, sincerity, and gentleness, the tears of nature, of religion, and patience. M. le Duc de Berry also sincerely shed abundance of tears, but bloody tears, so to speak, so great appeared their bitterness; and he uttered not only sobs, but cries, nay, even yells. He was silent sometimes, but from suffocation, and then would burst out again with such a noise, such a trumpet sound of despair, that the majority present burst out also at these dolorous repetitions, either impelled by affliction or decorum. He became so bad, in fact, that his people were forced to undress him then and there, put him to bed, and call in the doctor. Madame la Duchesse de Berry was beside herself, and we shall soon see why. The most bitter despair was painted with horror on her face. There was seen written, as it were, a sort of furious grief, based on interest, not affection; now and then came dry lulls deep and sullen, then a torrent of tears and involuntary gestures, yet restrained, which showed extreme bitterness of mind, fruit of the profound meditation that had preceded. Often aroused by the cries of her husband, prompt to assist him, to support him, to embrace him, to give her smelling-bottle, her care for him was evident; but soon came another profound reverie—then a gush of tears assisted to suppress her cries. As for Madame la Duchesse de Bourgogne she consoled her husband with less trouble than she had to appear herself in want of consolation. Without attempting to play a part, it was evident that she did her best to acquit herself of a pressing duty of decorum. But she found extreme difficulty in keeping up appearances. When the Prince her brother-in-law howled, she blew her nose. She had brought some tears along with her and kept them up with care; and these, combined with the art of the handkerchief, enabled her to redden her eyes, and make them swell, and smudge her face; but her glances often wandered on the sly to the countenances of all present.

Madame arrived, in full dress she knew not why, and howling she knew not why, inundated everybody with her tears in embracing them, making the château echo with renewed cries, and furnished the odd spectacle of a Princess putting on her robes of ceremony in the dead of night to come and cry among a crowd of women with but little on except their night-dresses,—almost as masqueraders.

These examples of St. Simon's manner and matter will probably send many readers to Mr. St. John's volumes.

## HOME EDUCATION IN FRANCE.

*Du Rôle de la Famille dans l'Education; ou, Théorie de l'Education Publique et Privée.* Par Théod. H. Barrau. Ouvrage qui a remporté le premier prix dans le concours ouvert sur ce sujet par l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Paris: L. Hachette. London: W. Jeffs.

*Du Rôle de la Famille dans l'Education.* Par M. Prevost-Paradol. Ouvrage qui a obtenu un second prix à l'Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. Paris: L. Hachette. London: W. Jeffs.

A PROBLEM of no ready solution seems to be agitating the academic mind of France at the present moment. Were the talents of the French people of a more practical and less theoretical order, the question at issue would probably long ago have been settled, not indeed on paper, but by a national and approved system, worked out according to the exigencies of the age and the idiosyncrasies of the nation. The problem alluded to is, how far private instruction is beneficial, and what claim the country has in the direction of the education of its children. Since the publication of the *Emile*, this has been a moot point, Rousseau having been accused of laying too little stress upon the influence of home, or rather having ignored its kindly and

genial influences altogether. The solid and practical mind of Edgeworth first detected and exposed this flaw in the vigorous treatise of the philosopher of Clarendon. The text has been handled by many a subsequent writer, and M. Barrau has thought proper to notice it in his preface to the present volume. "The education of a youth," he observes, "is always imperfect where female influence has not been mixed up in it; and what displeases me most in the *Emile* of Rousseau is that no mother, no sister, is ever introduced to break by her graceful presence the duality of the scholar and the master."

To arrive at some solution of this problem, the Academy of Moral and Political Science at Paris recently issued a programme offering prizes for the best essays on this subject. The successful candidates for these rewards were M. M. Barrau and Prevost-Paradol. The former obtained the first honours in the contest, and M. Prevost-Paradol the second. There is, however, a marked difference in the merits of the two works. M. Barrau brings to his aid considerable research, examines the question in all its social and national bearings, and displays great logical vigour in the development of his thesis. His long study of educational topics had stored his mind with a treasury of facts, and he came to the task prepared by long reflection and no small amount of experience. M. Prevost-Paradol, on the contrary, skims lightly his subject, and assuming the natural right of the parent to superintend and control the education of his children, which M. Barrau takes great pains to prove, admonishes them of their duties rather than reminds them of their prerogatives. He enters on his subject by a short disquisition on education in general, and then on the comparative merits of private and public education. He also dwells at considerable length on what share parents ought to assume in the intellectual, moral, religious, and physical training of their children, and whilst admitting the advantages to be on the side of public instruction, points out forcibly how deficient such instruction will always prove unless the efforts of the professors and masters are seconded at home. Private education is viewed under its most favourable aspect, and to every statement made in its behalf a counter-statement rises up. We are told of the inferiority of the resources of private education in the *personnel* of its professors—in the advantages derived from a succession of teachers, each giving a new idea or new phase to the thing taught, and also in the activity afforded by emulation. "We do not hesitate to prefer," continues M. Prevost-Paradol, "the moral education of a college to that which can be acquired at home; though here again public education is imperfect, and the concurrence of home exhortation and example is necessary." The appeal which is made on behalf of these innocents of the college exhibits a *naïveté* truly amusing. "Merchants," exclaims M. Prevost-Paradol, "who scrape together fortunes by questionable means, men of business who live by fraud, men of the law who sell justice for your interest or your ambition, and who, having a spark of humanity within you, wish to have children better than yourselves, yet find the education of the college scarcely moral enough, do not destroy the little good it can effect by letting them divine what you are. Let them hesitate between public rumour and the habitual uprightness of your words. Try to appear honest one day in the week, and choose the day when they are with you. Let them be ignorant of your character that they may respect you."

M. Barrau enters more profoundly into the investigation, and takes a more extended range. He commences by showing the inalienable natural right of the parents to train up their own child, combats the communistic idea of absorbing the family into the state, and shows its fatal results—fatal we mean to those tender characteristics in the original nature of every man which, properly cultivated, renders him an amiable as well as an able member of society—which history exhibits to us in the little community of Sparta, where every child born strong and healthy belonged to the state. In fact, M. Barrau treats his subject as a legist; the rights of the family, the rights of society, and the rights of the youth himself being considered in their various relations. As may be anticipated, points of great delicacy are investigated. "The father," observes M. Barrau, "does not direct the education of his child in virtue alone of the authority conferred by nature, but also in virtue of a tacit permission delegated by society, of which the child is a member, and also in virtue of his office as tutor, charged equally by nature and by society to watch over the preservation of the rights which the child holds from both. There are occasions, however, when society may interfere with the parent, and take the right conceded to him by nature into his own hands. It is when he is too poor to perform the duty itself, or when the child is brought up in vicious habits." Were society of one mind, perhaps the principle laid down might be accorded. In England, where the almost absolute authority of the parent over the child is recognised by law as well as by custom, it would be considered, and justly so, an act of tyranny for the Government—by which we suspect M. Barrau means society—to step in and abstract a child from its parent's threshold in order to give it even a virtuous education in some asylum of the state. Were society at large to do its duty in France—were individual responsibility more esteemed—were there more private independence and less leaning towards the direction and support of Government—in a word, were Frenchmen personally to rely more upon themselves than they are wont to do—to look for their ameliorations more from their own efforts performed in their social sphere, however limited, we should have to congratulate them on the possession of personal liberty and independence. They are at present in the unhappy predicament of being too much governed.

Education is further discussed by M. Barrau in its relation to politics, civilization, and social economy. A chapter is also devoted to female education, worthy of consideration as showing the present condition of female education in France. M. Barrau, however, is not content to limit his observations to the state of education in his own country. He reviews the systems and methods of various countries. He travels through Switzerland and Germany, crosses the British Channel, and even reaches the United States. In England the system of fagging insures much attention, and a picture of the style of 'doing education' as generally practised in our secondary schools, is drawn from materials afforded by Dickens's *Nicholas*

*Nickleby*. "En Angleterre, Dickens a pu dépeindre dans *Nicolas Nickleby* une exploitation éhontée et cruelle de l'enfance, comme généralement pratiquée par les directeurs d'institutions secondaires dans les comtés du nord; si bien qu'un de ces directeurs a cru pouvoir attaquer Dickens en diffamation, comme ayant représenté au naturel son établissement et sa personne." M. Barrau would have acted more wisely had he confined himself to the sphere of his own observations, and not allowed his national prejudices to misrepresent the institutions and customs of other countries.

## MR. READE'S POEMS.

*The Poetical Works of John Edmund Reade.* New Edition. In Four Volumes. Longman and Co.

FROM time to time, for many years past, Mr. Reade has kept himself before the public by separate poems of almost as varied a description as the plays which the actors in *Hamlet* are ready, at a moment's notice, to represent before Danish Royalty. Epics, dramas, poems of description, ethical poems, odes, lyrics, and minor pieces,—all were poured forth with great prodigality, and with not a little confidence on the part of the author that he was in very truth the poet for whom the age was waiting. The age has perhaps scarcely endorsed that view; yet Mr. Reade has many admirers, he has unquestionably written fine things, and it would be ungracious and unfair to treat otherwise than respectfully a man who has devoted his whole life to the cultivation of a noble art, and has applied that art to the illustration of lofty principles. Mr. Reade has now collected all his writings into four handsome small-octavo volumes; he has, we suppose, given them his final revision; and they challenge from the reviewer a general estimate of their scope and their intrinsic value.

If Mr. Reade were at any time disposed to entertain suggestions from us, or to modify his poetical system by adopting the external promptings of criticism, that time is now clearly past. The appearance of a collected edition of an author's works in the author's lifetime seems to imply that he has made his peace with posterity as far as in him lies; has shriven himself of such sins as he acknowledges to have committed, received extreme unction at the hands of all the Muses, muffled his head in his coronet of green bays, and resigned himself to Fate. We shall therefore touch but lightly on what we conceive to be Mr. Reade's radical faults as a poet. Even should he write more, his style is fixed; should this be his last issue, criticism is even vainer still.

That Mr. Reade possesses an intense devotion to poetry—that he has read much and thought much—that he has a copious command of language—and that he sincerely sympathizes with all forms of beauty—we readily allow; but we are bound to say—and we say it with regret when we consider that to object essentially to the work of a man's whole life has always in it something apparently akin to harshness and want of feeling—that we conceive the central principle of his poetry is a mistake. If we are asked to describe that central principle in one word, we answer that it consists of declamation—a quality opposed, as it appears to us, to the highest and truest species of poetry. Declamation surges, rolls, and echoes from page to page of Mr. Reade's volumes. It allows the reader no rest, as it has evidently allowed the author none. Whether the latter be writing drama or epic, lyric or description, this fatal tendency to thunder on from period to period, like an orator in a forum—to put on veritable singing robes as an alderman puts on a scarlet gown and heavy golden chains on state occasions—to create a cloudy architecture of tropes and figures—to strain thought and language to their utmost tension—to heap up glittering piles of words which tend only to confuse and to oppress—the dangerous habit of always saying too much, and the lamentable inability to leave anything to the virgin delicacy of suggestion,—are but too apparent. We have no repose; no deep inner feeling, apparent in the very quietness of its utterance; no tender flush and ethereal painting, such as we find in the really potential artist, who is never stronger than when he is least self-asserting; no accents tremulous with emotion; none of the fresh morning dew and vernal fragrance of poetry, such as might issue from the heart of a child endowed with a man's powers of expression. Instead of these qualities, we find in Mr. Reade considerable eloquence (an excellent thing in itself, but more fitted for prose than poetry), a perpetual consciousness of the effect to be produced, with restless efforts to produce it, several fine detached lines and passages, but a lack of simplicity and truth. We believe Mr. Reade has expunged a great deal from this collected edition of his writings. This looks like a generous devotion to his art, a magnanimous wish to leave his poems in the most complete condition that he can put them into by any amount of industry and self-sacrifice. The author has probably spared no pains to leave posterity his debtor; and, if we express dissent from the result, it is not out of any disrespect to him, nor, indeed, out of any want of sympathy with his aspirations and his toils. His theory of poetry and ours are at variance in some important respects; but we make no claim to pronounce a final judgment, and Mr. Reade may with great force and authority appeal to Byron as to a poet of the declamatory school. To that we might reply by questioning the position of Byron among the greatest of poets; but this would be opening a dangerous door, and we cannot of course here enter into such an argument.

The very first stanza of the very first page of this collected edition may be regarded as a complete exemplar or epitome of what we believe to be Mr. Reade's excellences and defects—his strength and his weakness. Speaking of Italy, he says:—

If thou wert aught, Time-hallowed phantom, Muse!  
Save the creation of immortal mind,  
Here throned apart thy temple wouldst thou choose:  
Oh! never yet 'mid Ida's woods reclined,  
Parnassian height or Delphic shades enshrined,  
Was a sublimer, worthier altar thine  
Than where I stand, companion of the wind,  
Cloud-folded on the stormy Apennine!

There where I feel thee linked with Nature's life and mine.

The lines we have here placed in italics are truly noble—but the rest of the stanza is declamatory and diffuse.

Another of Mr. Reade's faults is a tendency to get out of his depth when wandering about among 'the Infinite' and 'the Eternal,' 'the Ineffable' and 'the Beautiful.' Some painful experience in 'Latter-day Poetry' has infected us with a horror of all such primal secrets and abysmal depths. We think, also, Mr. Reade does not do his own faculties justice by adopting whole lines from other writers, however great, with but slight alterations. Why should he echo the conclusion of *Paradise Lost* in this way?—

I retraced,

Thoughtful and slow, my solitary way.

In his poem, 'Ulysses,' we find him writing of Calypso:—

Passion's ecstasies

Remembered, pity waked from prescient sight,  
Drew tears that dimmed those eyes' ethereal light,  
Large drops that left their fringing lashes bright!

The last of these lines is taken word for word from Coleridge's *Christabel*, with the exception of the unnecessary epithet before the word 'lashes.'

Mr. Reade is most at home among the more stupendous forms of inanimate nature, where his somewhat Pantheistical tendencies of mind find their truest utterance; and we cannot conclude this notice without specially referring to the 'Vision of the Ancient Kings'—a poem which, though deficient in finish, and capable of much improvement in the details, is, in the conception, very original, solemn, and impressive.

## The Arts.

## THE OPERAS, CONCERTS, ETC.

MAESTRO VERDI reigns supreme at both houses. And in spite of pedants, we see no reason to regret the fact, since VERDI possesses at least the rare secret of imperiously swaying the emotions of that collective organism, the Public, and of sending home his excited audiences humming to their beds. The production of the *Trovatore* at HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE is notable for the consummate vocalization and remarkably picturesque and effective acting of ALBONI's *Azucena*, and for the very fine and pathetic singing of GIUGLINI in the last act. We regret to be unable to discover the vocal or dramatic qualities which have given, we believe, to Madame SPEZIA a considerable reputation in Italy. The voice of this elegant and accomplished lady is, to our thinking, naturally an imperfect one, and it is already worn. Her acting is intelligent, but the sacred fire is wanting. Signor BENEVENTANO achieved a rare distinction in the part which GRAZIANI was thought to have made his own: he contrived to sing the *Il mio balen* so execrably, that it went off almost without a hand, and amidst visible and audible signs of irritation and disappointment in the audience. There is a leaden dulness in the tone of Signor BENEVENTANO's voice, which the exaggeration of his singing and the general protuberance of his manner and deportment do not permit the public entirely to forgive. It is good news that on Tuesday Signor Corsi, the barytone, a fine dramatic singer, will make his first appearance in *Nino*, an opera which has not been performed in London for nine years. A new light tenor, Signor BELART, who, we are told, has won a considerable reputation at Florence by his singing in the *Sonnambula* and the *Pirata*, is engaged at this house.

THE operatic event of the week has been the first appearance on the stage of Madlle. VICTOIRE BALFE, at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, on Thursday evening, in *La Sonnambula*. We beg, in this instance, to be allowed to waive the ungracious responsibilities of criticism. For the present we are content to record the very enthusiastic and encouraging reception accorded to the *débutante* by a crowded and distinguished audience. The first appearance on any stage is a terrible ordeal, and to confront such an audience as that of the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA in a part consecrated by the traditions of MALIBRAN, PERSIANI, JENNY LIND, and VIARDOT GARCIA, is a noble but a perilous ambition. It was evident on Thursday evening that Madlle. BALFE was not in complete possession of her natural powers, but the sympathy of the public was unequivocally expressed, and we have every hope that with increasing confidence will come a success not due to sympathy alone, but to admiration of the rich hereditary instinct and the accomplished art. We all feel a peculiar interest in this very charming young lady's career, and we all look to see her early and abundant promise ripened and fulfilled.

## THE COLOGNE CHORAL UNION.

SELDOM has a greater musical sensation been created by any single performer than was made by the eighty members of the Choral Union of Cologne, at the Hanover-square Rooms, in 1853. In England choral and part singing have always been enjoyed: we have composers of madrigals and glees whose names survive in song; we have glee, madrigal, and catch clubs innumerable, and the annual madrigal concert at Bristol is a musical institution not unworthy to compete with the most elaborate Continental 'solemnities.' Good voices are, we believe, more common in England than in any country in Europe, with the sole exception of Italy; it is the school of singing that has been wanting, a sound traditional method, and, above all, a patient and devoted practice of the art for its own sake. Too many of our vocal clubs have degenerated into convivial meetings, and many a respectable burgher's wife has cursed in her heart her husband's propensity to 'catches.' Germany, with its patient and naïve enthusiasm, supplies an example which we earnestly recommend our vocal associations to follow. These gentlemen of the Cologne Choral Union, from long and careful training and constant practice, have acquired a precision, delicacy, variety, and magnificence of ensemble which make the best choral singing in England almost insignificant in comparison. Unfortunately, the music of most of the pieces is poor stuff, as music; German music of the second class is not celebrated for strength or beauty; it is the exquisite execution, that would redeem even worse compositions. The 'swelling grandeur of the harmonies, the whispered breathings of the modulated phrases, the power and the glory of sound pouring forth in organ peals, and hushed to the subdued beauty of organ whisperings,' which we admired four years ago are still as fine as ever. The transitions from *fortissimo* to *pianissimo*, and the alternations of low and loud are managed with an ease and perfection only, we repeat, to be attained by devoted subordination and unremitting practice. In some instances, however, the sense of the words is unduly sacrificed to the 'effects,' and thus the sincerity of the interpretation is marred. Indeed, the music of the pieces is, as we have said, for the most part laboriously trivial and commonplace. But the success of the singers is as unquestionable as it is deserved, and we only regret that our Cologne chorals cannot remain beyond a fortnight in England. On

Thursday evening they gave a sacred and miscellaneous concert at EXETER HALL, and the audience (comprising a number of clergymen) had the advantage of listening to a far richer selection than the one given in the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS. Surely in the old Italian madrigals of the sixteenth and two following centuries, and in the English collection, the Cologne Union might discover jewels of choral melody unknown to modern Germany.

Mr. MITCHELL announces that the last concert of this distinguished Society will be given on Thursday next, at EXETER HALL. We may take this opportunity of recording with pleasure the steady progress of the 'Vocal Association,' which enjoys the advantage of Mr. BENEDICT's direction. They will give a private performance, in conjunction with the Cologne Union, at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS this evening, and we dare say they will not have listened to their German brethren in vain.

THE Concert season has set in with its usual summer severity. Among a host of distractions of this kind, we may notice Mr. W. G. CUSINS's *Matinée* at the HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS on Thursday last; and a *Soirée* given by the directors of the 'Emporio Italiano' on Wednesday evening, at which a Cantata by Signor BOTTESINI was performed. This evening, that young and rising composer and accomplished teacher, Mr. FRANCESCO BERGER, has invited a select audience to a reunion of his pupils at his residence, 36, Thurloe-square, Brompton. M. JULLIEN announces the first performance of his 'Grand Comet Galop,' at the SURREY GARDENS on Monday evening next. If the comet can be reconciled to the music of the spheres, M. JULLIEN will do it. But a Comet Galop sounds like the music of the Future, and we always fancied M. JULLIEN's was, *par excellence*, the music of the Present. Perhaps the Grand Comet Galop is a disguised overture to the celebrated Oratorio which he is known to have in his portfolio—*La Fin du Monde*.

#### LES BOUFFES.

M. OFFENBACH's little company has been making merry at the St. JAMES's with increasing success throughout this week. They have played *Les Pantins de Violette*, *Un Duel sous Benjamin*, *La Nuit Blanche*, *La Bonne d'Enfant*, and, last evening, *Le Violoncelle*, and *L'Impresario*, the latter piece enriched with music from MOZART. M. PRADEAU fell out of the bills for a day or two, but has since recovered, and we hope we shall not miss him often. M. OFFENBACH promises to bring over the remainder of his company, so that he will be able to give us all the gems of his joyous and diverting repertoire. M. JEAN PAUL, M. GUYOT, M. CAILLAT, Madlle. MACÉ and Madlle. DALMONT, have divided the applause in the recent performances.

#### THEATRICAL NOTES.

*My son, Diana*, is the rather perplexing title of a new farce—from the French, as usual—produced on Monday night at the HAYMARKET. Miss OLIVER herein performs the part of the daughter of a retired grocer, who, being of a military disposition, educates her in virile accomplishments, and is fond of seeing her in masculine attire, equipped for a day's sport in the fields. Mr. BUCKSTONE goes to the house with the intention of making love to the lady, but is greatly discomfited at finding the fair one presenting so dubious an exterior to one bent on wooing. Having hinted his objections in a letter, *Diana* challenges him; but 'they don't fight, after all,' and Hymen blesses and unites the couple. It is not difficult to conceive what Mr. BUCKSTONE would make of such a part, which suits the grotesque extravagance of his humour, nor to imagine that Miss OLIVER looks charming, and acts with sprightly grace, maugre the anomalous costume which she wears through the greater part of the piece. We have but to add that the audience signified their approval.

#### DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT AT CAMPDEN HOUSE.

We spent a pleasant evening on Wednesday at the gorgeously-decorated mansion of Mr. FREDERICK WOLLEY. Two coloured natives of Philadelphia, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. WEBB (the latter of whom is known by her effective readings of 'Uncle Tom'), gave a new dramatic entertainment in the little theatre. Mr. Linwood, an artist, is supposed to be in discussion with his wife as to the best means of 'raising the wind.' The husband takes photographic portraits; and the wife proposes to get up 'an entertainment.' Mrs. Linwood's capacity is doubted, and in order to remove these doubts she appears to her husband in a variety of characters, a *Mr. Timkinse*, the *Prophète*, *Othello*, *Rolla*, an American aunt, a Frenchman, a Chinese, and so forth, all of which were sustained with much cleverness. But the real success was 'an Indian woman'—an impersonation of mingled tenderness and humour, quite original in its tone. Mrs. WEBB has genuine dramatic talent; and if she carries out her intention of ap-

pearing on the stage, provided suitable parts are found for her, will prove no doubt a welcome attraction. She was well supported by her husband, who would, however, succeed better in wilder parts, and has more earnestness than humour. The entertainment was decidedly successful, and was loudly applauded by a very select audience. We noticed, among others, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Duchess of Argyll, Lord and Lady Blantyre, Lady Ruthven, Lord and Lady Hatherston, Lady Beecher. Mrs. Beecher Stowe, now on her way from Italy and France, where she has spent the spring, was also among the company.

#### CRYSTAL PALACE—GREAT HANDEL FESTIVAL.

THE preliminary arrangements for this musical solemnity continue to progress in a manner highly satisfactory to all who have a hand in their direction. The entire orchestra is ready, every metropolitan and provincial performer having already signed his or her engagement. The London department of the chorus has long been in a state of completeness, as the highly successful trials at Exeter Hall, with 1100 singers, under Mr. Costa's direction, of the choruses in the *Messiah*, *Israel in Egypt*, and *Judas Maccabæus*, have proved; and very little remains to do to place the country branches in the same position. Preparatory performances of the oratorios are about to take place in the various *locales*. The gathering in London of so many members of the cathedral choirs has suggested the idea of a grand choral service in Westminster Abbey, to be held on the Thursday in the Festival week, in connexion with the Choir Benevolent Fund. It is also intended to have the annual dinner of the institution on the same evening, at the Freemasons' Tavern. It is anticipated that the choir on these occasions will comprise upwards of two hundred picked singers. The Sacred Harmonic Society have also arranged to have a performance of Mr. COSTA's oratorio, *Eli*, at EXETER HALL, on Wednesday evening, June 17th; this performance is given specially for the country performers, who will receive invitations to be present at it. The final choral rehearsals of the London division are to take place on the 1st and 5th of June. The grand rehearsal of the united choir, of two thousand voices, is fixed for the evening of the 12th of June, when every nook and corner of EXETER HALL will be filled by the vocal performers. An issue of tickets at 10s. 6d. for the north and south naves commenced on Monday last; and as the leading railway companies are expected to run excursion trains to and from London during the Festival week at reduced fares, there is little doubt of these exceptional privileges being in great request. The central transept galleries are to be fitted up with seats, private access to which will be contrived by means of the staircases in the north and south transepts. These seats (like those in the blocks on the floor of the transept) will be lettered and numbered; and all the seats throughout the PALACE, reserved and unreserved, are to be made as comfortable as possible, proper avenues preserved, and qualified attendants engaged to conduct the visitors to their places. On each of the days of the Handel Festival, and after the conclusion of the oratorio, there will be a display of the grand fountains and the whole system of cascades and waterworks. Her MAJESTY, as is already known, will honour the Festival with her presence. It is intended to admit the public to the orchestra during the present week, to enable visitors to form a judgment of the extraordinary space which will be thus occupied.

#### BURFORD'S PANORAMA OF SIERRA LEONE.

Mr. BURFORD having exhausted Europe and the East, has now turned his bird's-eye view and vivid pencil to the Torrid Zone. Many a heart in England grows cold at the name of Sierra Leone, the white man's grave; to many the memory of those seething sands and those burning mountains is sick with death. Still the coast has a terrible hold on the sympathies of Englishmen, and Mr. BURFORD's picture, which embraces a view of Freetown, the Lion Mountains, and the shores of the Bullom country, is said by those who are acquainted with the spot to be singularly faithful, although necessarily on a limited scale. The characteristics of the tropical atmosphere and landscape are, we hear, admirably rendered.

BEFORE we leave Leicester-square let us take a peep at the new 'Diorama of India,' which Mr. WYLD has just added to the manifold wonders of the GREAT GLOBE. A Diorama of India must be permanently attractive. It alternates at twelve and six, with the exhibition of the 'Diorama of Russia' at three and eight o'clock; and both are well worth a visit.

#### FLOWER-SHOW AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE first flower-show of the season, with a display of the great fountains, takes place to-day at the CRYSTAL PALACE. The fountains will 'shake their loosening silver in the sun' at half-past four, and are expected to produce effects far more magnificent than were witnessed at any time last year. Of the flowers and the fruits what need to promise anything? They are the first-born of the earth's beauty, and a feast for the eyes of angels.

#### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, May 26.

**BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.**—EDMUND STEPHENSON, Daventry, Northamptonshire, ironfounder.

**BANKRUPTS.**—ELIZABETH HILL, Little Moorfields, coach builder—JOHN FLEMING, High-street, Wapping, nautical instrument manufacturer—JOSEPH SLAUGHTER, High-street, Borough, hop merchant—EDWARD BUTLER, Clifford-street, Bond-street, tailor—SARAH PATRICK, Worcester, butcher—JOHN BARRY, Cashel, near Clonmel, Tipperary, and Manchester, linen draper—THOMAS JONES, Aberavon, and Cwmavon, Glamorganshire, general shopkeeper—WILLIAM HENRY SMITH, Swansea, Glamorganshire, brickmaker—ROBERT WORDEN, St. Breock, Cornwall, builder—JAMES WEARING, Ulverston, Lancashire, joiner—JOSEPH KRY, Crowle, Lincolnshire, ironmonger—JOSEPH BOWRON BLGET, Bradford, Yorkshire, commission agent—ROBERT ATKINSON, Sunderland, draper.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—G. CAMPBELL, Edinburgh, stationer—J. AGNEW, Glasgow, tobacco-pipe manufacturer—J. K. STUART, Glasgow, smith—J. STORO, Glasgow, auctioneer.

Friday, May 29.

**BANKRUPTS.**—LEWIS HENRY MYERS, Wellesley-street, Stepney, dealer in Manchester goods—JOHN BEST, Halifax, Yorkshire, linen draper—JOHN LILL GOVETT, Dennott-road, Peckham, builder—ADOLPHUS HARRISON FRISTEL, Bucklebury, City, wine merchant—THOMAS LAWRENSEN, Liverpool, shipsmith—JOHN MARKS, Bell-street, Paddington, coach maker—GEORGE BATES, soda water, lemonade, and ginger beer manufacturer—JOHN PRINGLE and JOHN THURMAN, Nottingham, lace manufacturers—ROBERT ATKINSON, York, hair dresser—GEORGE BAXTER, and GEORGE TOONIS, Nottingham, dyers—WILLIAM EDWARDS, Stamford, brewer—JOHN GEORGE THOMAS, Illingworth, Halifax, damask manufacturer—WILLIAM TURNER, near Ashbourne, Derbyshire, cotton spinner.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—NEIL MACCALLUM, Glasgow, drysalter—ALLAN FORBES, Dunfermline, flesher—WILLIAM WIGHT, Kilmarnock, builder—JOHN GREIG, Tolbooth-wynd, Leith, baker—JOHN and SAMUEL MACBETH, Aberdeen, furnishing ironmongers—WARREN and COMPANY, Glasgow and London, merchants.

#### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

##### BIRTHS.

COMINS.—On the 24th inst., at Fyfield House, Abingdon, the wife of W. H. Comins, Esq.: a son.  
DITMAS.—On the 25th inst., at Richmond, Surrey, the wife of Major Fred. Ditmas: a daughter.  
FITZGERALD.—On the 23rd inst., at Fort Twiss, Hythe, the wife of Frederick C. FitzGerald, Esq.: a son, stillborn.

##### MARRIAGES.

RAYMOND—FISHER.—On the 13th inst., at Ovington, Essex, the Rev. J. M. St. Clare Raymond, eldest son of S. M. Raymond, Esq., of Belchamp Hall, in the same county, to Louisa Ann, daughter of the late Rev. Charles Fisher, rector of Ovington-cum-Tilbury.  
ZWINGER—RIDAL.—On the 10th inst., at Sheffield, Mortimer Zwinger, Esq., of Ingouville, Havre, to Eliza, only child of Charles Ridal, Esq., of Sheffield.

##### DEATHS.

CALVERT.—On the 24th inst., at Park-place, Regent's-park, Allithen, wife of J. W. Calvert, M.D.  
DELANOEY.—On the 26th inst., at the Plough Hotel, Cheltenham, Lieut.-Col. J. Delancey, late of the 1st Dragoon Guards.  
GIFFORD.—On the 20th inst., at Albury, the Dowager Lady Gifford, aged 82.  
GORE.—On the 25th inst., at Tivoli-place, Cheltenham, R. Gore Esq., Lieutenant, R.N.

#### Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, May 29, 1857.

ERSON and the end of the month settling day in shares have come into disagreeable proximity for the Stock Exchange this year. For all practical purposes, after one o'clock on the Derby day, the Stock Exchange might shut its doors and give a holiday to its members. Even the eve of the settlement made but small difference after one o'clock on Wednesday. The numbers left to transact business were so few that speculative guesses as to the issue of the race formed the best part of the business. During the week the funds have been affected by the rate of China exchanges, and they show but little animation even now. Money itself is easier in the Stock Exchange. Turkish Six per Cent. are 95. Foreign stocks remain without a change.

Shares in Foreign Railways are lower than usual. The enormous rate of interest charged for continuations, and the critical state of money matters in France, prevent that large speculation in the several French and Belgian lines which existed at one time. Grand Trunk of Canada hold their own. Great Western of Canada have recovered 17 per share from their late fall. Eastern Counties are flat at 90, just short of 12 per share. Caledonian are flat at 90, 90 per share. In Joint Stock Banks there is no activity. Australian Bank shares do not improve. Ottoman and Egyptian are about the same price. Mines are neglected, a few transactions in Wheal Alfred, Wheal Whiddy, and South Tolgus. United Mexican are flat. Blackburn, 82, 9; Caledonian, 72, 72; Chester and Holyhead, 35, 35; Eastern Counties, 11, 11; Great Northern, 103, 103; 90, 97; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 103, 103; Great Western, 65, 65; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 101, 101; London and Blackwall, 6, 6; London, Brighton, 101, 101; London and North-Western, 10, 10; and South Coast, 11, 11; London and North-Western, 10, 10; and London and South-Western, 98, 98; Midland,

83, 84; North-Eastern (Berwick), 87, 88; South-Eastern (Dover), 74, 75; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 61, 62; Dutch Rhenish, 1, 1; dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 29, 29; Great Central of France, 24, 24; Great Luxembourg, 6, 6; Northern of France, 33, 33; Paris and Lyons, 58, 58; Royal Danish, 17, 19; Royal Swedish, 1, 1; Sambre and Meuse, 8, 8.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, May 29, 1857.

THE supply of English and Foreign Wheat continues trifling, and former rates are well maintained. Wheat has been in demand for Ireland, sales have been made, both on the spot and f. o. b. in the Baltic ports. Barley arrives only in moderate quantities, and prices are firm. The market is bare of Oats, but Monday's rates are not exceeded, as a considerable quantity is known to be close at hand from St. Petersburg. At ports of call there have been very few arrivals. Odessa Maize arrived has been sold at 42s., and Ibrail at 40s., cost, freight, and insurance; Odessa Maize now shipping is offered at 36s., cost, freight, and insurance, and there are buyers at 6d. less.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	213½	213½	212	212½	213½	212½
3 per Cent. Red.....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
3 per Cent. Con. An.....	93½	93½	93½	94	93½	93½
Consols for Account.....	93½	93½	93½	94½	94	93½
New 3 per Cent. An.....	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½	92½
New 2½ per Cents.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	.....	220	222	.....	222	.....
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	7 d	.....	.....
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	3 d	.....	.....	7 d	.....	.....
Ditto, under £1000.....	.....	4 d	4 d	7 d	7 d	.....
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	6 p	6 p	.....	6 p	7 p	4 p
Ditto, £500.....	.....	.....	.....	6 p	.....	.....
Ditto, Small.....	.....	.....	.....	7 p	.....	.....

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

(LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	100½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	108
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	.....	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	97½
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	.....	Spanish.....	42
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	65½	Spanish Committee Cert.....	63
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.....	97½	of Coup. not fun.....	94
Ecuador Bonds.....	.....	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	101½
Mexican Account.....	23½	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	.....
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	76½	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.....	.....
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	46½	.....	.....

**MADLE. ROSA BONHEUR'S GREAT PICTURE OF THE HORSE FAIR.**—Messrs. P. and D. COLNAGHI and Co. beg to announce that the above Picture is now on View at the GERMAN GALLERY, 163, New Bond-street, from 9 to 6, for a limited period.—Admission, 1s.

**FRENCH EXHIBITION.—THE FOURTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION** of Pictures by Modern Artists of the FRENCH SCHOOL, is Now Open to the Public at the FRENCH GALLERY, 121, Pall Mall, opposite the Opera Colonnade. Admission, One Shilling; Catalogues, Sixpence each. Open from NINE to SIX Daily.

**FINSBURY CHAPEL, SOUTH PLACE.**—The PULPIT of this Chapel having become VACANT, an opportunity seems to present itself of giving a fresh impulse to the cause of religious progress.

The Committee are therefore desirous of securing the co-operation of all friends of free religious thought; with the object of making available the talents of men most eminent for their eloquence and learning, and especially for their ability to reconcile the religious idea with ascertained natural and scientific truth.

If you sympathize with these views, and are disposed to aid them, will you please to communicate with the Committee by letter, addressed to the Secretary at the Chapel.

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Monday, June 1st, Morning performance, LA TRAVIATA, Piccolomini, Giuglini; IL BARBIERE DI SIVIGLIA (arranged in one act), Alboni, Belletti, Bottardi, Vialetti. Divertissement, Madame Perea Nena.

Tuesday, June 2nd, "NINO" (first time these nine years; first appearance of Sig. Corsi), Spezia, Charles Braham, Vialetti, Corsi.

Thursday June 4th, IL TROVATORE, Spezia, Alboni, Vialetti, Giuglini.

Saturday, June 6th, LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR, Piccolomini, Belletti, Vialetti, Giuglini. Ballet, L'Aurore.

For particulars, see Bills.

A limited number of Boxes on the Half-Circle Tier have been specially reserved for the public, and may be had at the Box-office at the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket. Price, 21s. and 14 11s. 6d. each.

Mr. Benedict's Three Grand Musical Festivals, on Wednesday Mornings, June 10th, 24th, and July 8th.

## FRENCH PLAYS.—LES BOUFFES PARISIENS.—ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.

Mr. MITCHELL respectfully announces that, in consequence of the general satisfaction afforded by these performances at the St. James's Theatre, and the patronage with which they are honoured, Monsr. Offenbach, the Director of the Company, has been induced and enabled, with the consent and approbation of his Excellency the Ministre d'Etat, to close the Théâtre des Bouffes in Paris, and to bring over the remaining Members of the Company—Monsr. Tajau, Monsr. Leonce, Monsr. Charles Petit, Monsr. Caillat, and Madlle. Corally Guffroy, who will have the honour of appearing immediately, conjointly with Monsr. Pradeau, M. Mesnacore, M. Guyot, M. Paul, Madlle. Dalmont, Madlle. Macé, and Madlle. Mareschal. The following new and attractive pieces will be added to the repertoire:—"Dragonette," which has been acted in Paris every evening since its production on the 20th February last; "L'Opéra aux Fenêtres," "Le Roi Boit," "La Pomme de Turquoie," "Après l'Orage," "L'Orgue de Barbarie," &c. &c. &c. Performances will be given Every Evening. Subscriptions may be arranged upon the same terms as at the commencement:—Stalls for twelve representations, 5 guineas; Private Boxes, 30 and 40 guineas. By the Night: Stalls, 10s. 6d.; Public Boxes, 5s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre 2s. Private Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets, may be secured at Mr. MITCHELL'S Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

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After which, DADDY HARDACRE.

Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Vining, G. Cooke, and Leslie; Mesdames Stephens and Hughes.

To conclude with THE WANDERING MINSTREL.

Jem Bags Mr. F. Robson. Commence at Half-past Seven.

## COLOGNE CHORAL SOCIETY.—Posi-

tively the last Concerts.—Monday afternoon, June 1, Hanover-square Rooms; Tuesday, June 2, Hanover-square Rooms; Thursday evening, June 4, Exeter Hall, being positively the last Evening Concert; Friday afternoon, June 5, Hanover-square Rooms; and Saturday, June 6, at the Crystal Palace, Sydenham. Tickets for all the above Concerts, at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street.

## EXETER HALL.—THURSDAY NEXT,

June 4. COLOGNE CHORAL SOCIETY.—Positively the last Evening Concert in this country.—Owing to the great success which attended the Concert on Thursday last, this distinguished society will give a SECOND, and positively their LAST, EVENING CONCERT in this country, on THURSDAY NEXT, June 4. The Programme will include the most Popular Pieces of the Society's repertoire.—Tickets (reserved) 7s.; area and gallery, 4s.; back seats, 2s. On the occasion of this Farewell Concert, a limited number of tickets will be issued for the orchestra gallery, at 2s. each.—Tickets may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at all the principal music-sellers and libraries.

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