

Head and Galloway, 322 Strand.

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, NOVEMBER 28, 1857.

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Review of the Week.

PALMERSTON is to open the Session with *éclat*. After all the grumbings of the recess he meets Parliament with Indian victories, abolition of the East India Company, a treatment of our commercial crisis which has extorted praise from all sides, and a rumour that there is something more popular behind. He is the luckiest, as well as the cleverest, of diplomatists that ever took the throne of statesmanship. For the moment the reports of the approaching session are more engrossing than the events of the day itself. The victories in India scarcely equal in interest the anticipated victory of the Board of Control, backed by a dissatisfied public, over the Honourable East India Company. This measure had for some time been anticipated, although it appears likely to be brought forward at an earlier date than that popularly fixed for it. It happens, too, that the official interest is here on the same side with the public interest. An excessive amount of blame has been cast on the East India Company, while the QUEEN'S Executive has escaped scot free from censure. Although the Company has become very little better than a dummy, it is to the public interest that the man of straw should be removed, and the responsibility brought home to the right persons; and it is to the interest of the Ministers in office to bring forward a measure which will be popular.

The victories in India, however, will still count for something, and the last despatches announce exploits which will bring fresh honours to the officers in action, and will reflect fresh splendour upon the Government for the time being. Because, however we may separate the officials in London from the officers in the field, it invariably happens that the Government shares with the Sovereign the glory that any of our countrymen achieve; and the last successes are by no means the least important. If HAVELOCK had not actually been relieved in Lucknow at the latest date, it was in all human calculation certain that he would be relieved within a couple of days; and his army would then be expanded to 7000 strong—quite sufficient to encounter the 50,000 Sepoys around him, to scatter them, and not only to rescue the garrison and British residents of Lucknow, but to break the Native power in Oude. The mutinous force which had fled after the capture of Delhi has been followed by a column under Colonel GREATHED, who inflicted three severe and ruinous defeats upon the

enemy, the last of them in Agra, where the Natives were bold enough to attack the British position. GREATHED was in command of one of the bodies that was expected to join HAVELOCK.

In the meanwhile, the reinforcements which had been rapidly arriving in Calcutta were going up the country; and although the mutineers still showed their spirit in fresh outbreaks at some points, it appears now to be quite certain that the news from India will continue to report the progress of our arms in recovering the ground lost during the revolt.

New instalments of honorary rewards will now be required in addition to those which have been newly announced—the elevation of Sir HENRY HAVELOCK to the rank of a baronetcy, and of Sir ARCHDALE WILSON to the same rank.

As the Parliamentary session approaches, opinions on the subject of India evidently acquire new concentration of purpose. The announcement that the East India Company is to be abolished will no doubt bring forth many suggestions for the better government of India, and for its practical improvement under the direct administration of the Board of Control. Meanwhile, the Bishops continue to come forth in great strength on the subject of Christian missions. The Bishops of LONDON and OXFORD have been very diligent, and this week Dr. WILBERFORCE has chimed in happily with a note that strikes like an ingenious discord on the official announcement. He is telling the story how we earned the fidelity of the Rajah of Gwalior through the pious instructions and example of an excellent Resident at that Court. The Rajah was immensely struck by the Resident's refusal to accept 400,000%, although he was told that nobody would have known it, and his reply that "One" would have seen. "You English," answered the Rajah, "are a wonderful people;" and when the Resident was departing, his illustrious pupil sent to ask for advice as to his future policy. "I will give you this advice," said the Resident: "it is very likely that troublesome days will come—but don't be led away. It may appear as though the power of the Company was going to be swept away. Don't believe it; it never will be; and those who stand firm by the Company, will in the end find that they have made the best choice." This was said at a grand gathering of bishops, lords, clergymen, and notables in Willis's Rooms, under the chairmanship of the Archbishop of CANTERBURY and the sanction of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, at which it was resolved to establish

three new bishoprics in India—for the present, with more to come by-and-by. So that if the Company is to be abolished, there will be a goodly company of bishops and clergy instead!

Lord SHAFTESBURY has been continuing his excellent work, in telling the English people in plain terms how their countrymen and countrywomen were treated at Cawnpore. The value of the lesson lies not only in enabling the public to understand the facts in plain terms, but in setting an example of the proper occasions on which to use the plainest language that man's lips can utter.

The news from the moneyed world, like that from India, is checkered; but upon the whole favourable. The balance of incomings and outgoings at the Bank of England has been such that it has been able to contract its issue within the legal limit, the pressure upon it being of course proportionately diminished. There is a more tangible sign of the same diminution of pressure on the Bank of France, in the reduction of the rate of discount; although there are some reasons to fear that this downward movement may be premature, in accordance with French impatience. There is some slight sign too of revived trade in all parts of the commercial world—on the Continent and in America, as well as in this country; but at present these signs are exceedingly faint. In the meanwhile we have the most ominous manifestations of the opposite kind. In Lancashire, Cheshire, and Leicestershire, there is a grievous want of employment; in Yorkshire it is not so bad; but in many towns of the northern and midland counties the Poor-law authorities are wavering between severity and relaxation. The chief constable of Manchester reports that a large number of mills are standing still, and a yet larger number working short time, although in some mills the loss per week is not less than 20%, 30%, 50%, and even 70%, while the machinery stands still. More houses continue to fall, and amongst them is another Joint-stock Bank—the Northumberland and Durham, with very large liabilities and very extensively spread branches. The occurrence has created dismay in the coal and iron districts of the neighbourhood, and we have yet to learn what its effects may be.

A step towards the solution of an exceedingly important question has been taken by the Senate of the University of Cambridge. In June last syndics were appointed to examine and report upon the question of establishing a system of examinations for the benefit of students not members of the University, to whom certificates, or some title of pro-

iciency, might be given in the event of their passing their examination with credit. A report has just been sent up to the Senate, strongly advising the organization of the proposed system, and accompanied by a series of propositions, the effect of which, if carried out, will be to enable students between fifteen and eighteen, of any academy in England, to go up for examination, the younger to obtain certificates, the elder the title of 'Associate in Arts.' This will be a noble stimulant to learning, and, as far as we can see, utterly unobjectionable on sectarian grounds. The examinations will afford a guiding test for school managers; and the success of pupils in the several schools will be a guiding test for parents; so that the examinations will elevate and nationalize the voluntary teaching which already exists.

Dr. CULLEN has published a long pamphlet in rejoinder to the reply of Lord St. LEONARDS, on the misapplication of the Patriotic Fund. He has taken Lord St. LEONARDS's general denial of his charges as a challenge, and has set to work, in characteristic style, to prove them all—and more. But he has not been successful. The cases which he gives of sectarian misuse of the Patriotic Fund fail to make out a case against its general administration. Instances there have been, clearly, where Protestant favouritism has been shown; but they have been few, and their importance is greatly exaggerated by Dr. CULLEN and his partisans for sectarian purposes. Dr. CULLEN has had his fling at the Indian Fund, and has done it no harm, but, it is to be hoped, some good; for those who are administering it are warned against doing anything that may give a handle either to him or any other gentleman of his 'way of thinking.'

An incident happened on Sunday last unprecedented in the history of religion in this country. The special services in Exeter Hall were discontinued under the prohibition of the Rev. Mr. EDUART. The pastor of the parish, it seems, has the right and the power to exclude from the bounds of his cure all other preachers save his Bishop and his curate; and Mr. EDUART had a special reason for exercising this power. He depends for his income on the filling of his church, and the filling of the Hall was detrimental to the finances of St. Michael's. An attempt to introduce the services at St. Martin's Hall has failed through a similar objection of the incumbent in that parish. Still, the committee carrying on the special services were not content to give up their mission; clergymen of the Church of England being excluded, the committee looked about for some ministers not disqualified by belonging to the Establishment, but sufficiently broad in their Christianity to act with them. They found such a man in the Rev. Mr. Brock, the well-known Baptist minister; and on Sunday last he conducted the special service in Exeter Hall, using the forms of the Church of England! Here again we see, through the conflict of creeds, another step in the grand movement towards a Church, not titularly 'of England,' but for the people of England.

A case of deep importance to great numbers of Englishmen and Englishwomen has been heard in the Vice-Chancellors' Court this week. The question raised is as to whether the issue of a marriage with a deceased wife's sister, contracted at Altona, in Schleswig Holstein, is legitimate. Such marriages, though forbidden in this country, are there celebrated according to the law of the land; and a notion prevails that the English law recognizes the validity of a foreign marriage legally contracted. Arguments for and against this opinion have been brought forward at great length, and the question is of such importance that Vice-Chancellor Sir J. STUART has deferred giving judgment until he has given it the maturest deliberation. Should his judgment annul the marriage, it will still leave the question open, to be settled when those who are moving in it obtain justice. Should his judgment affirm the marriage, it will, to a great extent, settle the law. For Parliament will scarcely refuse to let people do within the four seas that which they can do at Altona.

A deputation, presenting a memorial from the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, waited on the Earl of CLARENDON on Tuesday, and received an answer intended to reconcile 'the Empire' and the anti-slavery interest. The Earl of CLARENDON assured the deputation that the remedy for the evil had been already found in the total failure of the French scheme of purchasing 'free' negroes. He wholly exonerated the Emperor, who he believed never for a moment intended to do anything that would be likely to reopen the slave-trade—of course not. Only other nations have caught the hint, that slave-trade treaties forbid no migration of 'free Africans'; and even in England there is a growing wish to see the experiment fairly tried, of civilizing the African in America.

Public meetings have been held on divers other topics; but we need only mention one—that at Brighton, to receive a report to the constituency from its new member, Mr. CONINGHAM. He spoke out boldly, grappling subjects difficult and delicate with manly directness and candour; and he was well supported.

Among the deaths that will be felt beyond the confines of private circles or of party will be that of Lord STRANGEFORD, who, not long since, as GEORGE SMYTHIE, member for Canterbury, shone for a moment of brilliant promise, disappeared as suddenly from public life, and now lies shrouded in the sad eclipse of an untimely death.

Liberal ideas in Piedmont and Belgium are once more obliged to fight for existence under the attacks of Papistry, fighting its old fight for supremacy. In Piedmont, the Liberal party, proud and satisfied with the progress of their ideas, have fallen into the error of ceasing to watch and ward their vantage ground, and the Catholic opposition, ever on the look-out for opportunity, has taken that furnished by the state elections to put forth its utmost strength, using every means at its command—spiritual and temporal. But the Liberals have been warned in time to secure the victory of a majority, though not such a one as they ought to have commanded. The lesson, however, will be of service. In Belgium the struggle promises to end with more decided advantage to the anti-prêtre party.

STATE OF TRADE.

The condition of the chief manufacturing towns during the week ending last Saturday was not much brighter than it has been for some time past. There is still a great suspension of business at Manchester, Birmingham, Nottingham, Leicester, Halifax, Preston, and several other towns. The number of people suddenly reduced to idleness and destitution in Lancashire is immense. A panic prevails throughout the iron districts of South Staffordshire, and the approaching winter is looked upon in most parts of the country with very gloomy feelings. At Leeds and the immediate neighbourhood, however, the woollen cloth trade, though depressed, does not continue to sink lower, and a hopeful spirit exists with respect to the future. The number of poor relieved by the Leeds Board of Guardians last week was twelve less than in the corresponding week of 1856. The shoe trade of Norwich, also, is more prosperous than might have been anticipated; but it is feared that depression is in store, and, indeed, some of the manufacturers in the neighbourhood have begun to work short time. At Derby, a great many silk mills have been closed, and great distress exists, to alleviate which, soup kitchens are to be opened.

Failures still continue to occur. Mr. Edward Hemmingsway, Brooklyn Mill, Mirfield, near Leeds, manufacturer of carpets, blankets, rugs, &c., has been forced to ask for time to meet his engagements, owing to his not being able to obtain money from America, with which he did a large business. A meeting of his creditors has taken place, and it appears that his liabilities are 23,000*l.*, with assets calculated at 38,000*l.* A proposal was made, and accepted, to pay the creditors in full by three instalments—the estate in the meanwhile to be placed in the hands of trustees under a deed of inspection. The other failures of note are—Messrs. Herman Sillem and Co., a house having transactions with all parts of the Continent, North and South America, and the West Indies; Messrs. Carr, Josling, and Co., chiefly trading to the North of Europe; Messrs. Alexander Hiltz and Co., merchants and dealers in colonial produce; Messrs. Rehder and Boldmann, in the German trade, with liabilities supposed to amount to 100,000*l.*; and Messrs. T. Morris and Sons, of Wolverhampton, with liabilities set down at 40,000*l.* A great many failures have occurred at Hamburg.

The Northumberland and Durham District Bank at Newcastle-on-Tyne closed its doors on Thursday morning. The notice posted up says that 'deposits and credit accounts will be fully paid, with as little delay as possible,' and that 'a meeting of the shareholders will be immediately held.' The absolute loss by this event has been calculated at one million or more. People appear to be

almost stupefied by the calamity, but there has been no run on the other banks in the town. Arrangements are being made by some of the shareholders of the bank which has just suspended for the formation of a private bank.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire Bank was held on Monday, at the Swan Hotel, Wolverhampton. Mr. Hordern, the chairman of the directors, convened the meeting, and presided at it. It appears that the directors of the bank have expressed their willingness to raise and lend 100,000*l.* to the concern. A committee, with power to add to their number, was appointed; and, some discussion having taken place, the meeting separated.—The adjourned meeting of the creditors took place on Tuesday. There is now every prospect of the bank resuming in a day or two. The creditors have agreed to accept payment by four instalments, namely, five shillings in the pound on the 1st of January, 1858; five shillings on the 1st of October; five shillings on the 1st of April, 1859; and five shillings on the 1st of July following.

The Board of Trade returns for the past month were issued on Wednesday morning, and show an increase of 318,838*l.* in the declared value of our exportations, compared with the corresponding month of last year. The imports, for the most part, show a falling off.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

THE Hon. Martin Hawke, third son of Lord Hawke, has met with his death while fox-hunting. The hounds were in full chase, and the pace was very severe. The fox darted along a recently stubbed-up plantation, about six yards wide, and with a fence on both sides. Mr. Hawke causing his horse to leap over a line of rails, the animal fell, threw his rider off headforemost, and then turned over upon him. He was removed to Bramwith Hall, and afterwards to a house at Barnby Dun. It was found, on a surgical examination, that three ribs were broken on each side, and that the lungs had thus been ruptured. The head and face were much bruised, and the left arm was broken above the wrist. These injuries resulted in death. Mr. Hawke's horse, on being raised up, followed the hounds for four or five miles without a rider, taking all the leaps with the foremost of the field. The inquest has terminated in a verdict in accordance with the facts.

Four persons were drowned on the river Ouse on the night of yesterday week. The ferry-boat belonging to Whitgift Ferry was run down by the Empress steam-packet, while the former was crossing the river and the latter was going along it. It was completely turned over. Six persons were aboard at the time, and only two were saved.

The Rev. Sandford Connor, assistant military chaplain at the Artillery Garrison, Woolwich, felt indisposed last Sunday, and the order for Divine service was consequently countermanded. About the middle of the day, his servant found him in a state of syncope. Medical assistance was promptly summoned, but Mr. Connor was dead. He was about thirty years of age. His death seems to have resulted from apoplexy, and the coroner's jury has returned a verdict to that effect.

A policeman of the Berks constabulary saw a sturdy-looking man, one day last week, begging about from door to door near Pangbourne. He ordered him to desist; but the man still went on, and the policeman then threatened to take him into custody. The fellow replied by saying he would show what an Irishman could do, and struck the officer violently in the face. A struggle ensued, in which both went to the ground, and at length the policeman found himself exhausted, owing to the Irishman seizing him tightly by the collar. The captive was therefore released, and, rushing down to the Thames, which flows close by the road, he leaped in and swam towards the Oxfordshire shore. The constable called to two men on the opposite bank to secure the fugitive, and hastened away for a boat; but, on arriving on the other side, he found that the Irishman had sunk within a few yards of the land, probably from an attack of cramp.

Two fatal boiler explosions have occurred—one at Apsley, near Huddersfield, the other at Skipton, Yorkshire. By the former, twelve persons were killed, and several injured; by the latter, three persons have perished, while five others have received wounds of a serious nature.

Cornet Richard Charles Echallaz, of the 7th Dragoon Guards, was thrown from his horse while leaping a gate on Sunday evening, and so severely injured that he died the following morning. The horse fell on him; so that the case seems to be a repetition of that of Mr. Hawke, related above.

An inquest was held on Thursday at Wapping on the body of George Granger, a seaman on board the collier brig Welthen, of Whitby, who, with another of the crew, was drowned by their vessel being run into off Erit by the European and American Steam Company's ship Argo. The jury, after some deliberation, returned a verdict of Accidental Death; but they could not separate without declaring a strong sense of the want of sufficient look-out, care, and attention on the part of the persons in charge and management of the steamer before and after the accident took place. They also expressed their commendation of the conduct of the Coastguard boatman in saving life on the occasion.

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

FURTHER news from India has been received during the week, and it presents many hopeful features. Previous, however, to the reception of the telegraphic despatches on Wednesday, some discouraging gossip had been brought by the passengers from India on board the Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer Indus, which arrived at Southampton last Saturday. The general tenor of their information was confirmatory of the previous assertion with respect to Havelock being surrounded by 50,000 mutineers under Maun Singh, who was supposed to have led the English General into a trap by promising him assistance, and then declaring against him; and was to the further effect that there was a great deal of difficulty in getting troops up the country, that the whole people of Oude had joined the revolt, and that the Bombay Presidency, and even Calcutta, were in a very alarming condition. The telegraphic messages, it will be seen, put a different complexion on these assertions. Two are addressed to the Foreign Office by Lord Lyons; one to the East India House from another source. We combine them for the sake of greater clearness:—

"Havelock is in the Residency of Lucknow with 1500 men; 1000 more, with sick and wounded, are at Alumbur, distant three miles; communication between the two is difficult. The enemy is said to be in great force, and very strong in artillery. A convoy of provisions from Cawnpore arrived at Lucknow shortly after its relief, escorted by 250 men, who, it is said, got in unmolested, in consequence of the Sepoys being busily engaged entrenching themselves. Havelock has been reinforced by the 53rd and 93rd Regiments. By the 30th of October, it was expected that Greathed would raise Havelock's army to 7000 men. Reinforcements are being sent up with all speed from Calcutta. Detachments, amounting in all to 1200 Europeans, were to have left Cawnpore for Lucknow on the 16th of October. The garrison at the latter place could easily force their way out, but the General does not wish to expose the women and children to further danger. General Outram has urgently applied for large supplies and reinforcements to be organized at Allumbamek, about four miles from the Residency.

"The communication between Allumbamek and Cawnpore is quite open, but not between Allumbamek and the Residency, in the neighbourhood of which the whole rebel force is concentrated. A convoy of provisions reached Allumbamek safely on October 6th from Cawnpore. About 3000 or 4000 fugitives from Delhi, with four guns, were expected to reach Sheorajpore, near Bhitoor, on October 19th, but, on the same day, a force of 600 men, with guns, from Cawnpore, attacked the rebels, and utterly dispersed them.

"Nana Sahib is said to be near Bhitoor again. Nothing was known at Calcutta of his reported capture by the Belooch battalion. Maun Singh, heretofore our friend, has turned against us since the storming of Delhi was announced. Part of the 32nd Bombay Native Infantry mutinied at Deesa [Dacca?], and murdered two of their officers; and the Maharajah of Gwalior, is reported to have been murdered by his own people.

"Colonel Greathed's column, consisting of her Majesty's 8th Foot and 9th Lancers, two troops Horse Artillery, one line 4th Field Battery, five 12-inch mortars, two companies of Punjab Sappers, 2nd and 4th Punjab Infantry, 125 detachment of Punjab Cavalry, and 200 Hodson's Horse, about 3000 in all, in pursuit of the Delhi fugitives, fell in with the enemy at Bolundshuhur, and, after two hours' fighting, routed them, with heavy loss of men, two guns, and ammunition. Our loss was 50 killed and wounded. Malaghur was afterwards taken and blown up. We fought the rebels again successfully at Allyghur, on the 5th of October. 400 were cut up, and two guns taken. The column reached Agra on the 14th. The enemy made a sudden and unexpected attack on the cantonments, were repulsed and utterly dispersed, and the pursuit was continued up to the Kharee. 1000 were killed; all the guns (43) were taken, with plunder, camp equipage, and five lakhs of treasure. The loss on our side was small.*

"Cavalry is much wanted everywhere, and transport animals. Two large ships in tow of a steamer have been sent to Rangoon for elephants. A column under Brigadier Showers, 1200 men and four guns, have marched [through?] Bulubghur in pursuit of rebels.

"The fall of Delhi has had a marked effect in Meerut

* The account of Colonel Greathed's proceedings given in the despatch to the East India House is so confused that, finding it impossible to reconcile it with the above, we here give it separately:—

"Colonel Greathed's column arrived at Allyghur [fourth?] October, defeated the fanatics there, and marched on to Akrahad on the 5th, which they destroyed, and reached Agra on the 10th, where they were attacked suddenly by the mutineers (Indore and Bhopal) whom they soon defeated, with the loss of thirteen guns and all their camp equipage, driving the survivors across Kharee. The latest date from his camp is the 14th of October, when he had crossed the Jumna, and was making the best of his way to Lucknow."

and contiguous districts. Revenue has been brought in very rapidly, and loyalty is the order of the day. Commander-in-Chief has ordered that a standing camp of 2000 men be instantly organized at Konugunge.

"A Peninsular and Oriental steamer may be expected at Suez, to convey troops to Calcutta, on the 24th inst. The Bentinck met the Pottinger and the Hindostan on the 12th, and the Emeu on the 14th inst. All well.

"Two more of the King of Delhi's sons have been sentenced to be shot, and execution was to take place on 18th of October. Important papers have been found in the Palace at Delhi. Nothing, however, of date anterior to the outbreak at Meerut. A commission has been issued for the trial of the King, and it is uncertain whether any promise of his life had been made. Sir John Lawrence superintends the administration of the Delhi territory.

"The mutineers of the Gwalior contingent are said to be marching towards Cawnpore via Jhansi.

"Maun Singh, it is certain, has turned against us, and it is supposed that most of the Large Talookdars have also done so. Accounts from Rewah, of the 16th of October, state that Lieutenant Osborne's house was threatened with about 2000 rebels, who were deterred attacking him from the preparations he had made. A wing of the 17th Madras Infantry, with two guns, was ordered to march to his relief, and arrived at the Cutra Pass, so that his position is improved. The Europeans at Saugor are still in the fort, and relief is urgently required.

"The protraction of the contest before Delhi has begun to tell on the population of the Punjab.

"The Bheels at Chandpoor have dispersed, and tranquillity prevails throughout Goujerat. The Bheels, however, are still in rebellion at Nassick, on the frontiers of Candesh. All is quiet in Scinde, Bombay, Madras, and the Nizam's dominions.

"Reports are rife of threatening disturbances at Hyderabad, and of the critical position of the mutineers, Bundelohs (?).

"The steamer Caledonian has been ordered from Calcutta to Masulipatam, to land her troops there."

"Transport ships, bearing 6000 troops, have arrived at Calcutta, Madras, and Galle.

Some long official despatches, relating to the early periods of the struggle, have been published during the week.

THE CHARGE OF CRUELTY AGAINST OUR SOLDIERS AT DELHI.

A letter, signed "An Englishman residing in Paris," has been published in the *Presse*, with a view to refuting certain statements made in the *Pays* to the effect that our troops committed great excesses at the taking of Delhi. Thus wrote the *Pays*:—

"When the city was taken, bodies of cavalry stopped all the issues, and prevented any one from leaving, and all were put to death. That lasted three days, and the number of women and children who perished on that occasion was three hundred and seventeen."

The "Englishman" replies as follows:—

"The English press is unfortunate enough not to possess the wondrous sources whence the *Pays* so often derives its information. It appears to me, however, that these assertions would have acquired infinitely greater value had the *Pays* deigned to make known whence it obtained the precise number of three hundred and seventeen, and how the corps of cavalry, which only consisted at most of one thousand men, could, while pursuing the fugitives, have blocked up the issues of a city measuring two miles in length, one and a half in breadth, and five and a half miles in circumference. Yet, admitting the correctness of the number of three hundred and seventeen killed (but of which the correctness may well be doubted, as even the loss of the English army is not yet officially known), how can the *Pays* prove that they were massacred? A town is bombarded for six days, and when attacked the streets are defended inch by inch, and yet astonishment is felt that three hundred and seventeen women and children were killed. As cannon-balls, when fired, do not go precisely where it is wished, there would be much greater cause for astonishment had it been the contrary."

The writer quotes from the Indian papers, and from General Chamberlain's despatch, and other official documents, to show that the women and children were invariably protected; and he concludes by denouncing the article in the *Pays* as nothing else than a calumny.

A correspondent of the *Times* communicates to that journal an extract from a letter from his son who was present at, and took part in, the assault of Delhi; and conceives that "it may perhaps contain an explanation of the charge [of cruelty] in some of the French papers." It runs thus:—

"I am sorry to say that we lost a good many men at first, owing to the large quantity of liquor which the Sepoys had left purposely in the houses, and with which many of the Europeans became intoxicated; and were cut off by the rebels concealed in the houses."

The correspondent asks:—

"What can be more probable than that in one or two instances this diabolical device was discovered, or ineffectually attempted, but promptly avenged?"

THE DELHI PRINCES.

A letter from a young officer to his friends in Eng-

land is published in the *Ayrshire Express*, and contains a story which we here repeat, though it is hardly probable. The letter is dated Dugshait (about forty miles from Delhi), September 29th; and the story is this:—

"A few days ago, Captain Hodgson (of ours) went out and captured the King, and brought him in a prisoner. He is at present confined in his own palace. A few days later he went out again, and came up with the King's sons and grandson. He had only one hundred native horsemen of his own regiment with him, and the enemy about ten thousand, three thousand of whom were fully armed Sepoys. Hodgson saw it was of no use at tacking them, so he sent an emissary to tell the prince that the game was up with them, and that they had better surrender, which they did after some time, and came up to Hodgson, who immediately surrounded the carriage with his men. He sent for their arms, and after hesitating some time, these also were given up, with seven elephants and lots of stores. On reaching the gaol, Hodgson ordered the princes out of the vehicle; they, imagining all was right for themselves, began (native-like) to talk, and say they hoped there might be an inquiry into their conduct. Hodgson said, 'Cheep-roks!' (be quiet), and ordered them to take off all their fine clothes. When this was done he said, 'Now get in again,' and ordered the driver to proceed. He then beckoned to one of his men, and asked for a carbine, and with his own hand shot each and all of the three princes. He then took their bodies into the city, and laid them out for inspection in front of the Kotswallie, where these wretches had laid out their victims during the massacre. There are lakhs upon lakhs of treasure, and prize property in the city, and, if the city itself was put up for ransom, it would fetch upwards of fifty lakhs."

MR. CONINGHAM AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

(Abridged from the 'Brighton Guardian'.)

On Monday evening, a meeting of the electors of the borough of Brighton was held in the large room of the Town Hall, for the purpose of hearing from William Coningham, Esq., M.P. for the borough, an account of his parliamentary stewardship during the last session. Notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather, the attendance was, we might almost say, multitudinous, every available spot not only in the large room, but also in the south room and on the landings, being occupied. We believe we are rather below than above the estimate when we say that there were quite 1400 persons present. Mr. Coningham's entrance was the signal for three hearty and prolonged cheers, accompanied by waving of hats and other demonstrations indicative of the most enthusiastic approbation.

On the motion of Lieut.-Col. Fawcett, seconded by I. G. Bass, Esq.,

Mr. Alderman Alger was called to the chair. He said he thought it would be scarcely necessary for him to remind the electors of the object for which they were assembled. He had no doubt but that most of them would participate in his own feeling at that moment, which was one of great delight, at seeing their highly esteemed and valuable member amongst them, in the enjoyment of health and good spirits. (Hear, hear.) Most of them were aware that at the late election Mr. Coningham had several times stated that he would be at all times happy to afford opportunities to his constituents to question him respecting his parliamentary conduct; and in unison with that genuine honesty, which he was proud to see was a characteristic of Mr. Coningham—(hear, hear)—in unison with that open patriotic feeling which that gentleman had always evinced, he was there to meet them on that occasion. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Coningham, on rising, was greeted with a renewal of the flattering demonstrations which had been evinced on his entrance. For several minutes he found it impossible to proceed, so loud, so continuous, and so hearty was the applause. Silence having at length been obtained,

Mr. Coningham proceeded to say:—"Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, electors of the borough of Brighton the last time I had the honour of addressing you was immediately after you had done me the honour of electing me as one of your representatives in Parliament. On that occasion you took me upon trust. You have since had some opportunity of seeing how I have voted and, on some few occasions, how I have spoken; and appeal to you, gentlemen, to give a verdict whether I have honestly and truly fulfilled the pledge I gave you—that I would in the House of Commons uphold reform and retrenchment, that I would resist in the most strenuous manner every attempt to squander the public money—(applause)—and that I was prepared to uphold every attempt to carry out the great principle of reform, and I am happy to say that I see already approaching a great movement in that direction in consequence of the great dissatisfaction that exists throughout the country with the existing system of administration. (Hear, hear.) You sent me to Parliament, gentlemen, as your representative. Very shortly afterwards I had the honour of presenting myself within the walls of the palace at Westminster. The first thing I was called on to do was to declare my property qualification. That is one of our existing institutions that you, the free and independent electors of this country, shall not exercise

freely your franchise, but only return such men to Parliament as are possessed of 10,000*l.* in the Three per Cents, or 300*l.* a year in some other kind of substantial property. I confess it rather ruffled me at the threshold that my private affairs should be so investigated, that your verdict was not sufficient, that my right to sit in that House as your representative was to be called in question because I might be in possession only of a professional income. I say, sir, that one of the first things we have to do is to abolish this property qualification. (*Cheers.*) Being duly armed with a document testifying to the fact, for which my signature was required, I enter the House of Commons, and there I find another obstruction: I see three mysterious-looking gentlemen with wigs and gowns sitting at a table with a number of paper tallies about a yard long, with certain strange hieroglyphics pasted on them. These I found to be a long series of oaths, which have been characterized by the Prime Minister of this country as almost blasphemous, and which are universally acknowledged to be exceedingly ridiculous. (*Hear, hear.*) A number of members were there to be sworn in; and the rapidity with which these oaths are read over is absurd. I could scarcely edge in a word, and I found myself landed 'on the true faith of a Christian' before I knew what I was saying. (*Laughter.*) Now, gentlemen, I appeal to you, is this a rational mode of proceeding,—that the only men who are deemed fit to govern you, the only men who are qualified to be Governors-General in India, should compel us to subscribe to a number of ridiculous oaths directed against the Pretender and the Pope? We were compelled to take these long oaths without sense or meaning, by the noble lords who call themselves the leaders of the country, and this in the teeth of overwhelming majorities in the House of Commons. Why, those are not leaders. (*Hear, hear.*) You, the people, are the leaders, if you would take the lead into your own hands. (*Cheers.*) You must tell those gentlemen that they have too long ruled the country, that they have too long monopolized power, and place, and patronage. (*Cheers.*) The only privileges which have been allowed you are those of work and overwhelming taxation. (*Hear, hear.*) Gentlemen, it is high time to put an end to such a system as that. (*Hear.*) It is the people that do the work; it is the people who ought to have the power. (*Cheers.*) The people who do the work are interested in retrenchment,—not those noble lords who profess to lead you. (*Hear, hear.*) If you but express your wish in a peaceful but resolute manner, I tell you your thralldom will be at an end. It requires but a word from the great municipal constituencies of the country, and your bonds will fall from your hands and you will be what you never have been since the Norman Conquest,—you will be a freely governed people, a people governed by themselves. (*Cheers.*) Well, gentlemen, I swallowed the oaths—(*laughter*), and I confess after having gone through the ceremony I felt that I had been humiliated. Perhaps that is one of the objects of enforcing oaths of this description. One of our first duties was to elect a Speaker. A highly accomplished gentleman was selected to fill that office; and for my own part I can testify to the very able, efficient, and impartial—for Speakers are not always impartial—manner in which he filled that office. We were then a duly elected House of Commons. We had selected a Speaker, and it then became our duty to go and hear the Queen's speech. So our Speaker leads the way, and we follow in a somewhat noisy manner to the bar of the House of Lords, where we, who hold the purse-strings of the country were treated as if we had been coming to receive sentence. (*Laughter.*) There we saw a noble lord dressed in the most astonishing paraphernalia—(*laughter*)—presenting an appearance something between a beadle in full-bottomed wig and a Queen's coachman—(*laughter*)—with a three-cornered hat fiercely cocked over his right eye. He held a document in his hand which he proceeded to mumble, not one word of which, I confess, did I hear. On the scarlet woollack on which his ample sides reposed were also seated four other gentlemen, clad in scarlet and ermine, and looking, with their cloaks wrapped round them, cold and melancholy beyond description. I do confess that the whole affair put me strongly in mind of Dickey Doyle's 'Manners and Customs of ye English' in *Punch*. (*Laughter.*) This, gentlemen, is what is deemed necessary to impose on the people and their representatives, but for myself, and I trust also for you, I declare it is utterly contemptible. (*Hear, hear.*) I declare that woollacks and horsehair do not impose on us at all. This, gentlemen, is what they give us instead of law reform and reform of all kinds—noble lords seated on woollacks, crowned with horsehair, and topped with cocked hats. (*Laughter.*) Gentlemen, I tell the aristocracy of this country who call themselves the leaders of the people that the time for these absurdities is gone by—(*hear, hear*)—that we are sick of all such nonsense—that we want to get rid of shams and come to stern realities and common sense. (*Cheers.*) I will now refer, gentlemen, to a few of the most important questions on which we divided. The first on my list is the Ballot. (*Hear, hear.*) Well, gentlemen, we divided on the Ballot, and we divided in a very handsome minority. But I must tell you that unless the constituencies will support their representatives by public meetings and by pressing the question on the attention of the Legislature, it is impossible for the Liberal

minority—and I am sorry to see that it is no larger than it is—it is impossible for the thorough-going Liberal minority in the House of Commons to carry that important question. Upon the Ballot, as also upon the Oaths Bill, the country gave no sign, and we were invariably met with the taunt, 'The country does not care about it.' The ballot, after all, is a mere mode of taking votes, whether secretly or publicly. It does not involve a great principle as does the Oaths Bill. Now, gentlemen, I say again, it is for the constituencies to be up and doing. You must empower your members to tell this House of Lords on your behalf that they are really behind the times, that they are of a bygone age. (*Cheers.*) It was all very well in the days of the Normans; but society is too far ahead now. (*Hear, hear.*) It is the aristocracy of brains that ought to govern the country—(*hear, hear*)—and the brains will have their way; yea, in spite of ten thousand Houses of Lords, that great principle of civil and religious liberty which was proclaimed at the time of the Reformation will be carried out—(*hear, hear*)—and whether it be Baron Rothschild or not, I tell those noble lords that the Jews shall sit in the House of Commons—(*cheers*)—but it is the people who must place them there. (*Hear, hear.*) Don't you send us, a miserable minority, into the House of Commons to fight your battles, and then shrink out of the way as if it were no concern of yours. It is like a forlorn hope sent to storm a breach. I am not afraid of forlorn hopes, but you ought to back me up. (*Hear.*) Then, gentlemen, we had another division. It was not Church-rates—(*laughter*)—we had no time for Church-rates last session; so they told Sir John Trelawney. We did the next best thing, however—we abolished Ministers' money. (*Hear, hear.*) I was quite willing to take that as an instalment; but, gentlemen, I hope that you are of my opinion—that we shall not be satisfied with that instalment. (*Cheers.*) I trust, therefore, that the Church-rate abolition will soon be carried. (*Hear, hear.*) But I may here say that I do not blame Lord Palmerston for not having carried it. I think Lord Palmerston last session disappointed the expectations of a large number of people, who really thought that Mr. Disraeli was a true prophet when he said we had been sent in merely to waste the year. They were quite surprised to find that we had done more than had been done in almost any year before. We had carried important measures of reform. I say a harder-working House of Commons had scarcely ever been returned. There might not be amongst them great orators, Burkes, and Grattans, and Foxes, and it was rather the tone of the public press to abuse us as a worthless good-for-nothing set of fellows; but I can assure you we were very hard-working fellows, and also that they were very honest fellows. (*Hear, hear.*) The divisions that took place were not mere party divisions. For my own part, I always endeavoured to vote upon the merits." Mr. Coningham proceeded to discuss the Divorce Bill, the administration of the National Gallery, and the Indian mutiny. "Why, gentlemen, in old constitutional countries like this, where any respectable blockhead does for a monarch, and any respectable blockhead is qualified to sit in the House of Lords, that kind of thing may be of little importance; but when you invest a man with supreme power over 200 millions of men and place in his hands 200,000 soldiers, I say very different qualifications are required. (*Hear, hear.*) I say it is not an aristocratic qualification that is necessary, but an aristocracy of talent, of brain, as I said before. (*Cheers.*) Have you, the people of England, not witnessed with wrath and indignation the manner in which you drifted into a Russian war from the incapacity of your rulers? On a second occasion you see yourselves drifting into an Indian mutiny, your brothers and female relatives massacred, slaughtered, violated, and abused by a set of savages. (*Hear, hear.*) It is for you not to allow, by a mere change of system, a throwing from one hand into another, a juggle, those who are responsible to escape from a searching investigation. It is for you to find out what is the cause of those disasters." After some remarks on the history of the English in India, Mr. Coningham went on to say:—"I say one of the most effectual remedies for crime is to diminish taxation. (*Hear, hear.*) But we cannot get it diminished unless you back us up. I divided the House on the Princess's Dowry, with a fearful majority staring me in the face; but I was determined to interpose, and, if possible, put a stop to the Government putting its hands into the people's pockets. (*Hear, hear.*) The public were asked to vote 40,000*l.* down in hard cash, and 8000*l.* a year as long as the daughter of the Queen lived. (*Hisses and applause.*) I took upon myself to divide the House when the report was brought up—(*hear, hear*)—and when, I assure you, I did not know that I should have more than my second to divide with me. I did it as a protest. I took my stand on a great principle. I say if the Queen has a large family she cannot expect to have them so well provided for as if she had a small one. She is not exempt from the laws of nature. 'The more the merrier, the fewer the better cheer,' applies as well to a queen as to a peasant. (*Great applause.*) What is the use of preaching political economy in the workhouse if the palace is to ignore its principles? (*Hear, hear.*) I had intended to divide when the bill was first brought before us, and I had actually risen at the same time as Mr. Roebuck. Some of the members of the Radical party who sat behind me said, 'Mr. Roebuck

has got an amendment in his hand; better let him propose it.' I gave way to Mr. Roebuck. I intended to reject the 8000*l.* a year proposed and to have given the Princess 100,000*l.* down. (*Hear, hear.*) Mr. Roebuck got up and moved his resolution and made a speech. I rose and stated that I would support him. There was a good deal of conversation at the time, and I did not hear what was going on; and to my great astonishment the first intimation I had that the amendment was withdrawn was seeing all the members rushing out of the house. I can only say that it was a very indiscreet step for Mr. Roebuck to take. There was a strong feeling on the subject on the independent benches where I sat, and I must say that I think it was an error of judgment on Mr. Roebuck's part; for I am convinced that if we had divided then, we should have divided in a large minority, perhaps a majority. I was determined at all hazards to divide the House. I should not have alluded to the matter at such length but that I have been violently assailed for what I did on that occasion; but it will be for you to decide whether I did right or wrong. (*Cheers.*) You can have no conception when these estimates are laid before us how bewildering is the chaos of items that are presented to us, and the immense difficulty we have in finding out what ought to be reduced and what is a fair demand on the public purse. I say that when you look at the enormous revenue of the Crown, something like 400,000*l.* a year, Buckingham Palace, a palace at Windsor, yachts, another country palace in the Isle of Wight, with purchases of land going on every day, a palace down in Scotland, 20,000*l.* a year from the Duchy of Lancaster, upon which the Chancellor of the Exchequer was dead silent, but of which I took care to remind him—(*hear, hear*)—and we are told that the Duchy of Cornwall has accumulated 1,000,000*l.* for the Prince of Wales—with these enormous revenues at their disposal, I for one protest against the Crown coming down and demanding the hard earnings of the people." (*Cheers.*) Recurring to India, and adverting to commercial topics, Mr. Coningham entered upon the question of Reform. "There is one final question to which I wish to allude before I sit down, and that is the question of Reform. (*Hear, hear.*) Gentlemen, there seems a disposition in some quarters to burke the Reform Bill which we were promised. I do not remember the exact words made use of by Lord Palmerston; but certainly there was a general impression throughout the country that he pledged himself last session to bring forward a Reform Bill. (*Hear, hear.*) We are now told that having the Indian Mutiny and Charter to discuss, and this banking question to deal with, it is quite impossible that the Reform Bill can be taken into consideration. With regard to this Indian question, I should have very much more confidence in the result if I foresaw that the whole question of the administration of India was to be discussed in a reformed House of Commons. (*Hear, hear.*) I am not a Doctrinaire Reformer, gentlemen. I do not fancy that there is any extraordinary mystery in the question of reform; but one thing I see clearly—that you, the electors and non-electors of this country, are governed by a House of Commons in which neither the population nor even the wealth of the country is fairly represented. (*Hear, hear.*) Two or three facts which I shall quote will satisfy you on that point. On turning over my papers the other day, I found some data which will conclusively show that neither the population nor the property—I am not sure that I might not say also the intelligence—of the country are fairly represented at present. At the time these statistics were taken it was estimated that the population of boroughs amounted to 5,800,000, returning 323 members; 16 of those boroughs with an aggregate population of 2,917,000 returned 33 members, and the other half of the population, that is, about 2,900,000, returned 209 members; 22 boroughs with a population of 200,000, returned 42 members, and 22 other boroughs with a population of 3,780,000 also returned 42 members. Then, with regard to property, Sussex, rated at 1,169,000*l.* returned 18 members; and Middlesex rated at 7,293,000*l.* returned only 14 members to Parliament. Liverpool, rated at 845,445*l.* returned 2 members, and Honiton, rated at 9830*l.* also returned 2 members. Is there any sense in such a system of representation as that? (*Hear.*) I say that without the Ballot,—leaving everything as it is and simply by a change in the representation based on population,—I feel convinced that you, the people, the liberal, intelligent people of this country, the possessors of the brains and of the hands that produce the wealth, would be represented in Parliament in a manner highly satisfactory to you. I declare for my part I should be quite satisfied with such a change, trusting to the future to introduce any other alterations that might be necessary. But, gentlemen, I must again remind you that unless you exert that mental and physical energy you possess, and which you have exerted in taking the necessary steps to reconquer the Indian Empire, you will obtain no Reform Bill; and if you do not wish to see a repetition of such disasters, you will take the Government, the monopoly of Government, out of the hands of the aristocracy, and you will declare yourselves a free people, grown to years of discretion and capable of governing yourselves. (*Applause.*) You are the best judges of what is for your own interests, and I call on you, gentlemen, to express your opinions on this question of Reform, to tell Lord Palmerston and his government whether or

you are prepared to demand a Reform Bill at hands. (*Applause.*) If you will delegate such a power to me, I will go into the House of Commons, and will proclaim the principle of representation according to population. (*Applause.*) I will tell those haughty lords, who presume to dictate to you who shall or who shall not be your representatives, that you are weary of a nonsense. They may have the wealth, but it is those who have the power if you will only exert it. (*Hear, hear.*) The liberty of your forefathers, that liberty which you now possess, was purchased with their blood. (*Hear, hear.*) I wish not to lead you into a war, I wish to win with you a bloodless, a peaceful victory. I wish to see developed the principles of intellectual progress, that brain should be represented as well as wealth. You have done me the honour of placing me among the legislators of my country, and I can only say if you, the voters, will play your part with consistency, I, your representative, am prepared to do my duty." Mr. Ingham then resumed his seat amid deafening applause.

Mr. Fawcett, Esq., moved, "That this meeting approve the conduct of William Coningham, Esq., as one of the representatives of the borough of Brighton in Parliament, and consider him deserving of the confidence of the voters." (*Applause.*)

Mr. G. Bass, Esq., had very great pleasure in seconding the motion, and concluded by calling upon the meeting to pass the vote of confidence.

Mr. Coningham again rose, and briefly disclaimed having had any intention to make an attack upon the Lord or military servants of the Company, of the capacities of many of whom he had a high opinion. What had denounced was the incapacity of many of the errors-general.

The meeting separated after another outburst of enthusiasm.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

MR. BERESFORD HOPE AT MAIDSTONE.

An anniversary meeting of the Maidstone Agricultural Association was held on Thursday week, on which occasion there was a ploughing match in the morning on the farm of Mr. Whitehead, of Barnet, and in the evening, at the association had dined together, Mr. Beresford Hope made some observations on the condition of the labouring poor in the agricultural districts. He said he did not wish to exaggerate the importance of those herings, or to compare in value the prizes which they tribute to the blue ribands and high honours of the aristocracy. They regarded them as little cheerful variations from the dull routine of a labourer's life. The two great objects to be done for the labourer are to educate him more, and to give him better cottage accommodation. On the latter point, Mr. Hope said:—"The amount of responsibility that may have rested on the shoulders of the landlords of England for neglecting to provide better cottages, is, I sincerely believe and solemnly declare, a thing to appal us all. Who can tell the wickedness, the unknown incest, till the book of reckoning is opened, that has resulted from insufficient cottage accommodation, and of which landlords may be considered in a second degree guilty—a consideration which is enough to make the blood chill in the veins of every one of us. With a view of obviating this giant evil, the 'Labourers' Friend Society' has been instituted, and I had much pleasure in examining the models of the cottages which this society proposes to build. I think, however, we ought to be another room. What is wanted is more bedrooms with other accommodation sufficient for necessary household work. Only one room is set apart for the latter, and as there is no outside wash-house, I think it is likely that the third bedroom will be used as a sitting-room, and the family will as heretofore go together up-stairs." Mr. Hope also alluded to the services of our Indian army, which he said far surpassed in their splendid heroism anything recorded in the history of the world. He then continued:—"Most unfairly and most unreasonably, in various countries on the Continent, discredit has of late been thrown upon the British army. Most unfairly and unreasonably, I say, because while, when before Sebastopol, our army of only 14,000 men, that of our much-vaunted French lost 80,000. This is a fact which I have upon the highest authority. The French had only double the number of troops in the Crimea that we had, and their extraordinary loss was caused by mismanagement, by deficient commissariat, by everything, indeed, that we were not provided with, but from charges of which our vaunted allies escaped scot free, and reaped the laurels which were as much, if not more, the due of our maligned, better managed, army. (*Hear, hear.*) We were at unfairly discredited upon the Continent, but now in the plains of India we have made ourselves a name which our coldest critic and our bitterest enemy must acknowledge and admire." (*Loud cheers.*)

THE ENGLISH PRISONERS AT NAPLES.

A very large meeting, composed principally of the artisans from the extensive engine factories of the town, was held in the Lecture-room, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on Friday evening, to petition Parliament to adopt active

measures for the release of the two English engineers who had been seized on board the Cagliari, Neapolitan steamer, and were now confined by the police of Naples in the prison of Salerno. The Mayor, Mr. Nichol, was in the chair, and in the course of the evening the subjoined letter from the Foreign Office was read:—"Foreign Office, Nov. 16.—Sir, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., enclosing a memorial numerously signed by workmen in the employ of Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co., relative to the case of the engineer Henry Watt; and I am directed to state to you, in reply to the memorialists, that Watt is amenable to the law of Naples, as it appears that he was taken prisoner, being at the time in company with other persons who were attempting to excite a revolution, and that the acting consul at Naples, under instructions from this office, has retained the best lawyers to be had in Naples for his defence. Lord Clarendon has instructed the acting consul to demand that he shall be allowed to see Watt and the other engineer named Park who is confined with him, and that no unnecessary delay shall take place in proceeding with their trial. And his Lordship has also taken measures for enabling Mr. Park, senior, to see his son if he is willing to proceed to Salerno for that purpose. And I am to request that you will assure the memorialists that no effort on the part of her Majesty's Government shall be omitted which can properly be taken on behalf of Watt and his unfortunate fellow prisoner Park." Resolutions condemnatory of the conduct of the Neapolitan Government were agreed to; and it was also resolved to petition Parliament.

THE INDIAN QUESTION.

Two meetings with reference to the all-engrossing question of the day, were held on Thursday. One was at Crosby Hall, where the Rev. F. F. Statham delivered a lecture on our Indian Empire, illustrated with models and pictorial representations lent for the occasion by the East India Company, followed by a speech from the Earl of Shaftesbury, who officiated as chairman. The tenor of this speech did not differ from those which have been recently delivered all over the kingdom. The Earl dwelt eloquently on the atrocities committed by the mutineers, and on the heroism exhibited by our officers and men, and concluded with an exhortation to his auditory to help the Christianizing of India.

The other meeting was held at Willis's Rooms; the object was to promote the extension and enlargement of the missions of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in India. The Archbishop of Canterbury took the chair, and the speakers included the Bishop of London, Mr. Puller, M.P., the Bishop of Oxford, and William Page Wood, the Bishop of St. Asaph's, Sir the Bishop of Moray and Ross. Resolutions were agreed to, expressing the determination of the meeting to support the cause of Christianity in India by renewed missions.

REFORM MEETINGS.

The country is beginning to agitate in connexion with the Reform question. We shall take particular notice of these meetings next week.

IRELAND.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES COURT.—The extensive estates of the late Marquis of Anglesey, situated in the county of Louth, have been sold at the court in Henrietta-street, Dublin. The property was divided into twenty-nine lots, each of which realized the highest price of the land market. The gross sum produced amounted to 87,500*l.*

THE LATE FAILURE AT QUEENSTOWN.—The creditors of Messrs. James Scott and Co., of Queenstown, met last week at the office of their solicitor, and a financial statement having been laid before the meeting, it was agreed that the property should be placed in the hands of trustees, and that the creditors should take acceptance for a composition of 12*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, payable in three instalments at intervals of six, twelve, and eighteen months. A committee of inspection was also appointed, though the meeting showed such entire confidence in the Messrs. Scott that it was proposed that they should work the concern themselves—a proposition which the principals themselves at once refused to accede to.

THE PATRIOTIC FUND DISPUTE.—Dr. Cullen has published a manifesto of immense length, in answer to Lord St. Leonards's denial of unfairness to the Roman Catholics in the administration of the Patriotic Fund. The rev. gentleman again asserts that his co-religionists were not fairly dealt with, and, with reference to the Indian Relief Fund, observes:—"I beg to state that many Catholics have assured me of their willingness to contribute to the Indian Fund if measures be adopted to protect the poor children of Catholic soldiers against the dangers of proselytism. Perhaps the appointment of some Catholic noblemen and gentlemen to take part in the central committees in London and Calcutta, with the view of superintending the interests of those children, would remove all apprehension, and satisfy public anxiety."

THE PANIC.—The run for gold has ceased and confidence is so much restored that many persons have returned to the banks the cash they had drawn out of them in the first fever of apprehension.

AMERICA.

The disturbances among the unemployed at New York have continued, and indeed assumed a somewhat alarming aspect. The Government has found it necessary to check any outbreak by posting military at the Custom House, Sub-Treasury, and other important points. A Swiss woman addressed one of the meetings, and said she had come to offer her services, 'like Miss Nightingale going to the Crimea.' A split, however, occurred among the rioters, owing to the violent opinions of some. Appearances being rather threatening, the Mayor mustered what force he could, and a Brooklyn fire-engine took up a prominent position, prepared the hose, and thus caused the dispersion of the mob, who, in demanding bread, did not desire to be furnished with cold water. A deputation which waited on the Mayor was promised employment on some public works. The 'hunger meetings' had almost ceased at the last advices.

The Board of Common Councilmen, in a report on the state of distress among the labouring classes, have ascribed much of it to the large immigration of persons who remained in the city, instead of moving to the interior. The Board of Aldermen, in their report, condemn a proposition of the Mayor's to issue stock, and purchase large quantities of food with the proceeds, to be sold at cost price to labourers on public works. The document then goes on to review the great crisis of 1837, and to show that the country is better off now than it was then, and therefore that it should not despair. The Common Councilmen are of opinion that "it is an error to suppose that luxurious living, extravagant dressing, splendid turn-outs, and fine houses, are the causes of distress to a nation. No more erroneous impression could exist. Every extravagance that the man of 100,000 dollars or 1,000,000 dollars indulges in adds to the means, the support, the wealth of ten or one hundred who had little or nothing else but their labour, their intellect, or their taste. If a man of 1,000,000 dollars spends principal and interest in ten years, and finds himself beggared at the end of that time, he has actually made one hundred who have catered to his extravagance, employers or employed, so much richer by the division of his wealth. He may be ruined, but the nation is better off and richer, for one hundred minds and hands, with 10,000 dollars apiece, are far more productive than one with the whole. The great truth apparent in all this crisis is that it is simply what is called a 'panic.' It is universal distrust: every man doubts his neighbour's means, and has his doubts returned. The moment confidence returns, men will look into each other's faces and feel ashamed that they allowed this panic to disturb the public mind to the extent it has." In conclusion, the board points out some public works on which the unemployed might be engaged. The city comptroller has advertised for 100,000 dollars, as an instalment of 250,000 dollars which was to be appropriated towards the employment of the destitute.

The financial state of the country is slightly improving, but is still much depressed. An attachment has been asked for in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, against the property of certain well-known brokers, who, it was alleged, had been concerned with Mr. Allibone, the late President of the Bank of Pennsylvania, in using the funds of that institution. Mr. Allibone is accused in the affidavit of having absconded to a foreign country with more than two hundred thousand dollars of the funds.

Captain Sands, of the United States frigate *Susquehanna*, has been cruising along the Rif coast of Barbary, with a view to awing the people, who are strongly suspected of piracy. Some men being observed on the bluffs near Cape Aqua, the ship was cleared for action, and Captain Sands landed and brought four Arabs on board. He then made a drawing of the American flag, which he showed to the Arabs, telling them that all attacks upon vessels carrying that flag would be severely punished. The visitors were also shown the ship's batteries and engines, and appeared to be deeply impressed with what they had seen and heard.

A young woman has given herself up at New York to the police, and voluntarily stated "that she was one of the girls calling themselves 'the Chain Gang'; that the objects of the gang are to throw vitriol on obnoxious persons, occasionally stab a person by way of amusement, and commit other outrages; that a short time since she killed a child of hers by stuffing cotton in its nostrils; and that 'the Chain Gang' hold nightly meetings, and are consulted by various persons who desire the members to act for them."

Heavy freshets have occurred in the Genesee, Susquehanna, and other rivers, occasioning great damage to bridges, dams, &c., and in some places washing away railway tracks.

Some time since, the Ministers of Guatemala and Costa Rica at Washington addressed the Secretary of State, requesting him to prevent a renewed invasion of Nicaragua. With reference to this, Walker, the filibuster, published a statement, protesting, as the 'rightful and lawful executive of Nicaragua,' against any interference with him, and denying any intention to offend against the neutrality laws. Walker, however, has been arrested at New Orleans, but admitted to bail. He then immediately put to sea, with one hundred men,

for Nicaragua. Endeavours are being made to intercept the expedition.

The *New York Times* complains that certain men were shipped on board the *Saratoga*, United States sloop of war, ostensibly for eight months, but that they have been detained for more than three years, and cannot get their discharge. "This," says the journalist, "looks very much like swindling, tyranny, and cruelty."

A train of twenty-six waggons has been captured by the Mormons, twenty-five miles from the Pacific Spring. No one was killed, as resistance was not offered. As soon as the President heard of this, the cabinet was summoned, but it was considered hopeless to send reinforcements or supplies so late in the season.

The new constitution in Mexico has been suspended, and President Comonfort declared Dictator. Campeachy has surrendered to the Government forces. From Yucatan it is stated that the whole people of that district are in arms.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

The Emperor and Empress returned to Paris last Sunday, from Compiègne.

Lord Brougham has arrived in Paris.

A funeral service was celebrated last Saturday in the chapel of St. Ferdinand, at the Ternes, for the repose of the soul of the late Duchesse de Nemours. No invitations were sent out, but more than a thousand persons attended, including several members of the Senate and the Legislative Body, of the bar and of the press. Many ladies of high rank who found the chapel full on their arrival knelt in the open air, though the day was cold.

Several of the members of the French Corps Législatif have arrived in Paris for the short session before Christmas. It is said that the Opposition deputies, Darimon, Ollivier, and Curé, of Bordeaux, will take the oath, whilst Carnot, Goudchaux, and Henon of Lyons will refuse to do so.

M. Dupin, sen., formerly President of the National Assembly, has been appointed Procureur Impérial in the Court of Cassation.

Dr. Scrive, who acted as Physician-General to the French army during the last war with Russia, has just published a book which contains an account of the losses and sufferings endured by the French troops landed in the East, but particularly by those engaged in the siege of Sebastopol. From this work it appears that the army and navy of our ally lost an immense number of men from the effects of weather and from disease (increased by a deficiency of cleanliness) during the summer of 1854, the ensuing winter, and the early part of the year 1856.

In consequence of information given by Cardinal Antonelli to the French Minister at Rome, some Italians who some time since arrived in Paris have been arrested, it is supposed on a charge of conspiracy against the Emperor.

M. Daubigny, the Government candidate, has obtained 18,000 votes for the department of the Sarthe. Jules Favre, the Republican candidate, polled only 4000 votes.

AUSTRIA.

"A day or two since," says the *Times* Vienna correspondent, "the long-expected order for the reduction of the army left the Emperor's Cabinet. Some time may, perhaps, elapse before the exact contents of the Imperial ordinance become known, but the reduction in the cavalry will not exceed 6000 men. It is not probable that the artillery will be much reduced. The fourth battalions of the sixty-two regiments of the line will be entirely done away with, and many of the men forming the third battalions will also receive an indefinite leave of absence. No estimate of the number of men to be sent to their homes can yet be given, but it is stated in financial circles that the expenditure for the army during the military year 1858 (beginning November 1st, 1857) is not likely to exceed 100,000,000fl."

GERMANY.

The explosion at Mayence, which we briefly notified in our Postscript last week, appears to have been one of the greatest catastrophes which ever befel a town. "Travellers," says the *Cologne Gazette*, "who have just arrived from the scene of the mischance, state that the magazine contained 75,000 kilogrammes of gunpowder. Not only have the windows in every part of the town been broken, but even in the surrounding villages. Enormous blocks of stone from the ramparts have been carried to an incredible distance. It is dangerous to walk in the streets on account of falling houses. The explosion was distinctly heard at Bingen." A despatch from Mayence, dated November 14th, four p.m., about an hour after the event, says:—"The old prison tower at the Gauthor, which had been converted into a powder magazine, has been exploded. A great number of persons in the vicinity of ruins; the Evangelical Church is also much damaged. In the citadel, the soldiers were at drill when the explosion took place. A great number of them were wounded. The so-called School of English Young Ladies is destroyed, but the inhabitants are saved. One-half of the Gau-street and the Old Gastrecht, with one hundred and fifty shops, are in ruins. An enormous block of stone fell on the roof of the Café de Paris, and

crushed through all the stories. Shells are continually bursting near the powder magazine, and no one is allowed to approach too near." A further account is given by the writer of a letter from the battered city, who says:—"I live in the Gau-street, in a solidly-built mansion. I was writing in my room, when I felt a terrible shock, accompanied by a terrific noise; at the same time, all the windows were smashed to atoms, the doors were thrown off their hinges, my books and papers were scattered about the room, and bricks fell out of the walls. A dense smoke and dust poured in through the windows, and prevented my seeing what had taken place. When it cleared off, I saw the roof of St. Stephen's Church ridged like a sieve; most of the houses were in the same condition. All the inmates of my house rushed into my room in a state of alarm. Most of them were hurt and bleeding; I only then perceived that I had been hurt in the hand and was bleeding. We soon heard that the powder magazine had exploded. I went to the door and found that the other side of the street was in ruins; the street was filled with groans and lamentations. The military were taking away the dead on stretchers. The gas-pipes having been damaged, the whole city was soon in darkness. At the Carmelite Church, a wall from seven to eight feet in thickness was rent asunder. Some heavy guns were thrown into the air like sticks. Some of the Federal troops were exercising at the time; two Austrians and nine Prussians were killed on the spot; ninety-five Austrians and thirty-four Prussians were wounded; eighteen dead bodies of civilians have been taken from the ruins, and three hundred are dangerously wounded. The military authorities have taken every measure to afford relief to the sufferers." The number of dead and wounded is variously stated by different writers; but in any case it seems to have been large.

M. Gall, editor of the *Telegraph*, published at Trèves, was recently arrested at Stuttgart, at the demand of Bavaria, for language used against the Bavarian administration. Being taken to his lodgings at Stuttgart to get his effects, he managed to lock the door on the police-officer, and then got away in a carriage, which was obtained for him by a friend. By the Federal law, he cannot be arrested at Trèves.

A Count Ortowski, a Hungarian Major, has been arrested at Kehl. Several false passports and revolutionary writings were found in his portmanteau.

Distressing reports are still received from Hamburg with reference to the financial condition of the commercial world. Failures are of constant occurrence, and business is nearly at a standstill.

TURKEY.

Omar Pacha has started for his command at Bagdad. A Turkish man-of-war was put at his disposal, in order to convey him and his family to the Syrian coast.

ITALY.

The National Bank of Turin has raised its discount to ten per cent.

Naples is being amused with another 'miracle.' The holy thorn of the crown worn by Christ has been covered from the base to the summit with foaming blood! Hereupon many religious ceremonials and penitential scourgings took place; and Naples, greatly sanctified, feels peculiarly blessed and favoured. In the meanwhile, the objects of the King's fear and hatred languish and rot, untried, in the prisons, and our own countrymen wait in vain for justice from the Government which oppresses them, or succour from their own.

The Custode Maggiore of the Vicaria has been dismissed from his office by a telegraphic order from Gaeta. It is thought he will be made the scapegoat in any justification which may be attempted in the matter of the English consul having been refused permission to see his countrymen now confined in prison.

The democratic journals of Piedmont promise their support to the Cabinet, if it pursues a boldly liberal course. Garibaldi is not elected. Brofferio has received an ovation at Turin, where he has defeated Count Revel, who was elected, however, by three other constituencies. Count Mamiani has been elected for Pont, in Savoy. The Minister of War, General La Marmora, was defeated at one place, but has been elected at Biella. Rattazzi, the Minister of the Interior, has been elected for Alessandria; and Lanza, the Minister of Instruction, for Frassineto.

The Genoese journals announce the death of the eminent naturalist, the Marquis Maximilian Spinola. Count Cavour has pronounced against the forced currency of bank-notes.

PRUSSIA.

M. Mantonell's note, dated October 10th, in reply to the second Turkish note relating to the Danubian Principalities, has been published. The minister observes:—"The Turkish circular appears to me to be written under the influence of a feeling of great distrust of the Divans. I regret this circumstance, for I most sincerely desire to see the moral ties which bind the populations of the Danubian Provinces to the Sultan's Government strengthened as much as possible, but I cannot the less regard the Divans as being the organs of the country legally convoked and constituted, and as having consequently the right to fulfil the task imposed upon them by the Treaty of Paris. Moreover, the information which reached us leaves me no ground to fear that these assem-

blies are so ignorant of their interests and duties as not to respect the suzerain rights of the Porte. In any case, it appears to us that the Porte could not but contribute to assure a happy result to the deliberations of the Divans if she would abandon her purely negative attitude, and take an initiative which, as coming from a suzerain power, no one could contest, by pronouncing a more explicit opinion as to the reforms which are desirable and admissible in her own point of view. It is on this account that we have observed with satisfaction that passage in Aali Pacha's despatch wherein he speaks of the possible assimilation of administrative laws; and we trust that the Ottoman minister will enter into fuller and more distinct explanations upon this head."

RUSSIA.

"The financial crisis which now weighs upon Europe," says the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Nord*, "has had a disastrous influence on Russia. Gold has become extremely scarce. For notes of one hundred roubles the discount office gives only five roubles in specie, and yet it is beset every day with crowds of persons who wish to get gold for their paper. On the 14th of November, the half-imperial, the value of which in ordinary times is five roubles fifteen copecks, was quoted at the Bourse at five roubles fifty-six copecks. The bankers are charging fifteen per cent. for discounts."

Prince Gagarin, the Governor-General of Koutais and Mingrelia, has been assassinated by Dodeck Kiliane, one of the petty sovereigns of Mingrelia. The cause which led to the act is not known.

Accounts from St. Petersburg represent that a strong feeling is springing up among the Russian landholders against the emancipation of the serfs, and that the Czar, who is understood to be firmly bent on it, will find difficulties he is at present little prepared for.

SPAIN.

The financial crisis which has passed over a large part of the globe is beginning to be felt in Spain. The Three per Cents. have fallen owing to the influx from other countries of a mass of paper of the Consolidated Debt, the holders of which desire to turn it into cash, with a view to the large profits presented by the exportation of the precious metals.

"Lord Howden," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "is about to return to Madrid. His Lordship has been detained at Paris some time by the Mexican question, which still presents some difficulty, and even danger, if left unsettled. It is understood that Lord Howden is charged to show the Spanish Government the expediency of receiving M. Lafragua (the Mexican Envoy), and thus allowing the mediation of England and France to proceed without delay, as, beyond all doubt, there is a numerous party on the borders of the United States and Mexico only waiting for an opportunity to evenen the quarrel, in order to turn it to their own advantage. While the British Minister at the Court of Madrid has instructions to this effect, the French Minister in Mexico will receive others to endeavour to persuade that Government to withdraw its pretension of having M. Lafragua received at Madrid as an indispensable preliminary."

PORTUGAL.

The fever still continues, varying in intensity on different days, but generally becoming much less on cold, clear days. The Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon is among the recent deaths; but very few English subjects have been recently attacked.

BELGIUM.

The new Belgian cabinet has published in the *Moniteur* a circular from the Minister of the Interior, addressed to the governors of provinces, which is, in fact, a programme of the Ministerial policy. That policy is defined as "one of Conservatism and of order, and one which pursues progress with perseverance and constancy."

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

The Divan of Wallachia unanimously adopted on the 19th inst. the memorandum explanatory of the four resolutions of the Rouman people as agreed to on the 21st ult.

OBITUARY.

PROFESSOR FLEMING, Professor of Natural Science in the Free Church College at Edinburgh, and author of several works of repute on zoology, died, on Wednesday week, of a spasmodic complaint.

VISCOUNT STRANGFORD, formerly the Hon. George Sydney Smythe, M.P., one of the defunct Young England party, and of some reputation as an author and journalist, died on Monday in his fortieth year.

THE REV. DR. DUNCAN MACFARLAN, Principal of the University of Glasgow, and minister of the High Church, died on Wednesday morning in the eighty-ninth year of his age. For the last ten years, he was the oldest clergyman in the Church of Scotland, and was therefore regarded as the father of that Church.

ADMIRAL BATEMAN died on Monday morning at his residence at Corston, near Bath. He was in his eighty-second year, and died rather suddenly in his bed from apoplexy.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.

THE November session commenced on Monday. The chief case that day was a charge of misdemeanour, consisting in the publication of certain indecent and libellous placards, brought against James Cowan, an elderly man. He pleaded guilty, on an understanding that he should merely be required to enter into his recognizances to come up and receive the judgment of the court on a future occasion, if called upon to do so, but that no such proceeding should be taken if the offence were not repeated. It appears that he is a medical man, carrying on business in Westminster, and 'in a moment of excitement,' as his counsel said, he put forth certain indecent placards outside his shop. Mr. Bodkin, who appeared for the prosecution, said that these placards were 'calculated to create dissension among the Queen's troops, and to prevent persons enlisting; and the exhibition also caused crowds of persons to assemble, thus occasioning a public nuisance.' Some doubt was entertained by Mr. Bodkin as to whether Cowan was acting in good faith; indeed, it was said that offensive placards were still being exhibited outside his shop, one of which 'contained a most indecent attack upon an illustrious personage.' Mr. Serjeant Parry (who appeared for Cowan) said that the placards now exhibited were simply medical. Mr. Bodkin did not make any objection to the arrangement that had been come to, and Cowan, having entered into his recognizances, was discharged.

A young man of respectable appearance, named Mark Nicholas Powles, was tried on a singular charge. Two journeymen tailors were last July committed for trial on a charge of forging two orders for the payment of money; and Powles and another became bail for their appearance at the Central Criminal Court. One of them absconded; and it was then found that Powles had given a false Christian name, and that he had since been committed to Holloway Prison for some offence. He was found guilty, and sentenced to hard labour for fifteen months.

John Kirby Richards, clerk, pleaded guilty on Tuesday to an indictment charging him with obtaining a cheque-book from the London and Westminster Bank by a forged order, and to three others which charged him with forging cheques for different amounts. He said that distress had induced him to commit the offence. The brokers were in the house, and his family had nothing to eat. It appeared, however, that he had committed previous offences, and he was sentenced to six years' penal servitude.

John Colbraith, a prisoner at Coldbath Fields House of Correction, has been found guilty of an assault on Charles Alldis, one of the warders, and sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

David Rees Davis, a schoolmaster at a ragged school, has been found guilty of obtaining 5*l.* 5*s.* by false pretences. His counsel urged that he had been in very great distress; but he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

James Sankey, police-constable; Matilda Ross, spinster; William Burnett, labourer; and Ellen Mills, widow, were indicted, Burnett and Sankey with stealing property valued at 500*l.*, the property of Rosabella Robertson Aikman, Ross with aiding and abetting in the commission of the felony, and Mills with having feloniously received part of the property. Sankey was put into the house of Mrs. Aikman, in Portland-street, while the family were away, to take care of the property; and the way he took care of it was to appropriate it to himself, and abscond. He was subsequently taken into custody, in company with the woman Ross, at Middleton, in the county of Cork, Ireland. Ross was acquitted, but the others were found guilty. Sankey was sentenced to six, and Burnett and Mills to four years' penal servitude.

John Marks, Samuel Marks, and Abraham Simmonds, were tried on Wednesday (on a charge already familiar to our readers) of felony, in having, after John Marks had been adjudged a bankrupt, concealed and embezzled a portion of his effects, with intent to defraud the creditors. All were found guilty, and sentenced to penal servitude for eight years—a sentence with which they were greatly astounded. The case occupied the whole day.

Henry Zachariah Jervis, a well-educated man, was indicted for obtaining by false pretences from a Mrs. Parker 2*l.* 10*s.* Mrs. Parker is insane, and subject to strange delusions, one of which is that she is kept out of an enormous fortune. Jervis, who said he was a lawyer, the son of the late Sir John Jervis, the brother-in-law of the Turkish ambassador, and a man of large means, undertook to recover this fortune, and, on the faith of doing so, obtained money from Mrs. Parker. That lady was put into the witness-box, but she was evidently demoralized. Jervis was found guilty, and sentenced to eighteen months' hard labour. He exclaimed, "I am innocent; but God's will be done!"

ROBBERY AND ATTEMPTED MURDER OF A POLICEMAN.—A singular double charge was brought at the Mansion House on Tuesday against a Bavarian named Christian Sattler, who formerly served in the French

army in Algeria, and afterwards as a private in the Anglo-German Legion, but who appears to be a person of good education. He was recently at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, and, while there, seems to have possessed himself of a carpet-bag, containing money and shares to the amount of 234*l.*, belonging to a Mr. Ballantine. This matter was put into the hands of the London police; and Sergeant Thain, the detective officer, was despatched to Hamburg, where Sattler was supposed to have gone, and where he was discovered and captured. On the way back to England, while on board the ship Caledonia, Sattler said his handcuffs pained him, and asked to have them taken off. This was done, and the man went to his berth, where he seems to have torn down a piece of metal from which a lamp was suspended, and thus broke open a corner of his box, from which he took a pistol. Thain entering shortly afterwards, he shot him in the breast; alleging subsequently that he had done so because the officer had promised not to fetter him, and he would shoot any man like a dog who broke his word. He said he had bought the pistol at Hamburg in order to shoot a man who owed him 25*l.*, adding, with reference to the present offence, "I suggested to myself that I would take my own life; but the officer came upon me rather suddenly, and I told him the contents of the pistol would be as well in his breast as in mine." He asked the engineer if he thought Thain would die; and, being answered in the negative, observed, "Then he ought, for there were shots sufficient in the pistol." He also observed, "I am a Deist, a robber, and a murderer. I have shot the man, and I suppose I shall be tried for it." To the captain of the vessel he said that the shot was not meant for Thain at all; it was intended for himself; but the officer came in unexpectedly, and so received the charge. Sattler (who asserts that the witnesses have sworn false) has been remanded. It is hoped that the wound received by Thain is not mortal; but it is serious.

THE ASHOVER MURDER.—An inquest has been held at Ashover on the body of James Simpson, the farmer, who was murdered on the 13th inst. on the high road, under circumstances already detailed in this paper. The jury returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against some person or persons unknown.

EMBEZZLEMENT.—Josiah Foot, a young man of eighteen, who has been employed as a clerk in the long room of the Southampton Custom House, has been apprehended on a charge of misappropriating funds to a considerable amount.

THE CHARGE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THE POLICE.—The seaman Williams, who was recently injured by two policemen in Ratcliffe Highway, has died, and the two constables were brought up before the Thames magistrate on Wednesday. The case was remanded to next Monday.

MURDEROUS ATTACK ON A POLICEMAN.—As Police-constable Thomas Carson was proceeding on the turnpike road near the village of Todwick, about seven miles from Rotherham, at one o'clock on Monday morning, he was shot at from behind a hedge, and was wounded in the right fore-arm. He drew his pistol and fired into the place whence the sound had proceeded, and then commenced a search, but without finding any one. Becoming faint from loss of blood, he returned home, and was found on medical examination to have sustained very severe injury.

ALLEGED MURDER ON THE HIGH SEAS.—Captain J. A. Christie, commander of the barque Elizabeth, and James Millard, first officer of the same vessel, are under remand at Liverpool on a charge of causing the death of Francisco Rodriguez, a Spanish seaman, on the voyage from New Calabar to England. Rodriguez one day broke the binnacle lamp, and the captain then knocked him down, kicked him for five or six minutes all over the body, and stamped with his heel on the lower part of the man's back, so that a portion of bone protruded. On subsequent days, the captain and the first officer beat and kicked Rodriguez with fearful violence, nearly throttled him, and forced him to do his work, though scarcely able to move. At length he died, and the body was thrown into the sea. Christie and Millard have been arrested on the evidence of some of the crew.

DISTURBING DEAD BODIES.—Mr. Thomas Piper, junior, builder, of 173, Bishopsgate-street, and Mr. John Young, architect, of 35, King-street, Cheapside, were summoned at the Mansion House on Monday, on a charge of disinterring the dead bodies of several persons in Bloomfield-street, Moorfields, and leaving them exposed to the open air in a state of decomposition, so that the neighbourhood was annoyed and imperilled by horrible effluvia. A school is about to be erected adjoining the Roman Catholic chapel, Moorfields, and a part of it will be erected over a portion of the burial-ground. Several bodies have therefore been disinterred, but sufficient care has not been taken to avoid offensive smells, and it is even asserted that a vast quantity of human bones have been taken away, and sold to dealers in marine stores. The City Solicitor said he acquitted the defendants of any cognizance of these transactions; but they had been done by those in their employ. The counsel for the defendants here denied their knowledge of the facts alleged; asked for an adjournment; and promised to assist in the inquiry. The adjournment was agreed to. The subject has been brought before

the attention of the City Commissioners of Sewers by Dr. Letheby, and steps were ordered to be taken for the abatement of the nuisance.

DESTITUTION IN THE STREETS.—The approach of winter is bringing the usual number of cases of lamentable destitution haunting the streets, applying in vain to the workhouses for relief, and driven into committing petty offences in order to get shelter and food at the police station. An Irishman, named Timothy Bagley, has been twice examined at the Westminster police-office on a charge of breaking windows at Chelsea workhouse. He is a cripple, and presents a miserable aspect of poverty. One evening, he went to the workhouse doors, and demanded a night's lodging; but he was informed that 'tramps' were not admitted there. The door was then shut, and the poor wretch, being reduced to desperation, broke the windows on purpose that he might be given into custody. On the second examination of the man, Mr. Eagles, the relieving officer of the parish, attended, and, in a very flippant and almost impudent manner, justified his conduct. Mr. Arnold, the magistrate, said that, if the man were not admitted, he ought at any rate to have been relieved. Mr. Eagles thought not. The man had gone about from parish to parish, living upon the public, and had left Shoreditch workhouse on the very day when he applied at Chelsea. The magistrate, however, still insisted that, as the man was destitute, he ought to have been relieved somewhere. "If the parish of St. Luke, Chelsea, was right in refusing tramps relief, every other parish would be justified in doing the same, and what would become of the class of paupers termed tramps who, according to the showing, would not be entitled to relief anywhere?" Mr. Eagles said that the police had orders not to bring ordinary tramps to either his house or the workhouse. Mr. Arnold apprehended that the parish authorities had no power to give any orders to the police. Mr. Eagles complained that his house was nightly beset with tramps. Mr. Arnold said he did not wonder at it if they were refused relief at the workhouse. Finally, he discharged the man, who had already undergone sufficient imprisonment for his slight offence.—Four children—two boys and two girls—of ages ranging from three to ten, were charged at the Mansion House with begging in Old Broad-street. Their father is at present in prison for stealing a cash-box, and the mother does not attempt to work, but sends the children out to beg. When taken into custody, they were without shoes or stockings, and seemed perishing from hunger and cold. The Lord Mayor said:—"Two of these children I saw myself yesterday, and told a policeman to go after them, but they escaped. Their legs were perfectly red from the cold, and looked more like pieces of raw beef than portions of the human frame. The smallest of these children has a cough, which must necessarily destroy it in a month or two. I am determined that there shall be no little boys or girls begging about the public streets. The officer must take these four children to the Union, and serve the mother with a summons."

SUICIDE AND ATTEMPTED MURDER.—On the afternoon of last Saturday, a young unmarried woman named Maria Lewis, living in Union-street, Commercial-road-east, went into her bedroom, accompanied by a little girl of three years old, apparently with the intention of retiring to rest. A few hours afterwards she was found dead, and the child was suffering greatly from pain and sickness; but, an antidote being administered to her, she was in some degree recovered. Two teacups, one of which was still partly filled with oxalic acid, while the other had evidently contained the same liquid, were found on the table in the room. A letter, without signature or date, was likewise found, in which it was stated that the writer had taken the child's life as well as her own, in order that she might not be a burden to anyone. According to the account which the child gave on the following morning, the woman drank a cup of the poison, and gave some to herself, but as she was ill at the time she did not swallow it. The woman had been in a very depressed state of mind for some time past.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

A CASE was heard at the Aylesbury County Court on Friday week, involving the point whether the owners of bulls are permitted to turn them out without taking proper care to prevent their breaking through the fences and herding with other graziers' stock. The plaintiff was a Mr. Senior, of Broughton Hall, near Aylesbury, a magistrate for the county, and a well-known grazier; the defendant was Mr. Self, the manager of the London and County Bank at Aylesbury; and the action was brought to recover 19*l.* 19*s.* damages. Mr. Senior asserted that he possessed a breed of pure Devons, and that a bull from Mr. Self's neighbouring grounds broke his way through the fence, and led to the degeneracy of the breed. Witnesses were called on the part of Mr. Self to show that there was nothing extraordinary in the breed of Mr. Senior's stock; and the jury, in giving a verdict for the plaintiff, only awarded one shilling damages. This result was received by the public in court with noisy applause.

Sir Frederick Thesiger (on behalf of the Solicitor-

General) attended in the Court of Queen's Bench last Saturday, to show cause why the defendants in the British Bank case should not be supplied with particulars with reference to the various counts in the indictments for conspiracy and fraud, in order that they might be the better able to conduct their defence. The court was crowded, and Mr. Dallas, the American Minister, was accommodated with a seat on the bench. Sir Frederick said he apprehended that the point turned upon whether the information already given conveyed to the defendants upon the face of it sufficient specification of the particulars of conspiracy it was intended to establish. That was all the defendants were entitled in law or justice to demand, for they had no right to know by what means it was intended to establish the charge of conspiracy, nor the nature of the evidence proposed to be offered, with which, it appeared to him, the parties required to be furnished. In this case, the question depended entirely on their Lordships' view of the counts relative to the defendants' having described the bank to be in a flourishing and prosperous condition. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine, the second counsel, at some length contended that the counts gave the defendants sufficient information in reference to the false representation of the bank's position. After some further discussion between the second counsel and their Lordships, Sir Frederick Thesiger consented to strike out all the general counts, and to give the defendants notice and particulars of the overt acts relied on, and not to enter on any other on the trial. Sir Fitzroy Kelly then, on the part of Mr. Stapleton, applied to the court for particulars to be furnished to the defendant in reference to the alleged fraudulent balance sheet, in which was an item of 810,204*l.* 1*d.*, as convertible security, bills discounted, &c.; without them, it would be impossible for the defendant to be in a position to answer the charge. A similar application was made by Mr. Digby Seymour on the part of Mr. Cameron, the secretary. The Court was unanimously of opinion that no further information should be supplied beyond what the Attorney-General considered himself justified in furnishing, and observed that the defendants had supplied the accounts referred to which were said to be fraudulent.

The appeal from the decree of Vice-Chancellor Wood, with respect to the case of the preference shareholders of the Great Northern Railway Company and the deficiency created by the frauds of Redpath, was, last Saturday (after argument on previous days), brought forward in the Equity Courts for the judgment of the Lord Chancellor and the Lords Justices. The point to be decided was, whether or not the plaintiffs, who are preference shareholders, are entitled, together with the other preference shareholders, to be paid full dividends from June 30th, 1856, before any dividends shall be paid to the ordinary shareholders; that is to say, whether or not the fact of their being preference shareholders gives them immunity from the losses occasioned to the company generally by the delinquencies of Redpath. Vice-Chancellor Wood had decided in favour of the plaintiffs; but the company appealed against this decision. The Lord Chancellor and the Lords Justices, however, now confirmed the previous decree, and the appeal was dismissed, with costs. The preference shareholders must therefore be paid in full.

A dividend meeting was held last Saturday under the bankruptcy of William James Robson, described as an antimony smelter of Bowling-green-mews, Kennington, but better known in connexion with the extensive frauds on the Crystal Palace Company. An arrangement has been effected with the company, which resulted in their large claim in respect of the bankrupt's frauds being withdrawn, and a dividend of 3*s.* 9*d.* in the pound being paid to the trade creditors, amounting to 3707*l.* There is now 394*l.* in hand, and Mr. Johnson, the official assignee, states there will be a further dividend of 1*s.* 4*d.* or 1*s.* 6*d.* in the pound, which in all probability will be a final one. Only one additional proof was admitted on Saturday, and the dividend was declared *pro forma*. The dividend upon several claims having been ordered to be reserved, the proceedings ended.

In the matter of the London and Eastern Banking Corporation, a petition was filed on Wednesday, before Vice-Chancellor Sir William Page Wood, by Major Alfred Henry Corfield, a shareholder in the company, praying its dissolution and winding up, under the provision of the Joint-Stock Companies Acts, 1848-9. This is the bank with which the notorious Colonel Waugh was connected. It was arranged that an order should be taken for dissolution and winding up, and for the appointment of Mr. Stuart, the present manager, the costs of all parties to be paid out of the assets of the company.

The examination of the Directors of the Royal British Bank in the Court of Bankruptcy, was on Thursday further adjourned to the 5th of March. The criminal trial is now arranged to commence in the first week of February.

Woolf Levy, the insolvent debtor, whose subtle rogues we related last week, has appeared again before Mr. Commissioner Phillips, who dismissed the schedule, as he believed it to be wilfully false. The insolvent was then remitted to prison.

Lord Campbell, in the Court of Queen's Bench on Wednesday, gave judgment in the case of the Queen *v.* the Provost and College of Eton and the Rev. John

Alexander Clarke—an action brought by the Attorney-General to try the right of the Crown to present to benefices left vacant by the appointment of the incumbents to colonial bishoprics. The court decided that the Crown does not possess that right, and judgment was accordingly given for the defendants.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

SHIPPING DISASTERS.—Some serious disasters, attended with the loss of several lives, occurred last week to several vessels off the eastern coast.

THE REINFORCEMENTS FOR INDIA.—The steam transports Australia and United Kingdom had reached Galle with troops on the 23rd of October. Orders were issued from the War-office on Saturday last, directing the commanders of the depot battalions at Chatham and Colchester to hold in readiness detachments of the under-mentioned corps, the whole of whom are to embark at Gravesend on December the 4th for India, for the purpose of reinforcing the British regiments serving in the Bengal, Bombay, and Madras Presidencies—viz.:—204 non-commissioned officers and men selected from the 8th (the King's), 10th, 19th, 20th, 23rd (Royal Welsh Fusiliers), 24th, 29th, 32nd, 35th, 37th, 75th, 82nd, 84th, and 90th (Light Infantry) Regiments, together with 6 officers, the whole of whom will embark for Calcutta: 164 non-commissioned officers and men and 5 officers from the 18th (Royal Irish), 51st (Light Infantry), 64th, 83rd, and 86th (Royal County Down) Regiments, to join the head-quarters of their respective regiments serving in the Bombay Presidency; 181 non-commissioned officers and privates of the 7th (Royal Fusiliers), 27th (Emiskillen), 52nd (Light Infantry), 53rd, 61st, 70th, 87th (Royal Irish Fusiliers), 94th, and 98th Regiments, to embark for Kurrachee, together with reinforcements for the 43d Light Infantry, who are under orders to proceed to Madras. The total number of reinforcements ordered to leave Chatham garrison for India is 556 men of all ranks, together with 20 officers.

BARONETRIES FOR THE BRAVE.—The Queen has signified her pleasure to raise to the dignity of Baronet of the United Kingdom Generals Wilson and Havelock, by the titles of Sir Archdale Wilson of Delhi, and Sir Henry Havelock of Lucknow.

COURTS-MARTIAL.—A court-martial was held on board her Majesty's ship St. Vincent, yesterday week, to try Mr. Drew, late acting master of the Juno, on charges of negligently performing his duty, and of behaving disrespectfully to his captain. The inquiry ended in an acquittal. Mr. Drew has been under arrest for the last nine months.—Lieutenant Burnaby of the same vessel has also been tried for insubordination and disrespect. On Captain Fremantle being ordered by the President to give his evidence, he said he knew nothing, and was prepared to abandon the prosecution, and to indemnify the prisoner by 'corporeal pains.' The cabin was cleared, and Captain Fremantle was given time to consider: but, on the resumption of the sitting, he said he felt utterly unable to collect his ideas with reference to matters which had happened so long ago. "I feel impressed," he added, "that my views of the service have been mistaken and wrong." He also asserted that there was a confusion in his head, and he requested that the President would allow him to sit down. He was told he might retire, and give his evidence subsequently, which he did, and the accused then entered on his defence. On Wednesday, Lieutenant Burnaby was acquitted, and the Court stated, furthermore, that there were not sufficient grounds for preferring the charge.—Another case in connexion with the same ship has also ended in an acquittal.

AN ARTILLERYMAN FLOGGED.—John Day, a gunner of Captain Fisher's 1st Company, 7th Battalion Royal Artillery, received fifty lashes yesterday week at Chatham, for refusing to perform duty when at Tilbury Fort, and for throwing his busby at Captain Fisher, and telling that officer that he had not earned the Crimean medal with which he was decorated. He will also be imprisoned for two years. He did not seem to suffer much from the flogging, though many of the spectators were sickened by the sight.

SICKNESS IN THE ARMY.—Several men have been sent away from Forton Barracks, Gosport, and from the barracks at Portsmouth, owing to the great amount of sickness prevalent there.

WRECK OF TWO STEAMERS.—Intelligence has been received at Lloyd's of the wreck of the screw-steamer Durham, Captain Leuthwaite, while on her voyage from Cape Coast Castle and Teneriffe to London, with four hundred tons of palm oil. The crew were landed, and part of the cargo will be saved. Another steamer mentioned as wrecked is the Mag G. De la Gardie, which went on shore near Gothenburg during the voyage from that port for London, and soon afterwards became a total wreck. The crew were drowned.

ESCAPE OF A CONVICT FROM CHATHAM.—Numerous bodies of convicts at the Chatham barracks have been employed for some time past in breaking stones and otherwise repairing the Government roads at that place. Last Saturday morning, as one of them, named Thomas King, *alias* Kelly, was engaged in this occupation, he asked permission of Jackson, one of the barrack warders by whom the convicts are guarded, to retire for a short

time. Leave having been granted him, King walked forward a few paces, closely followed by Jackson, when suddenly the former darted through the railings near the military cemetery at the foot of the lines. His warder immediately fired his rifle at him, and pursued him some distance; but, although it was broad daylight, and several of the other warders and a police-constable joined in pursuit of the fugitive, he succeeded in escaping, and gaining the woods at the outskirts of the town.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Saturday being the anniversary of the Princess Royal's birthday, the band of the Royal Horse Guards played a corale on the south terrace at seven o'clock in the morning. The garrison of Windsor, consisting of the Royal Horse Guards and the 2nd battalion of the Fusilier Guards, paraded in the quadrangle of the Castle to witness the ceremony of the presentation of the Victoria Cross by the Queen to Lieutenant Teesdale, of the Royal Artillery, Lieutenant Symons, 5th battalion Military Train (late of the Royal Artillery), Ensign and Adjutant Craig, 3rd battalion Military Train (late of the Scots Fusilier Guards), and Sergeant Malone, 13th Dragoons. After receiving the crosses, the regiments marched past in slow and quick time, wheeled into line, presented arms, and gave three cheers in honour of the Princess Royal's birthday.—The Siamese Ambassadors paid a visit to the Queen at Windsor Castle on Wednesday.

THE BISHOP OF OXFORD ON CHURCH MISSIONS.—A lecture on the subject of Church Missions, with especial reference to India, was delivered a few evenings ago at Reading by the Bishop of Oxford. He traced the history of these missions, and showed that they did not originate till long after the abolition of Popery in this country—namely, about two centuries ago; and that they were then first of all set on foot by laymen. The Church Missionary Society demanded that all its agents shall be 'the colour of the Church of England'; but it does not belong to any peculiar section of that body. The Bishop pointed out the vastness of the field for missionary labour presented by the population of 180,000,000, or 200,000,000, in India, and said we had hitherto done nothing but trundle to the superstitions of the natives, out of a most un-English timidity. We had only thought of getting wealth for ourselves and children, and, if we were to be swept from that mighty peninsula to-morrow, we should scarcely leave behind us in any part of it a mark of our having been a Christian people. We had shown respect to idolatry, and had forced Sir Peregrine Maitland to resign because he would not let his troops salute a Hindoo idol. We had reared our army on the infamous principle of caste, and that army had now turned against us. These were the causes of our disasters, and they must now be amended.

MR. MECHE ON AGRICULTURE.—Mr. Mechi made some remarks on agriculture at a recent meeting of the Coggeshall Agricultural Society. Speaking of improvements in farming, he said:—"The farmer had now found it to his interest to cast away the flail, which costs 1*s.*, as an instrument for thrashing his corn, and to use a machine which costs 300*l.*, as, notwithstanding the enormous disparity in expense, the steam engine produces a cheaper result. The other day he went down to Wandsworth with Mr. Caird and Mr. Morton, to see a scheme of railway adapted for agricultural purposes, patented by Mr. Halkett, by which he promises to plough land at a cost of 1*s.* 7*d.* per acre, hoe it at 1*s.* 3*d.*, and get in the harvest at 1*s.* per acre, carrying the manure, &c., of the farm at 1*d.* per ton per mile, leaving a margin for the interest of the cost of the railway, which could be adapted to the farm at a cost of 24*l.* per acre. By this scheme he might plough his land by night as well as by day if he pleased, and, if it were necessary for the production of a good crop that the land should be brought in contact with the air, they would see how important it is to have a long fallow. There are yet many things which might be done by agriculturists to great advantage; but he could not forget how much some had done, and that there was one gentleman present who every year at least burnt a thousand tons of earth into ashes, which, laid upon heavy clay land, greatly increases its fertility."

NEW ZEALAND.—Every day brings further evidence of the extent and richness of the gold fields in New Zealand. A great many persons are flocking to the auriferous districts.

EXETER HALL.—The incumbent of St. Michael's, Burleigh-street, Strand, having put a stop to the Sunday evening services at Exeter Hall, as being derogatory to the dignity of the Church of England, the Dissenters have taken up the scheme, and the first of their series was held last Sunday evening, with the sanction and approval of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London. The Rev. W. Brock, minister of the Baptist Chapel in Bloomsbury, was the officiating preacher, and he was accompanied on the platform by Mr. A. Kinnaid, M.P., Mr. Morley, and several others. The hymns and ritual were those of the Church of England.

THE SIAMESE AMBASSADORS paid a visit to Lord Clarendon, at the Foreign Office, last Saturday.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The following circular has been issued by the Premier to the supporters of the Government:—"Downing-street, Nov. 20.—Sir, —I have the honour to inform you that, Parliament having been called to meet on Thursday, the 3rd of December, business of great importance will then immediately be brought forward, and I trust that it may be consistent with your convenience to attend in your place in the House of Commons on that day.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, PALMERSTON."

THE LATE GENERAL NEILL.—A resolution expressive of gratitude to, and admiration of, the late General Neill, was passed unanimously at a recent meeting of the Commissioners of Supply of the county of Ayr; and it was also agreed to send a copy of the resolution to the bereaved widow and mother of the General. The *Times* says:—"We have much pleasure in announcing that the Chairman of the East India Company will propose to the Directors a grant of 500*l.* a year to the widow of General Neill, in addition to the allowances due to the family of an officer of his rank who falls in action. Her Majesty has also, in the most gratifying terms, signified her permission that the widow may assume the title of 'Lady Neill,' which would have accrued to her if her husband had been fortunately spared to enjoy the dignity of a K.C.B."

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—A special meeting of this Board was held on Monday, when, after a motion for the rejection of the main drainage plan proposed by Captain Galton, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Blackwell, had been defeated, and various other motions had also been negatived, it was agreed that the rival plans should be referred to the engineer of the Board, together with two other civil engineers, and that they should give estimates of the expense. It was further agreed that Mr. Thomas Hawkesley and Mr. George Bidder should be the additional referees; and that Sir Benjamin Hall should be requested to transmit further information with respect to the plan favoured by him, certain sections, &c., already sent, being incomplete.

THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—The treasurer of the Calcutta Relief Fund, writing to England on the 8th of October, says:—"I am glad to see the Relief Fund so heartily gone into at home. Our collections have amounted to 234,000*l.*, including, however, 60,000*l.* from Madras and 20,000*l.* from Ceylon. We have spent 75,000*l.*, and are going on at the rate of 10,000*l.* per week."

THE DRAMA RUN MAD.—We may here note, in further illustration of some remarks made last week, that Mr. Robson has reappeared at the Olympic Theatre in a wild combination of farce, melodrama, burlesque, and vision, by Mr. Sterling Coyne, called *What will they say at Brompton?* Mr. Robson performs the part of a gentleman in paroxysms of fear, and interests the audience by his well-known fantastic combination of tragedy and comedy.—A rather wild piece of humour, from the pen of Mr. Maddison Morton, has been brought out at the Haymarket. It is called *Take care of Doubt*, and gives occasion to Mr. Buckstone to convulse his audience with laughter.—At Astley's, *The Storming and Capture of Delhi* is nightly using up a fortune in red fire and gunpowder, to the infinite delight of Lambeth.

THE PARLIAMENTARY VACANCIES.—Mr. W. Deedes has issued an address to the electors of East Kent. It is of the vaguest possible description. Mr. George Ward Hunt, of Wadenhoe, a Conservative, is about to stand for North Northamptonshire, vacant by the death of Mr. Stafford. The name of Mr. Fitzpatrick Vernon, connected by marriage with the family of Earl Fitzwilliam, is also mentioned.

COLCHESTER CAMP.—Major-General Slade has succeeded Major-General Lawrence in the command of the Colchester Camp, the latter officer having been appointed to a command in the south-eastern district.

ANOTHER BREAK-DOWN WITH TROOPS.—The hired screw-steamer *Austria*, with troops for Kurrachee, received damage in the Bay of Biscay, and was obliged to put back to Plymouth. She again started on the 14th inst., but broke down once more last Monday, and was forced a second time to return. The troops have been landed.

THE BARON DE FEUCHIERES.—The funeral service at St. Thomas d'Aquin for Baron Feuchères came off not without a speech from Marshal Magnan, who might as well not have spoken. To say that the deceased soldier had served in the wars of the Republic and Empire, had even joined Bonaparte when he left Elba, to, afterwards, become a Body Guard of the Bourbons, and lend the sanction of a respectable name to cloak the presence of Sophy Dawes at Court, was not quite the eulogy to grace his tomb. *Il faut le plaindre, non le blâmer*, not less a sad confusion of right and wrong. Four thousand pounds of the inheritance of Condé is now to go to soldiers' children—and so ends the memory of that royal and illustrious line.—*Paris Correspondent of the Globe.*

THE LATE DOUBLE MARRIAGE IN LONDON.—The metropolitan and Liverpool police have discovered that John Blair Wills, one of the brothers concerned in the infamous double marriage in London, was in Liverpool from the 4th to the 6th inst., and that on the 7th inst. he sailed in the ship *Great Western* for New York, taking with him some luggage and a little boy.

A MAN FOUND DYING IN AN UNINHABITED HOUSE.—Mr. Bedford, the coroner for Westminster, received in-

formation last Saturday of the death of a man named Michael Welsh, aged thirty-six years, a shoemaker, residing in Dudley-street, who died at Charing-cross Hospital the same morning. A few days previously, a policeman on duty in Denmark-street, Soho, at about half-past two in the morning, heard moaning in the cellar of a dilapidated house. On going down, he found Welsh in a state of stupefaction, apparently produced by an over-indulgence in drinking. A stretcher was procured, and he was removed to Charing-cross Hospital, where the medical officer found he was labouring under congestion of the brain, produced by intoxication. After lingering for a few days he died.—The old woman who was found last week in a starving condition, together with her brother, has died. It appears that in this case also there had been intemperance.

ALLEGED DEATH OF A FACTORY OPERATIVE FROM WANT.—A melancholy death has taken place at Preston. A factory operative, named Ralph Holden, a widower, with six children, has for several weeks past been unemployed, through the depression of trade. Last week, however, he obtained employ, and on the Friday morning left his home to go to work about half-past five o'clock, but, as he was proceeding along Moor-lane, suddenly became faint, and fell. He only lingered a few minutes, and appears to have perished from exhaustion.

A TERRIBLE DEATH.—A man walked off one of the wharfs of St. John's, New Brunswick, during a dark night, when the tide was out. He groped his way along in the mud, but did not take the right course, as he ultimately found himself among the piles beneath the wharf, where he was soon cut off by the advancing tide. He shouted, and attracted the attention of persons in the vicinity, but it was too late. As the tide rose, he climbed to the top of the piles, and through an aperture in the wharf spoke to those above. Extrication was impossible, and he therefore shook hands with his friends, passed through the hole all the money and valuables he had on his person, gave some directions concerning his family, and said farewell to those above. In a few minutes more he was engulfed. Such is the story related by a New York paper; but to one unacquainted with the locality it does appear strange that some portion of the wharf could not have been cut away, so as to make the aperture through which the money, &c., was passed sufficiently large to admit the man's body.

A WOMAN'S LOVE OF DISPLAY.—The culpable love of display which has recently exhibited itself among ladies, was illustrated on Monday in the case of Miss Kate Elizabeth Verity who petitioned the Insolvent Debtors' Court under the Protection Act. Her debts amount to 140*l.*, and are chiefly due for millinery and articles of personal decoration. She is 28 years of age, and lives with her mother, who receives about 200*l.* a year, while she herself has 60*l.* a year from her friends. In 1852 she was discharged by the Insolvent Debtors' Court from debts amounting to 230*l.*; but her extravagance did not receive any check. In the present instance, one creditor claimed 84*l.* for dresses. The Commissioner said it was clear that the debts had been contracted without reasonable expectation of payment; and he therefore refused protection, and adjourned the case *sine die*.

A STORY FROM WHITECROSS-STREET PRISON.—A rule was obtained on Monday, in the Court of Exchequer, calling on Mr. Brown, the keeper of Whitecross-street prison, to answer the matters in the affidavit of Mr. Healey, an insolvent debtor in that prison, who complained that the keeper had been guilty of oppressive and malicious conduct towards him, and had unjustly caused him to be imprisoned in a place called the strong-room of the prison, where he had scanty room, food, air, and light for thirty-six hours. It appears that in this prison the discharge of all the menial offices falls on the prisoners themselves, who, however, by subscribing to a fund, and paying those among them of humble origin, get the work performed by officers of their own appointing. Among other rules is one which appoints certain seats at the table at meal times to the older inmates; and this arrangement led to the present proceedings. Mr. Healey is the so-called 'steward' of the prisoners. A new prisoner, named Gunnery, recently entered the gaol, and subscribed to the rules; but one day he took a wrong seat at table. A scuffle followed, and Mr. Gunnery came to the ground. He then complained to the keeper, who, without permitting Mr. Healey to cross-examine his accuser, ordered him into the strong-room. This treatment was now stigmatized as tyrannical and malicious.

A QUESTIONABLE BANKRUPTCY.—A woman, named Leah Isaacs, who has been carrying on business in Piccadilly as a tobacconist, under the style of Pickard and Co., has appeared in the Court of Bankruptcy. Her brother, Mark Wilson, is said to have recently absconded during the night with his housekeeper, a photographic machine, and several hundred pounds' worth of the bankrupt's property. There is a very strong suspicion that this was performed with the sister's knowledge and for her advantage; but, when Mr. Commissioner Goulburn gave judgment on Monday, he said that, as this could not be absolutely proved, the bankrupt must have the benefit of the doubt. He observed, however, that he had a very adverse impression, and that his decision upon the charge must only be regarded as similar to that of a Scotch jury when re-

turning a verdict of 'Not proven.' The bankrupt was granted a third-class certificate, "and," added the Commissioner, "she may consider herself fortunate."

THE REVEREND JAMES MARSHALL, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford, and Curate of St. Bartholomew's, Moor-lane, has been received into the Roman Catholic Church.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, November 28.
INDIA.

SOME further telegrams give a few more items of intelligence besides those we publish in another column:—

"At Chuntra, near Ghazepore, Major English has dispersed the rebels; Brigadier Stewart's detachment has taken Dhar and routed the rebels. The 32nd Bengal N.I. has mutinied at Deoghur, and two regiments of the Kotah Contingent have risen, killing Major Burton, his sons, and the other Christians in the Residency. A conspiracy has been discovered among the Bombay Grenadiers at Ahmedabad; the conspirators were executed.

"Brigadier Showers's column was scouring the country round Delhi, advancing to Kootule, and afterwards to Renaree, which was found abandoned by Rao Jooleran, who left his guns, &c., behind him. In the Bombay Presidency there has been no serious disturbance; but the Punjab, and Rajpootana especially, are unsatisfactorily situated for want of troops.

"A camp of 2000 British troops is being formed at Raneegunge, by order of the Commander-in-Chief.

"Troops are daily arriving from England, and by the end of November there will be 100,000 British troops in India.

"Of the Bengal native army, only two regiments, the 31st, at Saugor, and the 73rd, at Joulpore, have not mutinied."

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

"I am informed," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "that a note has been addressed by the Porte to the Powers that signed the Treaty of Paris, intimating that, in consequence of the state of the Danubian Principalities, it may become necessary to move a body of troops to the Danube."

DEPARTURE OF LORD REDCLIFFE FROM CONSTANTINOPLE.

A telegram has been received in town from Constantinople announcing the departure of Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe from that capital *en route* for England.

CHINA.

"The latest accounts from Hong-Kong," says the *Pays*, "mention a report which unfortunately appears to be correct, and according to which persecutions have, by order of the mandarins, recommenced against the Roman Catholics in several of the provinces of China."

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.—The Queen has signified her intention of opening Parliament in person.

ACCIDENTS.—The Duke of Newcastle has been thrown while hunting with the Earl of Scarborough's hounds, and has dislocated his shoulder. The Earl of Scarborough is himself indisposed, owing to a fall received while shooting a few months ago.

THE BANK CHARTER ACT.—The inhabitants of Glasgow met on Thursday, and passed resolutions condemnatory of the Bank Charter Act of 1844. A deputation was appointed to confer with Lord Palmerston and the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

ARMED ABDUCTION IN IRELAND.—Eight men, armed, broke a few nights ago into the dwelling of Michael Egan, a farmer at Cappagolan, near Mount Bolus, King's County. They then forced Miss Egan out of bed, and carried her off almost in a state of nudity, for the purpose, it is supposed, of marrying her to one of themselves. It is stated that she has a marriage portion of 300*l.* Mr. Egan was absent from home at the time.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—The exquisite representation of the *Tempest* is given for the last time this evening, to make room for the reproduction, on Monday next, of *Richard the Second*. The attraction of this magnificent historical revival was so little exhausted by its former extraordinary run of success, that we may fairly predict for it a second life of even longer duration and greater glory than the first.

THE LEVIATHAN.—We believe that a further attempt will be made to-day to lower the Leviathan to low-water mark, to wait for next week's spring tides.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Several communications unavoidably stand over. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication.

No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith.

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 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.**

INDIA—THE PROGRESS OF AFFAIRS.

THREE steamers, with troops on board, had actually reached Calcutta ere the departure of the mail steamer with the despatches already telegraphed. The Bentinck, which brought the mail to Suez, either encountered during her passage or heard of the following—viz., two sailing-vessels off the 'Sandheads,' at the entrance of the Hooghly—two steamers and a sailing-vessel arrived in Madras Roads—four steamers and three sailing-vessels reached Point de Galle, in Ceylon, at different dates. There were, moreover, certain steamers in waiting at Galle, in order to receive troops from sailing-vessels and carry them up the Bay of Bengal with extra despatch. All the ships mentioned, or at least the soldiers they conveyed, would probably have reached Calcutta before the Bentinck arrived at Suez. The tide of reinforcements had thus fairly set in, and would flow continuously for some time to come.

But the mere fact of these welcome succours having landed in the quiet, peaceable province of Bengal, would be of little avail in the absence of any organized means of forwarding the newly arrived corps to the distant localities, where their presence and aid have been so sorely needed. We are therefore glad to find that this important consideration has not been overlooked by the local authorities. Official documents have been lately published which supply the details of a scheme (originating, it is said, with Mr. HALLIDAY, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal) for the organization along the Grand Trunk Road of establishments to supply passing detachments with carriage and provisions. The arrangements proposed have been duly carried out, and the practical result is highly gratifying. It is at Raneegunge, the present terminus of the East Indian Railway—one hundred and twenty-one miles north-west of the Presidency—that the new system comes into play. Under its operation, two hundred men with their officers could be forwarded towards Benares daily, from and after the 1st November, 1857. Of the above number, fifty men with officers would be sent in *dak*-carriages, drawn by horses or propelled by bearers, and reach Benares (distant three hundred miles) in five days, at a cost of sixty-four rupees per head. The balance of one hundred and fifty men with officers, would proceed by 'bullock (or waggon) train,' and reach Benares in ten days, at a cost of sixteen and a half rupees per head. *Summa*:—That, by these two means combined, an aggregate of 4500 men and their officers can be conveyed monthly to Benares from Raneegunge, at an average expense of about thirty-three

rupees per man. An arrangement cannot be too highly spoken of, by which, at a very trifling outlay, the British soldier, in full health and vigour, fresh from his native soil, and fully prepared for action, is (to use the renowned HYDER ALI's phrase) 'let loose,' if not on the very battle-field, at least within hail of the fray.

Turning now to the latest items of intelligence, we observe that the Lucknow garrison, after being again placed in great apparent jeopardy, had been sensibly reinforced by the arrival of H.M.'s. 53rd and 93rd Regiments. Still, with a divided force (for 1000 men had charge of the sick and wounded at the Alumbagh), General HAVELOCK's position might be regarded as critical, but for the certainty that Brigadier GREATHED's junction had swelled his muster-roll to 7000 men. The NANA is said to be again in the neighbourhood of Bhitoor, near which place a body of the Delhi mutineers, flying before GREATHED's force (which had already twice discomfited them), were attacked in a strong position by a detachment from Cawnpore, under Colonel WILSON, which routed and dispersed the rebels.

On the other side of the Jumna the pursuing column (under Brigadier SHOWERS) appears to have reached Agra, *en route* for Gwalior, on the 14th of October, and was some days after attacked on the line of march by the rebels. The latter were defeated, with a loss of one thousand killed; and, moreover, driven pell-mell across the Koharee-Nuddy (about thirty miles from Gwalior), leaving to the victors, who suffered but slightly, their guns, camp equipage, treasure, and a mass of ill-gotten spoils.

In spite of so much cheering intelligence, in spite of the grievous checks which rebellion has encountered, the spirit of mutiny is still abroad. The 32nd Bengal Native Infantry has gone at last. At all events, a portion of the regiment (which may be taken to imply the whole) had risen and committed several murders at Deoghur, in the Bhaugulpore district. It is also to be feared that disaffection is very general in the Bombay army. In addition to this, it is rumoured that the Maharajah of Gwalior has been assassinated by his own people, and that MAUN SINGH of Jodhpore has turned traitor upon principle, seeing that he has now but little apparent chance of profiting by the move.

The standing camp at Raneegunge, which has been formed at Sir COLIN CAMPBELL's suggestion, will, we imagine, constitute a *depôt*, from which troops will be despatched to Upper India, on the plan already described and commended by us.

The King of DELHI, it is now reported, will be tried by a military commission. Then it is a pity that his life was ever spared. For—if really accountable for his own actions—he has far less right to consideration than the meanest of those whom his example led astray. And again, if the sentence of death (which must of course be passed) should not be executed on his sometime Majesty, the proceedings of the military commission will degenerate into farce; and, worse than all, the incorrigible native will, for the thousandth time, ascribe lenity to weakness and forbearance to fear.

THE POSITION OF REFORM.

THE journals supposed to be under official influence have been diverging in their speculations on the subject of Parliamentary Reform. No authoritative announcement of ministerial intentions has appeared. It is possible that even the royal speech will leave the question undecided. Silence, at least, would not imply a resolve on the part of Lord PALMERSTON to forfeit his pledge. But he is

in a difficult position. Intrinsically, he is not a Liberal by sentiment, although he may be one by conviction. When he has satisfied himself that Reform is the right policy for a Premier to pursue, he will advance, and that vigorously. We believe that more discussion has taken place in connexion with the promise of last session than the public is aware of. In the first place, it has been discovered that a movement of considerable importance, although informal, has been going on among the friends of Lord JOHN RUSSELL. That statesman is encamped outside the Cabinet. He has said, since the Indian mutiny assumed its most terrible proportions, "The time has come;" and those distinct and deliberate words seem to mark him as the probable chief of not a few powerful Whigs, who will combine actively in the event of a breach of faith by the Government.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL, of course, reserves his confidences for his traditional allies, but the view of his position suggested above is taken by those who stand near and infer from impressions. Here is one motive at work inclining the First Minister to fortify himself by acting as a Liberal among Liberals. But the pressure most directly felt has been that of his own colleagues, and we are not merely guessing when we say that Lord PANMURE, Sir CHARLES WOOD, and Sir GEORGE GREY stand opposed to the hesitating tendencies of the Duke and the Earl, who, in the Cabinet, are supposed to represent a desire to delay the Reform Bill. The *Times* has spoken out as if it possessed minutes of all the Cabinet Councils at which Reform has been mentioned; but its devotees must not be deceived into the idea that, when their great oracle has pronounced, Lord PALMERSTON has decided. If Lord PALMERSTON were really to throw the question overboard, it would be partially on account of representations made by writers assuming to lay before him the sentiments of the public. Neither the nation nor the Ministry as a whole, but a part of one and the other, has declared itself against the fulfilment of a pledge. Some, who are not unacquainted with the mental progress of the Premier, would be little astonished to see him striving for a position among the great historical promoters of Reform. It would plume him with a new honour. It would leave him, he might think, without a point of unfavourable comparison with Lord JOHN RUSSELL. It would place him at the head of public opinion. And, if the courtly members of his administration should be intractable, they are not statesmen whom it would be difficult to replace. Their personal influence, rather than their ability, accounts for whatever importance attaches to the views they hold. Now, outside the Cabinet, there is a powerful feeling in favour of an immediate Reform. We are not wrong, we hope, in assuming that Mr. GLADSTONE, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, and others of that connexion, would regard any attempt to break through the pledge of last session as an act of gross dishonesty. The excuses put forward on behalf of the unwilling section of the Ministry are universally rejected as hollow and disingenuous. If we wait for a clear session we shall simply imitate the rustic who postponed his journey until the river had ceased to flow by. It is nothing less than to expect that History will come to a standstill in order that we may rearrange our political machinery. That Indian affairs must be debated is true, but it is true, also, unless an Indian Bill is to be forced precipitately through Parliament, that the time will not have come, for several months, for final deliberation on that subject. If, as semi-ministerial writers say, the Bank Charter is not to be modified, why should a year of legis-

lation be monopolized by that topic? The policy of the Conservative Whigs seems to be that of postponing Reform until it is demanded by violence, not by opinion. We trust that, for the credit of British statesmanship, a steadier course will be followed by Lord PALMERSTON. It is his own position, not that of Reform, which is critical. If the Liberal members of Parliament are firm and united they will move the question, and the constituencies will support them. We must have no further compromise, no new capitulation. The pledge of the Government was not conditional. It was a serious engagement contracted by Lord PALMERSTON with the Reform party, and if he fails to fulfil it, he should be made a political bankrupt. The Brighton public have set an example, by authorizing their energetic representative, in their names, to insist that the promissory declaration of last session shall not be dishonoured. Now is the time for other constituencies to act; but now is the time, also, for those politicians whose voices were so loud upon the hustings at the general elections to present themselves before the Government and prove their strength and determination. A great Reform Banquet in London has been suggested, we believe; it might confidently be announced, for we are convinced it would result in a demonstration which would surprise some Reformers, and encourage all.

THE BANK CHARTER.

"I HAVE the strongest opinion," said Sir ROBERT PEEL, in introducing the Bank Charter Act, "that nothing would better conduce to the credit of the Bank itself and to the prevention of panic and needless alarm, than the complete and periodical publication of its accounts." It cannot be said that the proposed end has yet been fully attained—the accounts, indeed, are published weekly, and in the shortest and most comprehensive form—but their full import is not yet generally understood.

Having disposed in our last impression of the 'Issue Department,' which we have shown to be purely mechanical—governed, not by the Bank Directors, but by the action of the public—we proceed to explain the second portion of the weekly account, viz., what is called the 'Banking Department.'

We reprint both accounts for the week ending November 11. Having commenced our illustration with that week's account, we think it will conduce to clearness to continue it.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£	£
Notes issued ... 21,141,065	Government debt 11,015,100	
	Other Securities 3,459,900	
		14,475,000
	Gold coin and bullion 6,666,065	
		21,141,065

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£	£
Proprietors' capital 14,553,000	Government securities 9,444,828	
Rest... 3,364,356	Other securities 26,113,453	
	Notes 957,710	
Public deposits... 5,314,659	Gold and Silver coin 504,443	
Private deposits... 12,985,844		
Post bills 858,075		
		19,103,078
		37,020,434

Commencing on the debit, or left hand side of the account, we have first the capital of the Bank, 14,553,000*l.*; then, what is called the rest, or surplus accumulations of undivided profit, 3,364,356*l.* These, added together, make a total of 17,917,356*l.*, which

is the security the Bank of England affords to the Government and to its customers. The three next items explain themselves, and present a total of 19,103,078*l.* liabilities.

On the other side, we have, first, Government Securities; next, 'Other Securities,' which include a certain, but it is understood not very large, sum lent on mortgages. It is mainly made up of advances to the commercial world, as the Bank never hold any Foreign Stocks;—and the two other items, 'notes' and 'coin,' form the Till, or amount which the Bank of England (acting as bankers) keep to meet any demands that may be made upon them.

Now the two main features of this account are, first, the amount of (unemployed) 'notes' in the banking department, and next, the amount of what is called 'Other Securities.' The practised eye of the money-dealer lights immediately on these two items; the first tells him whether the demand for accommodation has increased or diminished; the second denotes what the power of the Bank is to supply the commercial world. The first is an index of the demand, the second of the supply; and these two elements being given, he knows readily what combination may be expected to result.

In the above account it will be seen that the 'Other Securities' amount to twenty-six millions. This is by far the largest sum that had appeared on the account since PEEL's act was passed. It has been as low as eight millions, and only a little more than a twelve-month ago it stood at fourteen millions. In this twenty-six millions we have an accurate representation of the necessities of the commercial world, and of the immense amount of promissory paper afloat. This gradual increase of loans on 'Other Securities' has been diligently noted by the prudent banker, who finds in this weekly account an accurate gauge of the monetary pressure; it has been carefully marked by the merchant, who knows well that so large an increase of bills denotes a feverish commercial activity, an undue and dangerous extension of credit.

Concurrently with this excessive demand for accommodation we see a diminished power of supply. The (unemployed) 'notes' stand lower than they ever have been—the demand is excessive—the supply almost exhausted—it is under a million. It was very low this time last year, but it stood then at three and a half millions—in November, '55, it stood at five millions—it has been as high as thirteen and a half millions.

The management of the Bank's Reserve (the item 'Notes' in the 'Banking Department') is the great point upon which the Directors' attention is fixed. This reserve is fed mainly by securities falling due daily, by sales of stock, by fresh arrivals of gold. Nothing permanently diminishes it but a drain of bullion. The amount of the reserve is the guide to the rate of interest—as the reserve falls, the rate rises—and, as a rule, the higher the rate is the greater the amount of 'Other Securities.' In the account before us the private securities are twenty-six millions, the reserve under one million, the rate of interest ten per cent. In November, 1852, the private securities were eleven and a half millions, the reserve eleven and a half millions, the rate of interest two per cent. The amount of accommodation was then less than one-half of what it now is, the reserve twelve times as great, and the Bank rate was for six months two per cent. only.

Here, then, is the key to the whole accounts—the amount of 'Notes' in the banking department. If it fall below five millions the prudent man looks serious, and contracts his engagements, just as certainly as he takes

his great-coat and umbrella when the glass marks much rain.

Before we dismiss the subject, we think it desirable to show an abstract of the accounts in another form:—

By a reference to the weekly statement printed above, it will be observed that the liabilities of the Bank are as follows:—

For notes issued.....	£21,141,065
For deposits and post bills...	19,103,078
Total liabilities.....	£40,244,143

Its assets are:—

Issue department.....	£21,141,065
Banking department.....	37,020,434

Total assets.....£58,161,499

showing a surplus of 17,917,356*l.* after discharging every liability of every kind.

Amongst its assets are about twenty-four millions of British Government Securities, and upwards of seven millions in the precious metals. It has abundance of gold in exchange for all the notes that can possibly be presented for payment (for, as we showed last week, the public cannot transact their daily business with less than from fourteen to sixteen millions of paper); it has Government Securities for twenty-four millions against deposits for nineteen millions. Is it possible to conceive any institution founded on a surer basis—any paper circulation more amply secured?

Our whole commercial fabric is founded upon our gold currency. Every contract made is an undertaking to pay so many pieces of gold of a certain weight and of a certain fineness. A paper circulation has been introduced, partly for convenience and partly for economy—for convenience, for who would carry a thousand sovereigns if a little piece of paper can be made to serve the same purpose?—for economy, because the fourteen and a half millions of paper money issued on securities is so much capital actually saved, which, at four per cent. interest, gives an annual return of 580,000*l.* But in order that a small piece of paper may serve the same purpose as gold in ordinary transactions, it is absolutely necessary that it should at all times be convertible into specie at the will of the holder. This convertibility PEEL's Act was intended to ensure—and this it has ensured. Assuming that the nation is convinced that it is absolutely necessary that bank-notes should be convertible (and few really practical men deny it), it appears to us that the only question at present to be discussed is, shall we issue more than fourteen millions and a half of notes upon securities? Can we safely, and without endangering the whole fabric of the currency, make the amount sixteen, seventeen, or eighteen millions, and is it expedient so to do? Let the question be brought to a distinct issue, and it will soon be perceived that to alleviate the present pressure requires something more than an issue of additional bank-notes—something more than the creation of further promises to pay—that many of our merchants have been entering into speculations far beyond their depth—that they have made engagements immeasurably beyond their means—that several of them have 'gone in to win,' having really but little of their own to lose—that they have built upon the sand of credit instead of upon the rock of capital—and that great has been their fall when the floods of adversity came (as come they must), sweeping away with resistless force houses fair to look upon, but entirely wanting in solidity; substantial to the eye of the unwary, but dangerous, not only to those who unwisely confided in their apparent security, but also to all who were unfortunately exposed to the crash attending their fall.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN'S POSITION.

At the receipt of intelligence from the other side of the Atlantic this week, there has been something like a shout of exultation, under the belief that some danger if not disgrace has befallen the star-spangled banner. The sting of the news lies in a report that five hundred of the United States troops, supposed to be a detachment of the Utah expedition, had been attacked and killed by a party of Indians near the Missouri River. Judge Echols had forwarded a report from the Utah expedition of a very opposite tone. But on account of the difficulties inherent in the expedition, and also, it is said, on the strength of a report by Captain VAN VLIET of his observations at the Great Salt Lake City, President BUCHANAN, it is asserted, has deferred the expedition for another year. "Failure!" cries the English reader. There is, however, no reason to regard the determination, even if it be true, in that light. On the contrary, a year lapsing is a gain to the United States. During this season, BRIGHAM YOUNG has been using all the energy of a desperate man. Any expedition detached against him would have to meet his forlorn hope after passing immense tracts of desert. But in the rear of the Mormon leader, as everybody knows, is an increasing discontent amongst his own people, which will be very much greater next year. No doubt the American Government may safely calculate that an expedition in the present year might suffer severe loss, but that by this time next year our allies the malcontents in the Mormon camp will have half done the work for us, if not entirely.

Another of the lucky reports which have created satisfaction amongst certain parties in England, is the account of the bread riots in New York. The democratic Mayor in that city has been popularity-hunting to a desperate extent; he called upon the banks for larger 'assistance' to the commercial classes, he demanded employment for the destitute, and proposed the purchase of flour and other food by the municipality in order to be distributed to workmen at cost price. New York is always filled with a large emigrant population, the indolent and cunning part of which is inclined to rest for rather a long time on the way Westward, if it can obtain the means of subsistence by any kind of stratagem. The present disturbance offers a complete holiday for such a class. Want of employment is acknowledged, destitution recognized, and any man who is without means has an admitted claim to receive it at the hands of the Mayor. Accordingly, a perfect army of English, Germans, Irish, Swiss, including probably some of the Anglo-German Legion, waited upon the Mayor and asked him for employment or bread. The worthy magistrate was unable to honour his own promissory note, and was actually reduced to the resource of running away. A grand triumph for the English who look on, and learn from the picture nothing but the gratifying fact, that an American city can have its destitute like one of the Old World, and can be the scene of bread riots like Manchester, London, or Paris.

It is assumed that the head of the democratic party, the President of the United States, must be at the mercy of the mob and of the same counsel as the Mayor. We have already shown how melodramatically false are these got-up bread riots, and it is well known that so far from sharing the opinion of Mr. Mayor, President BUCHANAN has distinctly denied the assumed duty of banks to ruin themselves and their depositors by 'accommodating' all persons in need; Mr. BUCHANAN having strictly enforced his policy upon the banks of the Federal district while sustaining the sub-treasury law.

When he first acceded to office, we expressed a strong conviction that, applying his acute and powerful mind to the actual circumstances of the Union, he would be able to guide the Republic through its troubles without difficulty, and with a great advancement in the influence of the Republic. One of the most recent steps which he has taken has gone far to confirm our calculation. A special Commissioner is appointed to the Court of Brazil, for the purpose of concluding a commercial treaty, by which it is hoped that the South American empire will grant reciprocal free trade with the North American republic. Should that be so, a large extension of the North American trade in cereals will bring large profits to the citizens and increased food to the Brazilians. The Anglo-Americans already consume immense quantities of Brazilian coffee. There are many other commodities that would be exchanged under an increasing trade with proportionate augmentation to the wealth of both countries, but there are other considerations. Attempts have been made on this side of the Atlantic to keep up a certain angry combination against the traditions and policy of the United States; and the attitude maintained by France and England especially has compelled the Federal Government to increase its expenditure in naval defences. By an extraordinary want of sagacity, our Premier has accompanied this treatment of the Union with an obstinate refusal to be friends with Brazil. Our Government has almost broken off relations with the South American empire on pretexts the most frivolous. And it has done so notwithstanding the repeated desire of the Brazilian Government, of the Liberal party in Brazil, and the commercial classes, to draw still closer the friendly relations with Great Britain. Thus Lord PALMERSTON has thrown away an ally that might have maintained some kind of balance in our favour to the North; and the President of the United States, without resorting to any unfair or oblique course, is taking full advantage of Lord PALMERSTON'S mistake.

At the same time Mr. BUCHANAN, it is well known, desires to remain on the most friendly terms with the people of this country. We have the strongest grounds for saying so; and if it is among the evidences of unaccountable inconsistency on Lord PALMERSTON'S part that a Commissioner has been appointed to settle Central American differences, it is among the evidences of friendly feeling towards this country in Washington that the prospect of settling these differences is hailed as a welcome event. A strong and national government in Washington will always be favourable to the genuine and substantial interests of the English people.

THE PIEDMONTESE AND BELGIAN ELECTIONS.

CONSTITUTIONAL Government is upon its trial in two of the minor states of Europe. Piedmont has just passed through a general election, and Belgium is about to undergo a similar process. The similarity of their positions has been recognized by the press of the two countries, and has evoked an expression of mutual sympathy at once very creditable and very encouraging. Belgium, as a successful and flourishing example of rational and orderly liberty and progress, is respected throughout Europe. The King is honest, the Liberal party vigorous; but both are opposed by the exclusive bigotry of an aggressive ecclesiastical faction, reactionary in its tendencies, despotic in its sympathies, hostile to free opinion, and essentially unnational. Some of its members, no doubt, are honourable and patriotic men, and even

friendly to constitutional principles, but the majority are fatally perverse. Between this party and that of progress, LEOPOLD occupies a position of no little delicacy. A Protestant himself, he is the ruler of a large Catholic population, and it is not his duty to become a religious partisan. However, the clerical majority in the late Chambers are responsible for the conflict which has been forced upon the country, and it is in vain that they accuse M. ROGIER of provoking an unnecessary and untimely agitation. The reply of that thorough Liberal and able statesman, in his circular to the governors of provinces, was singularly dignified and conclusive. With M. ROGIER at the head of a government including M. FRÈRE-ORBAN and several other Liberals equally distinguished, it may be hoped that the elections will restore the balance of the Legislative Chambers. The constituencies will call to mind that to the present Minister of the Interior they were formerly indebted for administrative improvements of special importance. From his antagonists nothing can be expected beyond a series of obstinate and reckless endeavours to convulse the country by reactionary experiments. Belgium, upon the 10th of December, may wisely take warning from events in Piedmont. Both states have dangerous neighbours—Imperial France, Imperial Austria. Both contain Church parties representing the sleepless jealousy of Roman Catholicism; in both it is by union alone that the Liberals can hope to obtain an established mastery.

But in Piedmont a false sense of security pervading the Liberal ranks, the indifference of some and the petulance of others, have contributed to swell the forces of the reaction. The alliance of certain ultra-Liberals with the ultra-Catholics has been not only a mistake, but a crime. It has conferred an advantage on the enemies of all freedom, and the minority of the ecclesiastical opposition is once more formidable. Had the advice of BROFFERIO been adopted, the constitutionalism of Piedmont would have stood upon a loftier basis. But some of the party have avenged their disappointments at the expense of their patriotism.

The result of the Piedmontese elections has been to show that the clerical party is still powerful and active. Although numerically inferior, it undoubtedly represents a large class of the community, which believes in the oracles of the *Armonia*. The Piedmontese Parliament consists of 205 members. From the latest accounts we learn that, of 198 members already elected, 122 are Liberals of the left and centre, 63 reactionists, and 13 doubtful. Of the majority, 80 are Ministerialists, 22 independent Liberals, and 22 of the extreme left; the whole of these, no doubt, will support the Government in any political struggle with the right, or reactionary party. Among the 13 described as doubtful we believe that 8 are more or less Liberal. There is thus a large working majority favouring a policy of independence and progress. But when it is considered what expectations were formed before the elections took place, the return of 63 reactionists is decidedly a disappointment.

In the new House the different ranks of society are variously represented. There are 55 noblemen—22 of whom are Liberals—90 advocates, 12 physicians, 10 professors, 8 general officers, 8 priests, 5 colonels, 3 engineers, 3 attorneys, 3 captains, and 2 bankers. Count CAVOUR'S nephew, the Count CHARLES ALFIERI, is among the new members. BROFFERIO has been returned by the united efforts of the Turin liberals, no man in Piedmont being more universally respected. The electors, we are glad

to say, knew how to deal with M. GAL-LENGA, and agreed to make a 'bygone' of him in earnest. Count ALFIERI's return for Alba is significant, perhaps, of a new development of the Liberal opposition in the Chambers.

One characteristic of the elections was remarkable. After the first ballot some members of the extreme left were without an absolute majority, and a second election became necessary. Thereupon every fraction of the Liberal party united to support them against the reactionary candidates. Thus, the entire constitutional press recommended the return of BROFFERIO, opposed by Count REVEL, and the candidate of the *Armonia* was defeated. Genoa, however, republican as she is, returned four reactionary members out of six. A coalition of Mazzinians and the Church is said to have defeated GARIBALDI, who, in that case, has been punished for being a practical politician. A triumph even more distinct was obtained by the reactionists in the quadruple return of their chief, Count SOLARO DELLA MARGERITA. Will not this event, with the check sustained by General MARMORA at Pancalieri, recal the Liberals to union? Although not so victorious as had been hoped, the elections have given them a clear majority, and to this new Parliament is committed the task of advancing the position of Piedmont among constitutional kingdoms.

ENGLISH ENGINEERS AT NAPLES.

LORD PALMERSTON has given no satisfactory explanation with respect to the two engineers imprisoned at Naples. The official letter read at the great Newcastle meeting amounted to no more than an evasion. The question is, why two Englishmen have been allowed to lie for five months in foreign dungeons without being brought to trial or even formally arraigned? If Lord PALMERSTON were now to fetch them out of their captivity in a line-of-battle ship, he could not redeem his character as a British statesman. It is a mere insult to our understanding to pretend that the Neapolitan law has been infringed. There is practically no law at Naples, but, in place of it, a vulgar despot, who gratifies himself by confining and torturing two of our countrymen who are so unfortunate as to have trusted to the manliness of the English Government. But, even if the men were amenable to law, why were they left untried, cut off from all communication with their consul, and abandoned to such maltreatment that they have partially lost their senses? Is it to be understood that the authorities in any part of the world are privileged to arrest an Englishman, keep him for half a year in a loathsome prison, and then, if they please, discharge him? This is the privilege laid down in the CLARENDON letter, and the people of Newcastle have bitterly denounced it. Parliament will hear of the proceedings, and Lord PALMERSTON will not escape censure, the effect of which he may have reason to regret.

THE MUSTER-ROLL OF INDIAN HEROISM.

THE Indian struggle has brought out some of the best qualities of Englishmen. It is unnecessary to ask whether they be NEVILLES or DE BURGHS. We know from what race, what national blood, they have sprung. They are our countrymen. It is not a question between aristocracy and middle-class. We all know that earls may be cowards, and that tenth transmitters of foolish faces may be brave as lions. Therefore, we have not thought it necessary to discriminate between the sons of barristers and the scions of old gentlemen patricianly called 'houses;' but we have seen rising in India a pleiad group of reputations, brilliant as the sunrise of Asia. Some

have died in the flower of their new fame, and others live to be rewarded; but all have found their way to the English heart. The perplexity is to distinguish the name of the 'gallant good,' and not to be invidious. But we have a safeguard. The roll lengthens hourly, and it is never too late to recal an act of heroism. At one glance we find ourselves in the presence of at least thirty men who, if we had a HOMER, would be heroes of an Iliad. They are our demi-gods in battle, our RUSTUMS and our ANTARS. We have forgotten St. GEORGE—that bacon-dealer of Cappadocia—and we have no need to remember the models of FROISSART, for our own chivalry stands higher than that of the Crusaders, or the Seven Champions, or the knights who lit the lambent flame on the rock of St. Elmo. Our Knights of the Garter are almost the only persons in the realm who are wanting in heroism. And yet it is scarcely possible not to compliment a nation commanding the valour of an army in which the blood of every rank is as heroic as that of the oldest barons and belted earls. We may be as solicitous as possible to avoid comparisons between classes, but when we are told that our peers are lords because they are great, we search for the pedigree of the three non-commissioned officers who walked like CHRISTIAN through the Valley of the Shadow of Death to hang powder-bags on the gate of Delhi, that blazed like a volcano.

We cannot pretend to present the muster-roll complete. But a moment's reflection brings before us a Pyrrhic phalanx of the valiant, 'whose names are memories.' Sir JOHN LAWRENCE, Grand Cross of the Bath, has not led an army to battle, but no man celebrated by history could have displayed conduct more splendid than his since the outbreak in Upper India. EARL GRANVILLE, indeed, has told us that he combines, in a higher degree than any other individual, the genius of a soldier with that of a statesman; but he neglects to tell us why LAWRENCE is not Governor-General of India. Perhaps this Punjab PITT is not strictly a hero. Then, what is HAVELOCK? A baronet—and the WELLINGTON of the war; the Crown, under protest, has raised him a step above Sir JOSEPH PAXTON, and even allowed him to take rank with Alderman MOON! The fountain of honour which shakes its loosening silver in the sun—it is from LEIGH HUNT's jewel-case that figure of speech is stolen—sprinkles HAVELOCK, but there is some other fountain which splashes favourites with *eau d'or*. Well, the nation has in its mind's eye a columnar monument, which will raise HAVELOCK higher than the arch of Khosrou. And WILSON OF DELHI? Not a dashing great captain, but wary and intrepid, conquering, and worn-out by exertion. Of NICHOLSON and NEILL it is difficult to speak. The people do not speak of them, except with tears. They disappeared in a flame of glory, and another NEILL and another NICHOLSON are upon the scene. Colonel GREATHED is the man for whom public opinion will next claim a title; and near him stands the MURAT of the Oude battles, Brigadier CHAMBERLAIN, whom England cannot willingly forget. The theatre of his exploits recalls two mournful but illustrious deaths—that of Sir HENRY LAWRENCE, at Lucknow, and that of Sir HUGH WHEELER, at Cawnpore. They died like two Romans in the best days of Rome. To the same memorable ranks belong SAL-KELD, HOME, CARMICHAEL, SMITH, and BURGESS, the two lieutenants and three sergeants who blew open the Cashmere gate of Delhi, WILLOUGHBY, who exploded the magazine, HENRY, who died as he exclaimed "Forward!" and SKEENE, who showed

the Rajpoots that an Englishman might have all their pride and more than their constancy. The history of the war will also cast radiance upon the names of MONTGOMERY, who made the noble march from Agra; of EYRE, who has been like a flying Vengeance in Bengal; of VAN CORTLANDT, who held the country above Delhi while the capital was assailed; of HODSON, whose troop of horse has been a terror to the rebels; of BATEMAN, COWPER, and PAKENHAM, who died in relieving Lucknow. But there is one man of whose achievements no justice has yet been done—INGLIS, the protector of a thousand Europeans at Lucknow, who stands on the same pedestal with HENRY LAWRENCE and HUGH WHEELER. These incomparable soldiers must be rewarded, if they survive, and if they fall, the guardianship of those who are near and dear to them must be transferred to the nation.

A VENERABLE CONVERT.

"Out of the depths of my heart," M. DUPIN said, in 1852, "arises a great scruple." He was Procureur-Général of the Court of Cassation; but when the spoliation of the ORLEANS property was committed, he flung off his robes, and denounced the Government as felonious, shameless, and unchristian. Since that day, M. DUPIN has studied moderation. Seventy-five years of life have cooled his principles. Rich beyond the temptation of venality, aged beyond the allurements of ambition, he had passed six years in dignified obscurity when the Emperor learned that he had become weary of self-sacrifice. M. DUPIN, like an actor who has said his last farewell, yearned for a reappearance, and is once more on the stage. No one blames the old man, but no one refuses him his pity. So devoted an Orleanist might wisely have died without provoking the scorn of the family at Claremont. He had but one thing to enhance in his own character, and that was honour. Instead of enriching himself in this respect, he has chosen to be a bankrupt and a beggar, and the grey-headed judge who arraigned the Emperor is now the Emperor's most humble servant. This is not well. And yet it is hardly surprising. We knew M. DUPIN of old when he published his *Memoirs*, a garrulous jumble of commonplace and conceit, exhibiting a nature without balance, a soul without nobility. Nicknamed 'the Peasant of the Danube,' he resembled in many respects the peasant of the French provinces. His common sense was rough and strong; he was cunning and tenacious; his wit was coarse; he was hardheaded and hardhearted, highminded by fits. We speak of him in the past tense. He is historically dead, but not like NAPOLEON's famous soldier, 'for the honour of France;' France regrets his apostasy. But the profound legist, who denounced tyranny in 1814, cannot sacrifice his convictions and himself without extorting a groan even from those who least sympathize with Orleanist pretensions. It was DUPIN who, five years ago, wrote the letter of a stoic to LOUIS NAPOLEON; it is he who has so often lectured his countrymen on their want of virtue, and now it is M. DUPIN at whom the cynic smiles and the political atheist shrugs his shoulders. Honest men mourn him; but baseness and indifference rejoice. After all, are the French, as VOLTAIRE described them to be, a nation of valets? Will they sell themselves for wages, even at the age of seventy-five? Younger men might without compunction serve the Empire. They have no reminiscences to defile, no oaths to forswear, no obligations to violate, no principles to disavow. They might pursue their ambition unashamed under the Empire; but M. DUPIN,

who had exhausted honour, who had outlived dynasties, who had refused to wear the mantle of justice under a law-breaker—that he should recant is a shame to France and no honour to the Empire. We do not begrudge the Empire the allegiance of M. DUPIN.

INDIAN RELIEF FUND.

THE Indian Relief Fund progresses favourably, and promises soon to rival the splendid proportions of the Crimean collection. From a report just issued, we find that a sum exceeding 280,749*l.* has already been subscribed, and that out of this amount 54,477*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.* has been remitted to various places in India without delay, whilst power to draw bills to the amount of 19,000*l.* has been also forwarded to the authorities at Calcutta, Bombay, and Lahore. We may further add that 1085*l.* have been distributed in this country in the shape of loans, and 1793*l.* 9*s.* 7*d.* in donations. The greater portion of the money has naturally flowed into Calcutta as being the capital of Bengal, and the place of shelter to which the principal sufferers from the mutiny would most probably resort. To Lucknow, 5170*l.* 10*s.* has been sent; to Bombay—independently of the sum the committee organized there is at liberty to raise—7249*l.* 14*s.* 1*d.*; to Agra, 10,357*l.*; whilst we are glad to find that the asylum at Kusowlee has been voted 1000*l.* In addition to the remittances already on their way to India, the sum of 5000*l.* goes out by the next mail, entrusted to the Governor-General, to be transmitted to Delhi for the relief of the sufferers in the various stations of that territory. The greatest economy seems to have been observed in the operations of the committee. The whole amount of salaries hitherto paid is noted down at 167*l.* 6*s.* 7*d.*; while the miscellaneous expenses have been 510*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* It is true the charge for advertisements shows a large figure, rising to no less than 3098*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.*; but publicity has been a natural stimulus of the subscription. Advertisements on a large scale have been essential to the success of the Fund-committee and the satisfaction of the subscribers. We make no comment upon the generous promptitude with which all classes of the community have come to the relief of their suffering and mourning fellow-countrymen in the East; we only trust the impulse of British charity will not cease until the work is complete, and a fair prospect held out that the distress of Anglo-Indian widows, orphans, and destitute will, as far as lies in human aid, be adequately relieved.

PAYMENT OF THE INDIAN DAMAGES.

IN the paper on the 'Payment of the Indian Damages,' in our last number, we made a very serious blunder, unaccountable, if everybody does not remember the hallucinations which may seize upon the most vigilant mind. We reckoned that the cost of 50,000 soldiers landed in India, at 100*l.* a piece, would amount to 500,000*l.*, whereas it should have been 5,000,000*l.* It happened luckily that the whole force of our argument would have been strengthened tenfold by taking the proper figures. In that paper we indicated the means by which India might be made to pay with advantage to herself and without injustice: good government would render the land more profitable. But there are some means by which immediate revenues might be obtained without injury to India, with direct advantage to this country, and with the effect of immediately counterbalancing the new debt. One is the extension of railways. Regarding the whole amount invested in Indian railways as a loan—and it could be

obtained for that purpose on reasonable terms—it is almost self-evident that the revenue derivable from the railways themselves forms a very small part of the advantage derived to India and its Government. The rail fare can never be more than a percentage on the business transacted by the railway. Another source still more prompt would be a boon to India in the shape of an improved circulating medium. We allude to such a reform of the currency laws as would render gold a legal tender, and would, upon that basis, put in circulation a fair proportion of State paper. In this country, with a population of only 30,000,000, something like 14,000,000*l.* was assumed as the capital against which a portion of the paper currency might issue: why not embody the expenses of the Indian war in a similar debt, and let the paper issued against it float in India, a new expansion of her monetary system, and immediate payment to us for the expenses we have incurred.

MR. CONINGHAM AT BRIGHTON.

WE do not undertake to support Mr. CONINGHAM in all his political views; but by his speech at Brighton he has rendered a real service to the Liberal party. The demonstration was the more remarkable inasmuch as Brighton is an aristocratic town, and Mr. CONINGHAM, by culture as well as by association, belongs to the class of society generally averse from declarations so out-spoken and courageous. The honourable gentleman, after his reception by his own constituency, might well afford to be rebuked by the BLENKINSOP of official High Life, especially as he succeeded in drawing the Government card with respect to the future administration of India. Does an India Bill mean No Reform Bill?

Open Council.

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

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

THE MONETARY CRISIS AND THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—At a time of monetary pressure like the present, most people are too apt to work themselves up to the belief that somehow or other the Bank of England is to blame, and that Parliament has but to meet and pass some short acts to set all to rights at once. Now, there is no creative power, no magic in either Parliament or the Bank. They are both mighty institutions in their way, but they can no more create money, or make unsound credit sound, or enable any considerable portion of the vast commerce and manufacturing of this or any other country, to be carried on for any length of time by men without means, than they can make the printing-machines at the Bank transform the paper they are fed with into sovereigns.

There is no mystery in the present crisis. It has come, not like that of 1816, by an exhaustive war, short supplies, and a Corn-law; nor like that of 1825, from food being at famine prices, and a consequent sudden drain of gold to buy corn at the moment wherever it might be found; nor like that of 1837, from bad harvests, glutted warehouses, protection, starvation of the people, and outflow of bullion to buy bread; nor like the crisis of 1847, from a railway mania and a general bursting of bubbles. With marked distinctness from all these, the existing crisis has come upon us at a period of unexampled abundance. Never in the world's history was there so rich a harvest housed throughout the world as in the present year. Our manufacturers have for the most part been cautious, our exports and imports have risen enormously, our commerce has been in the main sound, and Australia and California have steadily year on year poured in upon us their millions of gold.

The present crisis is neither more nor less than a re-discounting crisis, and it has been brought upon us by a departure on the part of banks and bill-brokers from the sound principles of real banking.

A Banker's legitimate business is to keep in perfect security, so that they shall be ready at demand, the deposits of his customers.

It does not follow the deposits are to be locked up in the bank safe, and that the bank is to become a hoarding-house, but it does follow that the moneys so entrusted to the bank are not to be advanced in enormous sums to individuals, nor to be lent upon securities that in a commercial crisis cannot be realized at once, or become absolutely inconvertible, and for the time valueless.

Bankers—some hold to it still—used to consider themselves bound to have a positive knowledge of the soundness of the parties upon whose bills they advanced the money of their customers. They discounted, in fact, within the circle of their own acquaintance; they gave legitimate help to legitimate trading, they distributed the help fairly; and they kept besides a sufficient reserve to make them easy about the demands of their depositors. Of course, on this system no large interest, if any interest at all, could be allowed upon deposits; and fortunes were not to be made in a few years.

Gradually, however, has grown up a totally different system, and, under stress of unhealthy competition, banking has been driven from its safe and honest course. The banks and bill-brokers have become the upholders of fictitious credit, and the finders of capital for the conduct of enormous businesses by men of no means. Instead of discounts belonging to real trade, they keep afloat millions upon millions of bills that represent no value whatever; and uphold a rotten competition that robs fair traders of their rightful profits, and involves honest men in the ruin of rogues. The joint-stock banks keep little or no reserve of their customers' money: it is out on mortgage, out on ships, out on loans at fixed periods, out on bills, out on call with the bill-brokers. By these shifts they pay large dividends, and run large risks, at the peril of their shareholders and depositors.

Surely no one imagines that the Liverpool Borough Bank, the Western of Scotland, the City of Glasgow, the Staffordshire and Wolverhampton, or the Northumberland and Durham district bank, have been compelled to close their doors from losses in the true business of banking. It is not as bankers, but as traders, as money-lenders, as builders of ships and warehouses, as pushers of trade and stampers of worthless bills for bankrupts or penniless men, that they have failed. The closing of their doors comes of a career of dishonesty as bankers deserving exposure and punishment, and the non-exposure of which, more than the failure of the banks, is a public calamity.

But how is it all this goes on so long? How is it the bills of Cole, Davidson, and Gordon, of Sadgrove and Ragg, of Banes, Hopperton, and a thousand other men of fraud and of straw, professional bill acceptors and professional signers of imaginary names, pass current in the commercial world at all?

Does it not come of the fact that the joint-stock banks and the bill-brokers either do not or cannot exercise the due supervision of bankers into the condition of parties for whom they discount, and that the Bank of England is expected in times of pressure to re-discount without question, as first-class bills, all that come from the banks or bill-brokers; and is not the cure plain enough, that the Bank shall make it a rule to charge an ADDITIONAL ONE PER CENT. ON ALL RE-DISCOUNTS? This would, no doubt, be a heavy blow to the business of bill-broking, which is in reality a business without capital, upheld, on the one hand, by money at call, that is, the money of depositors in all the banks in all parts of the country sent up daily to Lombard-street to be advanced on bills, and as to vast numbers of which Lombard-street can know nothing, and upheld, on the other hand, by the re-discount whenever needed of these brokers' bills by the Bank of England. This re-discount system once checked, the joint-stock banks must of necessity, as the demand on the part of the bill-brokers would become less, keep a larger proportion of their customers' money in hand, and must discount less, as they will no longer be enabled under any circumstances, without additional cost, to trade upon the money of the Bank of England.

This check upon re-discounts is therefore the legitimate remedy against the recurrence of such a state of things as we are now happily passing through. Whether the Bank of England will venture upon it, unless under special enactment, is another matter. There need, however, be no difficulty in enacting that such a difference of charge upon re-discounts must in future precede any relaxation on the part of Government of the Bank Act. Even this would compel the joint-stock banks and bill-brokers to look a little more before them than they have done of late. But in any case the remedy for a flood of unsubstantial bills, and for the mischievous competition set up by unsound credit, is assuredly not in the issue of more bank-notes. I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

R.

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*.

M. E. LITRE, the life-long friend and most eminent disciple of AUGUSTE COMTE, has recently addressed a circular to the friends and followers of that distinguished thinker. His object in this circular is twofold—to rally the disciples of Positivism round the doctrines of their master, and provide, through their united efforts, an annuity for his widow. Such an effort comes most appropriately from M. LITRE. While M. COMTE lived he proved himself his faithful and devoted friend, assisting him in his domestic and personal reverses, expounding his doctrines, defending his character, and bearing with equanimity those outbursts of pride and irritability which latterly alienated some of COMTE's earliest friends, and separated him from many of his warmest admirers. And though the master is now no more, the letter before us sufficiently shows that M. LITRE still retains towards him the double relation of disciple and friend, and that he is anxious to fulfil to the utmost the duties it imposes by providing for the family he has left, and extending the influence of the doctrines he taught. In appealing to his fellow-disciples on behalf of their master and his system, M. LITRE gives a sketch of the true character, the present position, and future prospects of Positivism. And his aim being to rouse them to united action, he naturally dwells on the practical side of M. COMTE's speculations. "Had he simply founded a purely philosophic school," M. LITRE urges, "this might have been left to the care of isolated thinkers, as happens to most systems whose reign is provisional, and whose social utility is only indirect. But the positive philosophy has a directly practical bearing. Through the historic development which it has been M. COMTE's happiness and glory to work out, Humanity now, leaving the age of instincts and aspirations, enters on that of consciousness and self-government. And that it may pass safely through this epoch of crisis and realize its future, it has need of science which explains what is, of philosophy which systematizes science, and of the ideal which elevates and consecrates philosophy. The work of M. COMTE is therefore something very different from a school. It is intimately connected with the greatest interests of the time, as M. COMTE felt, and as his disciples still feel." M. LITRE proceeds to point out that the influence of Positivism has extended beyond the circle of its disciples, and is felt by many who know nothing directly of its doctrines. "Its ideas," he truly says, "are appropriated by many who are ignorant of the source whence they are derived. They have become a sort of common possession amongst the more advanced and liberal thinkers of the time; and that not only in France, but in almost every civilized country. It may be easily seen, however, that the work of assimilation between the new truths and the old society is latent rather than manifest, and more fragmentary than general. The positivist aptitudes of the time are still feeble, uncertain, and nascent. To multiply and strengthen these aptitudes is the task of M. COMTE's immediate disciples." Further on he repeats, emphatically, "That to show to all, high as well as low, the strict connexion that indissolubly unites speculative and political activity, and that makes them neither more nor less than one and the same problem, one and the same interest, is, above all, the function of those who attach themselves to Positivism."

With regard to the more immediate and benevolent object of M. LITRE's letter, we may add that he proposes, with the help of others interested in the matter, to continue to Madame COMTE a pension of 2000 francs, which she received during her husband's life. And he appeals to the friends of Positivism to make the fulfilment of this kindly duty the first bond of their new and closer union, the augury of their more vigorous and united activity on behalf of the doctrines of their master.

The Memoirs of M. GUIZOT, which are to appear soon, will perhaps disappoint, in a certain sense, the expectations of a class of readers who are on the look-out for questionable confidences for ever trembling on the verge of scandal. These Memoirs (a private letter from Paris assures us) contain scarcely any facts: they are a sort of series of political papers: nearly all discussion, and little or no narrative.

M. EMILE FORGUES, the conscientious and devoted literary executor of LAMENNAIS, is actively engaged in preparing for publication the Letters of LAMENNAIS, and in writing an Introduction which we doubt not will add greatly to the interest and value of the correspondence. One volume, we hear, is already in print, but M. FORGUES has wisely resolved to abstain from publishing until all is completed.

RAMBLES OF A NATURALIST.

The Rambles of a Naturalist on the Coasts of France, Spain, and Sicily. By A. de Quatrefages. Translated by E. C. Otté. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

M. DE QUATREFAGES is well and honourably known to all naturalists in Europe as a diligent worker, a successful investigator, and an agreeable writer. His contributions to our knowledge of the simpler organisms, especially of the various classes of worms, have been numerous and important; and, if not gifted with any depth of philosophic insight, he has constantly studied zoology by the light of philosophic ideas. A popular work by him on his favourite topic cannot be otherwise than acceptable; and in these two volumes of 'Rambles' he has gathered together the various articles

which from time to time he published in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, adding to them a variety of notes, biographical and explanatory. To naturalists and amateurs his work will be very welcome; but unfortunately, although expressly meant for the general public, it will not be very intelligible to that public, because, although his exposition is clear and untechnical, he generally assumes that the reader knows something of the animals he is writing about. The general reader will be able to form no definite conception of these animals, and M. Quatrefages gives no plates or diagrams to supply this want. This is a serious drawback to the popularity of a work which might otherwise be widely read. In spite of that drawback it will be read with pleasure, for the sake of its enthusiasm, its sketches of the various coasts and their inhabitants, and its revelations of the marvels of organization. As a mere book of travels it will be of interest, for, although the scenes visited by him are by no means untrodden, they are of eternal attraction, and he gossips very pleasantly, mingling useful information with his gossip.

He tells us of his introduction to marine zoology:—

I had spent the spring of 1841 in studying some of the inferior forms of animal life which occur in the environs of Paris. In the course of these researches I explored the ponds of Plessis-Piquet and Meudon, the stagnant pools around Vincennes, the basins in the gardens at Versailles, and even the ditches along the high roads. My table was daily covered with vessels containing the water which I had brought home with me from these excursions; and while the aquatic plants that had been left undisturbed were exhibiting an active state of vegetation, the delicate filaments of their roots formed a place of retreat for thousands of those minute beings whose existence and marvellous organization are only revealed to us by the microscope.

In this passage we see how near he was to the discovery of the Aquarium which, now that the principle is understood, has become the ornament of thousands of drawing-rooms; but although he allowed the plants to grow in his vessels, it was only to afford a shelter for his animals; he had no idea of the balance of animal and vegetable life being thus preserved.

The wonders revealed to him in the study of these simple organisms were not simply amusements:—

Such studies are highly attractive, even when considered on the simple grounds of curiosity: this, however, is not their only claim upon our attention, for they possess another and a far greater source of interest. In the higher forms of animal life, the size and opacity of the organs do not allow of our studying the mechanism of their actions and functions in the living state; in their case we must content ourselves with the mere study of their anatomy. In the lower animals, on the other hand, we are enabled to trace the operations of nature at the very moment of their accomplishment: thus, for instance, in the animalcule we can follow the alimentary molecule from the very moment in which it is swallowed until it is rejected by the animal, after having yielded up all its nutritious matter. The changes which this molecule undergoes in its passage through the animalcule, and the successive action of the animal organs and fluids, are all displayed before our eyes, so that these crystalline organisms seem almost to invite science to raise a corner of the veil which conceals from us the mysteries of that which we term life.

Again:—

In physical science man controls, to a certain extent, the object of his investigations. Thus, for instance, in the examination of a machine he may successively study each of the parts, consider their respective actions, and judge of the effect of the whole. It is very different, however, in the case of the natural sciences generally, and especially of zoology. Here we must wait and watch. The multiplicity of vital acts in animals which occupy the highest places in the scale of being too frequently conceals the truth from us, while it is impossible for us to imitate the physicist in isolating a single phenomenon; for when we do this, the whole is lost to our inquiry, and the animal ceases to exist. But in proportion as we descend the scale of being, we find that organization is simplified, and that life, without being altered in its essential nature, is to a certain degree modified in its manifestations. The animal machine, if we may use the expression, is shown to us piece by piece, as if to reveal the action of its several parts, and to demonstrate to us the great laws of physiology apart from all accessory phenomena. These laws are the same for the highest mammal and the lowest zoophyte; the same for man, whose complicated anatomy has been studied for ages past, and for the sponge, whose organs appear to be blended into one sole living homogeneous mass, the smallest particle of which participates in all the properties accorded to the entire organism.

But thrilled as he was by the marvels constantly revealed, he began to long for a wider field. The treasures of the deep allured him. He had never seen the sea, yet knew the wealth it contained. Packing up his books and instruments he set off for the coast. The spot chosen was the archipelago of Chausey, near St. Michael's Mount; and very interesting is the picture he gives of his four months' residence there. Imagine what endless delight the sea must have furnished him!

The dweller on the earth must sow the seed, plant trees, or turn the soil with his plough before he can gather in the grain that is to nourish him, or pluck the fruit that is to quench his thirst. Months, nay years, may pass before his labours will be recompensed, and perhaps at the very moment when he is about to reap the reward of his toil, a blast of wind, or a hailstorm, comes utterly to destroy his hopes. The ocean demands no such protracted waiting, and gives birth to no such painful disappointments. The tide falls!—to work! to work! both young and old! there is room for all, and labour proportioned to every age and to every degree of strength. The men and their sturdy helpmates, spade in hand, turn up the sand, which has been covered by the sea for some hours, and soon their baskets are filled with cockles, razor-fishes, and venuses, which although less delicate, are more nourishing than oysters; besides these, there is also the sand-eel (*Ammodytes tobianus* et *A. lancea*), a little fish which is held in high esteem, but which is not so easily captured as the shell-fish, for it loves to hide itself under the sand, where it moves about with marvellous agility. During this time the young girls are dropping their pocket-like nets into the pools which have been left by the retiring tide, busily employed in collecting shrimps, or in catching some lobster or crab, or perchance even some stray shore-fish, which has been arrested before it could regain its distant place of retreat. Others, armed with a stick, terminating in a strong hook, scrape the sand below the stones and hollows of the rock, and from time to time draw forth a conger-eel with glistening skin, or some cuttle-fish or calamary, which vainly attempts to escape by shrouding itself in a cloud of ink. The children in the meantime gather from the rocks limpets, periwinkles, whelks, roaring buckies, ormers, or mussels, which hang clustering together like bunches of grapes, suspended by the threads of the byssus, which the animal weaves for itself. For two or three hours the beach is full of life and activity, whilst a whole population pours forth to seek its daily food; but soon the waves return towards the shore, the tide rises, and all hasten homeward, certain that the sea will replace the bounteous gifts which it is taking from them, and that in a few hours they may come forth again to reap a harvest which has needed no season of planting or of sowing.

There was fun as well as science to be had out of rock-pools:—

One day, for instance, I threw a large *Arenicola* into a pool of several feet in extent. A troop of little shrimps, who were sedately enjoying themselves in the clear element, dispersed in alarm, startled by the noise made by the fall of this strange body, but, recovering themselves in a moment, they rallied, and whilst the annelid was endeavouring to bury itself in the sand, one of the youngest, and, consequently, also the most venturesome of the party, seized the creature by the middle of its body. Emboldened by this example the others lost no time in imitating it, and the poor *Arenicola* was pulled about in all directions until a full-grown shrimp, darting from behind a tuft of Corallines, dispersed his feeble comrades and appropriated the booty to himself. I soon saw, however, that he would be compelled to divide the spoil, for at that very instant there poured forth from the moving sand some score of small Turbos and Buccinums, who conscious that a victim was at hand, wished to participate in the feast. Without any sign of uncertainty or hesitation they moved straight forward towards the *Arenicola*, whose body was covered in the twinkling of an eye with these voracious molluscs. I thought his fate definitively settled, when a small shore-crab (*Cancer Mœnas*) issued from beneath a stone, put to flight the shrimp, and by dragging off the *Arenicola* very nearly upset all the Turbos, who forthwith hurried back to their sandy haunts. Then, however, a large edible Crab (*Cancer Pagurus*) appeared upon the scene, and the poor little *Mœnas* was obliged in his turn to beat a retreat in order to escape out of reach of the formidable pincers of his stronger kinsman. But he still kept a watchful eye over the dainty morsel which he had once tasted, and taking advantage of a moment when the larger crab was withdrawing from the field from some temporary emotion of alarm, he rapidly seized the long-disputed *Arenicola*, and carried it for safety to some distance from the water's edge, where he might devour it at his ease on dry ground.

His second visit was to Bréhat, on the shore of Brittany. His third was to Sicily, when he formed one of a Government commission, in company with Blanchard and Milne Edwards. They hired their own boat, and explored the Sicilian coast with passionate eagerness:—

I saw the sea here under an aspect entirely new to me. The ocean does not exhibit those absolute and profound calms which are observed in inland seas where the surface of the water is often as smooth as a mirror, permitting the eye to distinguish the minutest details at an incredible depth. I was at first often deceived by this marvellous transparency into the belief that I could grasp some Annelid or Medusa, which seemed to be swimming at only a few inches' distance from me. Our patron watched the proceeding with a sarcastic smile, and taking a long pole with a small net attached to one of its extremities, he, to my intense astonishment, plunged it many feet below the surface before it came in contact with the objects which I had imagined I could grasp in my hand.

This marvellously limpid condition of the water produced another charming illusion. Leaning over the side of the boat we could see flitting beneath our eyes a vision of plains, valleys and hills, in one place with bare and rugged sides, in another, clothed with verdant herbage, or dotted over with tufts of brownish shrubs, and in all respects calling to mind the distant view of a passing landscape. But it was not the varied outlines of a terrestrial scene on which our eyes were riveted, for we were scanning the rugged contour of rocks, more than a hundred feet below us, amid submarine precipices, along which the undulating sands, the sharply cut angles of the stone, and the rich tufts of brightly coloured red weeds and glossy fucus fronds, lay revealed to sight with such incredible preciseness and clearness, as completely to deprive us of the power of separating the real from the ideal. After gazing intently for a while at the picturesque scene beneath our eyes, we scarcely perceived the intervening liquid element which served for its atmosphere and bore us on its clear surface. We seemed to be suspended in empty space, or, rather, realising one of those dreams in which the imagination often indulges, we appeared to be soaring like a bird, and to contemplate from some aerial height the thousand varied features of hill and dale.

Among other phenomena, M. Quatrefages gives a lengthy account of the volcanic eruptions of Etna. He then takes us to the Bay of Biscay, to Biarritz, Guettary, and St. Jean de Luz, winding up with visits to La Rochelle, Chatelaillon, and Esnandes.

As a pleasant addition to our scientific literature, and as a book of travels far more informing and suggestive than nine out of every ten which are published, these *Rambles of a Naturalist* deserved the careful translation they have received; and, although they contain nothing new in the way of science, yet they bring in an accessible shape much that is valuable to naturalists which was scattered through memoirs and monographs within the reach of few.

ART COLLECTIONS IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Galleries and Cabinets of Art in Great Britain. Being an Account of more than Forty Collections of Paintings, Drawings, Sculptures, MSS., &c. By Dr. Waagen. Murray.

DR. WAAGEN'S new volume is supplementary to the three published by him on the Treasures of Art in Great Britain. Since the year 1854, he has visited numerous collections, carefully describing the pictures, sculptures, drawings, manuscripts, and antiquities brought under his notice. His idea has been to put together such exact details of every work as might suffice in future for its identification, and this, as he remarks, is the more important from the number of galleries continually stripped by the auctioneer. Thus, since the appearance of Dr. Waagen's former massive book, the collections of Lord Colborne, Mr. Rogers, Miss Rogers, the Earl of Oxford, the Earl of Shrewsbury, and others, have been totally dispersed; but if these are intended as guides, the author must be careful to verify them with especial minutes, and not to incur the charge of occasional inaccuracy, to which at present he appears liable. Considerable improvements might be introduced into a second edition, in the treatment and, perhaps, in the plan. Dr. Waagen has a formal set of phrases which he continually applies, so that his pages are encumbered with technicalities. But all art students will acknowledge the interest and value of his researches, the more particularly so, in that this volume is partially a criticism of the Manchester Exhibition, many of the pictures mentioned having been exhibited there in a better light than that in which the Doctor saw them. Perhaps it is on account of this circumstance that some of his descriptions are overcoloured, and even absolutely incorrect, it being obviously difficult to appreciate any work of art in a dim, old-fashioned gallery, half full of shadows, and adapted only for portraits of ancestral ugliness. In all probability, however, Dr. Waagen will speedily find an opportunity to be his own corrector, since he has omitted to notice several important collections. In its actual shape, however, the supplementary volume is very acceptable, as may be inferred when we say that Canaletto's pictures occur in twelve of the collections

described, the Carraccis' in twenty, Claude's in twenty-seven, Corregio's in eight, Cuypp's in twenty-one, Carlo Dolce's in eleven, Francesco Francia's in seven, Murillo's in thirty-one, Raphael's in fourteen, Rembrandt's in twenty-three, Guido's in twenty-four, Salvator Rosa's in twenty-eight, Rubens's in forty, Tintoretto's in fourteen, and Titian's in twenty-nine. Some of the examples, of course, are doubtful, but there can be no question that the forty collections enumerated, and now first described, are of abundant richness and beauty. They include the British Museum and the National Gallery in their additions and changes, Lord Yarborough's, the Marquis of Hertford's, the late Mr. Morrison's, Sir Charles Eastlake's, Lord Overstone's, the Duc d'Aumale's, Lord Warwick's, the Prince Consort's at Kensington Palace, Lord Folkestone's, Lord Amherst's at Knoll Park, Mr. Banke's, the Duke of Northumberland's at Alnwick and Sion, the Duke of Newcastle's at Princely Chamber, the Duke of Portland's at Welbeck, Mr. Baring's, Mr. St. John Milmay's, Mr. Beresford Hope's, and others of inferior importance; Mr. Speaker Denison's Annibale Caracci and Lord Abercorn's Tintoretto remain as yet unnoticed. We glanced with curiosity at the account of the art treasures at Basildon Park, the residence of the late millionaire merchant, James Morrison, whose latter years were clouded by monomaniacal anticipations of beggary. The old gentleman who received two pounds sterling a week from his steward, to guarantee him against destitution, lived in the midst of Oriental luxury. In his front hall stood an ancient quadrangular altar of Roman marble, sculptured with heroic figures, eagles, and rains, and bearing an exquisite cinerary urn. In the hall itself hung a magnificent Turner landscape, glowing with the light and life of Italy; in the octagon, works by Hilton, Eastlake, Turner, Constable, Collins, Webster, Hogarth, Pickersgill, Wilson, Nasmyth, Wilkie, Stanfield, and Ward; evincing the proprietor's taste for the modern schools. On the library wall was one of the warm bacchanals of Poussin, with a Rembrandt portrait, a Rubens Virgin, and a Parmegiano group of Amorini. A bronze Mænad tossed her arms and displayed her beauty in this chamber, concerning which Dr. Waagen adds, "The front part of the bookcase consists of a beautiful brown marble with shells, which is framed in a black marble." Then in the drawing-room Morrison hung a Da Vinci Grace, garlanded with flowers, with an ivory relief by François du Quesnoy, the only other object of art in this room being a superb crystal vase marvellously cut. The oak room contained a series of fine old pictures, the greater part of the Netherland school, with a few varieties of the French and German. Clearly, Mr. Morrison was a man of taste with but a moderate sympathy with the fine arts. At his house in Harley-street he had made a more considerable collection, though not upon a scale commensurate with his gigantic acquisitions of property. We can imagine Dr. Waagen's work attaining no little value as historical material when our posterity examines the aspects of this age, for it will inform the inquirer as to the condition of art in the nineteenth century, and point to the classes and the individuals by which it has been admired and encouraged. To artists of the present day the publication is of great importance.

NOVELS AND TALES.

The Ruling Passion. By Rainey Hawthorne. 3 vols. (Bentley.)—*The Ruling Passion* is the story of a family feud, arising out of an unrighteous will. Its purpose is good. The main idea is worked out with persistency, and sometimes with effect; but the writer has a hopelessly false idea of dialogue, which tempts him continually into the composition of inflated colloquies between the several personages of his drama. The moral is, that unnumbered woes may proceed from an unjust disposition of property; but the plot is made up of a variety of materials, a concealed birth and a recovered son being among the most important. The character-painting is devoted chiefly to the portraits of the rival brothers and the contrasted lawyers. If, as we believe, *The Ruling Passion* is a first work, it may be described as generally very meritorious; the interest of the narrative is considerable, and the incidents of the tale are worked out carefully and consistently.

Almost; or, Crooked Ways. A Tale. By Anna Leslie. (Groombridge and Sons.)—Miss Leslie is the authoress of 'Self and Self-Sacrifice,' a story produced last autumn, which commanded some attention. *Almost* belongs to the same school. It is a didactic exposition of a certain idea of duty. The writing, though not vigorous, is graceful, and the tone throughout is admirably pure, and calculated to inspire healthy moral sentiments.

Generalship. A Tale. By George Ray. (Griffin and Co.)—Here we have an elaborate Scottish story, with humorous episodes. It is intended as an illustration of the evils likely to spring from manœuvring on the part of wives and housekeepers. Mr. Ray has published his book in the interest of 'the peace of the family,' and may consequently claim a word of grateful recognition.

The Rival Kings; or, Overbearing. By the Author of 'Sidney Grey.' (Kent and Co.)—A boy's book for Christmas. It is cheerful, sensible, and entertaining—a volume profitable for young persons to read.

The Lions of London. No. I. (Lawrence.)—The author has much to relate of romance made up of deep lights and shadows, and, in his earlier chapters, moves forward with vivacity.

The Prisoner of the Border. A Tale of 1838. By P. Hamilton Myers. (Low and Co.)—This is a rough, well-told story of adventure and vicissitude. The author is popular in America, and maintains his reputation as a weaver of close-spun romance, coloured with more or less of reality.

Captain Molly: the Story of a Brave Woman. By Thrace Talmon. (Low and Co.)—The title of this book is derived from an incident in the history of the French Revolution. Molly was a woman who actually figured in the war of independence, and she is here imagined, rather than described: the result is, a sprightly series of hairbreadth escapes, heroic achievements, and all kinds of melodramatic encounters. Many English readers may be glad to make the acquaintance with the 'brave woman' represented in the engravings as 'fighting a gun' or braining a Red Indian with a hatchet.

Wild Northern Scenery; or, Sporting Adventures with the Rifle and the Rod. By S. H. Hammond. (Low and Co.)—Mr. Hammond is a somewhat commonplace writer, and, although he has abundance of inventions, in addition perhaps to some interesting reminiscences, appears at a loss to

make use of his materials. His book is lively in parts, but is spoiled by its general triteness and affectation.

The Game of Life. By Waters. (Ward and Lock.)—'Waters' is described as 'Author of the Recollections of a Detective Police Officer.' This 'revelation of the inner springs of human action' is a melodramatic story, amusing enough, but written in a false and exaggerated style. The illustrations are not worthy of a penny song-book.

In the *Amusing Library* (Lay)—which really answers to its title—Hendrik Conscience's story, *The Demon of Gold*, is reprinted in a neat and inexpensive form, by which, probably, its popularity will be stimulated.

CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN INDIA.

Review of the Measures which have been adopted in India for the Improved Culture of Cotton. By J. Forbes Royle, M.D., F.R.S. Smith, Elder, and Co.

THE spirit of Dr. Royle's review of the measures adopted for the improved culture of cotton in India is by no means encouraging. Independently of the general unsuitableness of the climate for the cultivation of American cotton, which, from the superior length of its staple, is far more valued than the indigenous variety, many causes combine to check the importation of Indian cotton into this country. The ryots, who dispose of their produce to middle-men at a low price, cannot be persuaded to expend the requisite time and attention in preserving the fresh-gathered cotton free from leaves and bracts and other impurities. The middle-men, again, even take pains to further adulterate the already impure cotton which they have purchased from the cultivators. With perverse ingenuity they seek to increase its weight at the expense of its quality by mixing in fine sand, seed, or powdered salt, or by exposing it to the dews of night before it is packed into bales. Even the Bombay merchants who supply the home markets with Indian cotton are careless as to its condition. They know beforehand that its only chance of finding a sale is when the American cotton is unobtainable at a moderate price. It is true that the Indian article can be delivered in Liverpool at a profit at 3½d. per lb.; but, on the other hand, a pound of Surat cotton yields only 12 oz. of yarn, while the same quantity of American would yield 13½ oz.; and the waste on the former is 25 per cent., while on the latter it is only 12½. To enable cotton from India to compete with American with the slightest chance of success, it is necessary that none but the very best kinds should be sent home, and even those greatly improved. It is scarcely probable, indeed, that under any circumstances the best Indian produce will ever be equal to the American in softness or in length of staple, but the cost of its culture is not the sixth part of that of the latter. Cheapness, however, is of secondary importance to freedom from impurities. But the ryot, without much difficulty, might be made to understand that on the cleanness of the article would depend his own remuneration. This, Dr. Royle suggests, could be effected by sending agents into the districts to buy directly of the cultivators, without the intervention of the middle-men. Care, of course, must be taken that these agents are themselves honest, and competent judges of quality, and it might be advisable to regulate their commission according to the quality of their purchases. But these are matters of detail. The essential point is to interest the home manufacturers in the improvement of the general culture of cotton in India. So long as they are content to take the chances of the market, there will be no encouragement for speculators in India to invest their capital in such perilous adventure as the growth of an article which is uncertain of sale after a long sea voyage. With an estimated capital of 50,000*l.* it is possible to introduce the employment of machinery in cleaning and preparing the cotton upon the spot, under European superintendence, and also to maintain a direct communication with the producers. The agents employed to buy up cotton, might also render excellent service to the Manchester manufacturers, by disposing of cotton goods in the interior. The first step to be taken, however, is the introduction of sawgins, without which it is vain to look for a wool free from impurities. Greater care must also be paid to the packing of the bales, and to guarding the unpacked cotton from exposure to the atmosphere. The punishment of adulteration, and the improvement of the means of conveyance to the coast, are also indispensable. But above all some sort of security must be given, that the demand for American cotton grown in India will be less intermittent than at present, for otherwise but few planters or merchants will venture upon such an extensive and uncertain speculation.

MISCELLANIES.

THERE is a book upon our table of which we can say but little. That little, however, shall be a cordial recommendation of it to the notice of the commercial public. The title is *Statistical Book-keeping: Being a Simplification and Abbreviation of the Common System of Double Entry.* By Frederick Charles Kemp. (Longman and Co.) The classes addressed are merchants, bankers, tradesmen, manufacturers, ship-owners, farmers, stewards, and householders—in fact, all who are interested in accounts. The author adds some suggestions for the prevention of defalcations and frauds in banks and railway companies. His plan appears to have received the sanction of eminent American firms.

Among miscellanies, we must rank Dr. Havilland le M. Chepmell's *Short Course of History* (Whittaker and Co.), the second series of which has appeared in two volumes, including the Greek and Mohammedan annals, and the middle ages. It is beyond comparison superior to any epitome of 'Russell's History of Europe,' being more carefully and rationally written, more complete, more lucid, and more trustworthy. It will probably supersede that faulty and pretentious compilation.

Mr. C. Greville Williams, of the Normal College, Swansea, and the University of Glasgow, has published *A Handbook of Chemical Manipulation* (Van Voorst). The only work in the language specially devoted to chemical manipulation having long been out of print, this elaborate guide has a particular value. The arrangement is all that could be desired, and the materials appear to have been judiciously selected. *The Principles of Agriculture, Especially Tropical, and of Organic Chemistry Familiarly Treated* (Smith,

Elder, and Co.), by Dr. Lovell Phillips, is a volume of singular interest, and will probably stimulate the progress of scientific agriculture. Other special treatises, which we need only mention, are: A second edition of Mr. Hunt's well-known *Guide to the Treatment of Diseases of the Skin* (Churchill), and the Rev. G. Scrutton's admirable little book on *Architectural Economics*, containing rules and estimates for every kind of building. Mr. William Noy Wilkins issues a series of thoughtful and pointed *Letters in Connoisseurship and the Anatomy of a Picture* (Chapman and Hall), designed as an aid to young artists. Of course he has theories which he intrepidly maintains. To the attention of various orders of students we may commend M. Selig's *German Made Easy* (David Nutt), upon a new and meritorious plan; Mr. J. D. Morell's *Grammar of the English Language* (Constable and Co.), the authorship of which constitutes a patent of popularity; Mr. James Currie's *Principles and Practice of Early and Infant School Education* (Constable and Co.)—a volume of excellent practical suggestions; and a third edition of Mr. David Page's *Introductory Text Book of Geology* (W. Blackwood and Sons). Mr. J. Talboys Wheeler has revised a new edition of Dr. Anthon's *Satires of Juvenal and Persius*, with selections from the best commentators (Tegg and Co.); the version is standard. Mr. Richard W. O'Brien sends us a first part (Longman and Co.) of *The Odes of Horace Translated into English Verse*, with the original measures preserved throughout. There is much classic feeling in the composition, although the verses sometimes creak as they move. As a little educational fragment of considerable merit we may notice *The Etymology of Local Names, with a Short Introduction to the Relationship of Languages*, by Mr. R. Morris (Judd and Glass). The author was formerly a student of the Battersea Training College, an institution the importance of which is not sufficiently known. Mr. E. Landells may take rank as an inventor in the noble science of amusing the young. His *Home Pastimes; or, the Child's own Toy-maker* (Griffiths and Freeman), is neither a book of pictures nor a book of toys, but both. It is quite a discovery, and will probably become a fireside favourite. The plan is ingeniously simple, and will enable any little craftsman to cover his table with railway carriages, cottages, yachts, and windmills of card.

Portfolia.

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

THE WOODSPRING PAPERS.

III.

From Joseph Andrewes Wilson, Esq., to G. Andrews Wilson, Esq., Woodspring, Somersetshire.

Weymouth-street, November 25, 1857.

MY DEAR GEORGE,—Several little incidents have happened. I do not know that I remember all, and some are not worth telling, but I can confirm something I said in my last, which is, that Lawford acted in the noblest manner about Aunt Eugenia's little property. The fact is, that since he retracted in that unintelligible manner, I have heard that the London and Empire is no better than other banks, and evidently Lawford, who has patronized the bank, though he does not bank there exclusively, but with the Bank of England I fancy, wished to save her, whatever the interests of his client or his own. You will say this is only honesty; but I can tell you that some British merchants would laugh at him for his greenness. However, Lawford is really one of the nobles of the commercial world. You can see it even in the manner of his conversation. He is not without ambition, and he is a statesman. These Radical Reformers in the City pay great court to him, and I can see he sympathizes with them very much. He lends them his advice, and, to some extent, his purse. He said to me last Saturday night, "I have a great regard for Roebuck, who is a pure-minded man, a most pure-minded man; but I doubt whether I ought to identify myself too closely with his hobby." He is courted quite as much, of course, by Lord John Russell's friends, who get at him through Hochschild and that set. "And I have a great regard for the Duke," he said to me, meaning the Duke of Bedford; "a kind-hearted, intelligent little man as any in the world—a most intelligent man, I do assure you; but the party has not kept that straightforward go-ahead course which we plain Englishmen like." He is much sought by Lord Palmerston, and is not at all inaccessible to the softer influences which do so much in statesmanship—"but I am not at all satisfied with one or two points, one or two points in that able, most able man's recent conduct; he is a fine fellow, Palmerston, but I think a little too sharp for us dull men of business"—The 'South Kensington set' have moved mountains to get hold of Lawford, "and" said he, "I have a great respect for the Prince, quite independently of my affection for his wife,—and she is a woman, sir, whom any Englishman might be proud to claim as his wife,—but I do not altogether like this German silver art which seems to me to be taking possession of the court, the senate, the church, and even the civil service. It looks very like some intrigue, some political 'ism' in plain clothes; and we plodding English are always jealous of 'isms,' especially when they are patronized by the *Almanach de Gotha*. I tell you what a certain lady said to me who is quite as grand a statesman as her husband. She has found out the object of the conspiracy: It is to make us all look like the good people in the modern school of German Scripture pieces,—people who cannot say their soul's their own, but are dreadfully obedient to a paternal government, and then we shall all of us have to perform life according to drill, under a German Miss Edgeworth in a field-marshal's uniform; but it is not true that her husband would treat any Miss Edgeworth with want of courtesy, even though she were a German Miss Edgeworth, and wore the field-marshal's breeches." This was the way Lawford rattled on in our short railway journey on Saturday evening. Our object was to get down to Leicester's 'box' by seven, for half-past—the dinner hour. At the station, a man came up and touched his hat, which salutation Lawford answered by one of his short benevolent nods, and we then took

our places in one of the plainest, neatest, and most perfect pieces of bijouterie in carriage-building you could meet with, even in the Rue de Rivoli, or the whole course of the Champs-Élysées. Lawford took it all as a matter of course, and so did I; but I began to realize the completeness of the young merchant's hospitality, even at the railway station.

An easy and almost noiseless roll over the common and up a few lanes brought us to Leicester's—more truly a 'box' than anything I have seen called so. Outside you see nothing; but as we drew up, some one opened a door in the high ivy-clad walls, and we entered a garden which seemed to extend beyond the immediate view, but which was shut out by some rare specimens of pines and firs, with a foreground of evergreens. It was too dark for me to tell exactly what I did see, but I know there were laurels, young American oaks, yews, and plenty of bright holly covered with berries. I could distinguish no flowers in bloom but chrysanthemums, which were growing in magnificent profusion, but the glimpse I had was sufficient to tell me that the garden, of whatever size it might prove, was perfectly kept. The house itself, of dark brick, with dark door of mahogany and coloured glass, looked at first as if it could be nothing more than rather a big square gate-lodge, it is so small and low. An assiduous man-servant ushered us through the small hall into a room larger than I could have expected, and Leicester advanced to meet us with his cordial, graceful, and gay greeting.

"Lawford has made a slow guide, Wilson," he said; "we were beginning to debate a storm on the dinner." You notice he called me by my name only; a certain audacious familiarity is among his ways, and it does not sit badly on a man who is so agreeable and so rich! Lawford made some bantering retaliation to which I did not attend, and I had time to survey the place and party. We were in a room fitted up for comfort rather than show; the prevailing colour of the walls, the floor, and the furniture being very dark green, relieved by red almost as dark. Books modestly signified their presence from cases buried in the wall, and almost concealed by hangings. Solid easy-chairs, small couches, ottomans covered with velvet, moreen, or leather, courted the lounge. One thing impressed me by its effect, though I could not tell what it was; it occurred to me afterwards it was the total absence of any sort of ornament. The company was the most various part of the picture, presenting all degrees of propriety. I take myself as the standard, for I went in an ordinary dress for dinner, and you know what a 'perfect gentleman' any one of our clan looks in that *comme il faut* costume. Leicester was a cut above me, though not so proper, with a sort of light black surtout, or doublet—I don't know what to call it—easily fitting his figure, loose trousers of some soft stuff, all dark, and nothing round his throat but a strip of white linen, which just peeped above the edge of his collarless garment, like a figure out of one of Stothard's pictures, only with more fire and manliness. The only other stranger was Lord Baddeley, a tall, *ci-devant* jeune homme, or a veritable youth grown grey and grisly, in a loose, free-and-easy coat and trousers of light grey, rather 'cut away' in style, turned-down collar, and protrusively negligent necktie, as if he had aped but had only succeeded in caricaturing Ben Jonson's 'sweet neglect.' His complexion was fair and rather florid; his hair, once 'golden,' but now clouded with grey, though still luxuriantly clustering round his forehead and dropping about his face in the shape of eyebrows, whiskers, moustache, imperial, and stray hairs that asserted themselves everywhere, on his cheeks, his nose, and round his neck, a rough-looking, 'aristocratic,' smiling, sneering, gay, indignant, fast, travelled, English gentleman, that was the idea he gave me. Lawford, with his eternal black suit and tail-coat à la First Violin, and his inflexibly strung-up ease of manner, looked strange beside the other two.

We had scarcely become aware of each other, before, at some quiet summons, Leicester tacitly presented himself as our guide into the room opposite—a new scene—a burst of warmth, the light of a splendid fire glowing on walls, hangings, floor, and seats of rich crimson, tastefully and solidly, but not lavishly, picked out with gold; a few wax candles in branches on the table or on the walls kept up the play of light, which was sparkling without glaring; and the very fruits and confections on the table, with flowers crowning the foreground, the glass, the silver, the wines, all threw in sparkling colours, which almost made the picture sing with an inviting piquancy. When we had taken our seats at the round table, I noticed that a young man, clothed in some foreign costume, was at the back of each chair; a tall, beardless Black in a light blue robe, who never spoke, stood behind Leicester; a black-eyed, bearded Oriental with red jacket, turban, pistol, and dagger, threatened Baddeley with all the dainties of the season; Lawford selected his refreshments with studious indifference, as if it were a matter of course to receive one's dinner at the hands of a gay Greek pirate; but to you, my own brother, I may frankly confess that I scarcely knew the name of any one thing at table except the fruits and the wines, and that it was several minutes before I could feel at home on the borders of Cockney Richmond Park in taking what I wanted, and a great deal more that beggared fancy, from the hands of a Spanish contrabandist.

But if I tell you everything of this strange lesson in the way British merchants ought to live, I shall never have done. I can only tell you that the great young Leicester, who, whisper his enemies, has part of his capital in some Spanish or African trade, or both, must have a real genius for his cook; for everything seemed in its way perfect, nothing 'too rich,' over-seasoned, or spoiled of its purity. As the dinner gradually sank into the dessert, Baddeley emerged from his laborious industry, Lawford relaxed from the responsibilities of selecting his food and telling the latest intelligence, and the conversation grew general. But how could it be general between four strangers? Leicester would have made it so if Baddeley would have left off referring everything talked about to something that he had heard or seen at Venice, at Constantinople, Lahore, or Siam, or some other distant scene; or if Lawford could have forgotten his own position, political and social, or if I could have quite left off ruminating.

Leicester left us very much to ourselves; if he paid special attention to any one it was to me, and I can assure you nothing could exceed the good taste with which occasionally he directed my choice amid the poetry of his cuisine, or explained allusions made by Baddeley or Lawford to incidents

beyond the verge of a poor traveller who has never been beyond Killarney, Naples, or the Rhine. Sometimes I could not help thinking that he was enlightening Lawford through me; but not a glance did he cast at our statesman. His taste in thus tutoring me was even more exquisite than if he had affected to avoid noticing my ignorance as a discredit. It was like an elder brother teaching a younger, though I doubt his being older, or even so old as I am. Baddeley was the only one who tarnished the feast by excess; for although I saw Lawford's sleek little white hand pretty often on the bottle, he seldom cared to fill, and never lost his coolness. Baddeley fell to anecdotes, stories, boasting, and wonder-making. He 'voted' lingering over the table 'slow,' and wanted to have a turn at billiards—in that little box;—and though I am not squeamish, you know, became rather disagreeable in his anecdotes. Once I could see our host's eye rest severely on his ill-mannered guest, and the mode he took to cool him was a master-stroke. He had pool-pooled billiards, and had cut off some of the worst anecdotes by adroit interruptions; but it was when Baddeley challenged him to throw the jared that he laughed and said, "You will make me cool you!" Our host drew from his breast a little silver whistle I had not noticed before, the speechless Black appeared, and retired on a few words from his master.

"You are not afraid of the cold," said Leicester to Lawford and me, as he rose from table; and we replied by rising and following him. He led us through lighted passages out of the cottage into a shrubbery scarcely lighted by the moon, through a few winding paths; and, as we came out on to an open space, that I felt to be a closely-shaven lawn, as if by magic the whole garden was lighted up by a bright blue light, and two of our Eastern attendants appeared, leading on to the lawn a beautiful white, and a still more beautiful black horse. Before Baddeley mounted, Leicester was on the back of the white steed. A jared is placed in the hand of each. Leicester is whirling round his antagonist, who wheels and twists in the effort to take aim. At last Baddeley's jared is thrown—it is held aloft in Leicester's hand—it flies right across the back of the black horse, now riderless, for in throwing himself aside to avoid the shaft, the grey-haired youth has fallen.

"You do it better when you are cool," said Leicester, consolingly, and he makes a signal to the Arab, who mounts the black horse, and becomes in turn the assailant. The jared is thrown with unerring aim—it passes clean over the white horse's back, the rider disappearing as it passes, sitting in his place again as the whistling shaft has gone. A wild, circling flight round the lawn ends abruptly at my feet, the horse like a beast of marble. "It is only knock," cries Leicester; "but you must be cold standing still. Let us come in."

The horses are led away; the meteor behind the shrubs—a blue light in the hands of the Spanish contrabandiero—is eclipsed as we re-enter the cottage, and we again thread the passages, but not into the same room. Without perceiving that we had turned aside, I found myself following the others up a narrow flight of steps, thickly muffled with carpeting, winding, and dimly lighted, and we emerged into the strangest room I ever entered. It was of some size, but it would defy you to measure it. The open middle of the room was entirely surrounded by arches, pierced in a dark-green wall; in some of these arches were divans, others were dark like the one through which we entered. The open space was partly covered, over the dark-green flooring of cloth, by a rich, soft, amber-coloured carpet of some thick silk, which reflected the lamplight through a broad, ground-glass skylight above; and on the amber-coloured carpet were spread couches, chairs, and low sofa-like seats, of light-blue, rose-coloured, and violet-coloured silk. I saw no fireplace, but a summer warmth reigned throughout the room, though occasionally from the grotto-shaped arches came a light, spring-like breeze.

You will say, my dear George, that I had drunk more wine than I will confess, and that the cold had made it get into my head; but you are mistaken. I am telling only what I saw four nights ago, within omnibus ride of this great commercial city, in the very sound and crash of this great commercial crisis.

"It is comfortable after the cool," cried Leicester, as if we had gone back to an ordinary drawing-room. Lawford imitated the host, in throwing himself into a couch. Baddeley had already done so, and as I took my seat, Leicester clapped his hands. At the signal—imagine my surprise!—three beautiful girls—yes, *really* lovely—with rounded forms, blushing cheeks, pencilled eyebrows, and all that sort of thing, came in, one bearing coffee, the other two pipes—hookahs, chibouques, or whatever they are—and we had coffee à la Galand. I felt like Hindbad the Porter, and should have asked Leicester if he was Sinbad the Sailor, only I did not feel quite sure how he would have taken it.

The girls retired, and as the spirit of the coffee ascended to the throne of intellect, as the pungent yet gentle and aromatic smoke circled in dreamy clouds about the saloon, there came floating on the breezes, at first so soft, it was like a fancy, the sound of female voices in harmony, some soft strains that I did not recognize, though they would have roused a *furor* of applause even in Gyo's house.

Even Lawford looked surprised as well as delighted, and Baddeley's face assumed a pleased expression.

"Bismillah!" he cried, with an air of mock enthusiasm, "your slaves, my lord, are the most valuable in the world, and the different countries of the earth supply you with their best."

"I only doubt," said I, "whether it is possible to enjoy many perfections at once. The perfume of the hookah and the aroma of the coffee heighten one another, but these sounds have taken away my taste."

"Leicester has exhausted his treasures and shown us his best," said Lawford, intending to draw our host out.

"If I show you my best it must be in a mirror," answered Leicester, smiling; "nay, I don't mean in a gross material mirror, but in a moral one; for my best is my success if I try to please those who honour my poor efforts with their favour."

"Ah, salaam!" cried Baddeley, "if you grow poetic and Oriental in

your compliments, Leicester will beat you at that. But now, in sober earnest, my boy, you have shown us the bottom of your purse."

"My purse is empty if it contains not what my lord desires, but indeed it is filled with the wishes of my lord."

"Why, then," said Baddeley, with a twinkling eye, "I should like——"

"We have seen beauty, but it was mute," interrupted Lawford; "we have heard beauty, but it was unseen."

"I should like——" reiterated Baddeley.

"You are going to ask me," rebutted Leicester, "for the impossible."

"He is the evil genius of this bower," whispered I to Lawford.

"Humbug!" cried Baddeley. "However, if a man mustn't, after all, speak his mind in sober seriousness, one of my wishes was told you before you allowed me to make an ass of myself; for if you are better at some things, I can beat you at billiards!"

The fellow could never rise above the coffee-house.

Leicester looked at us for permission, and rose to lead the way. In my own mind I had treated the idea of a billiard-room in that 'box' as an absurdity, but now he was evidently going to let us have 'the impossible.'

The room from which we were descending was indeed of a good size; but it was, I felt sure, at the top of the low square building, and was over both the other rooms. I have observed that size is as much disguised by extreme squareness as it is by variety and pointiness of form; and Leicester's dark square box is really as much larger than it looks as Woodspring Priory itself; but still it is a small, low building. I thought the billiard-room might be over some of the offices; but he led us into one of the dimly-lighted arches of the saloon, down a winding stair longer than the one we had ascended, and through a long passage as silent as the stairs, which opened into a splendid saloon, a long oblong, with walls of fine white stucco painted with flowers. In the midst, a billiard-table of plain mahogany and green; but at the side of the saloon were benches with crimson velvet cushions and ivory arms and legs, and velvet cushions for the feet. At the further end of the hall appeared to be chess-tables and other tables, but we did not go there.

Leicester asked us if we would play; but Lawford and I preferred to look on, and as we took our seats on one of the benches, the black slave brought us pipes and coffee. I shall not describe the play. By his success, Baddeley seemed to be right when he boasted that he was the better man on that field; but I am sure that Leicester acted the generous host by playing carelessly. One incident alone proved this. Baddeley had been exulting in a sort of joking pity as he added up the good round sums that he won, for they played high; the game was almost certainly his, and as the balls fell into position, he cried, "There's a table for you! cannon and pocket!" Now I should tell you how the balls were placed. Leicester was in baulk, not very far from the left-hand pocket. The red ball was about as far from the middle pocket on the right hand; and Baddeley's towards the left again, further down the table. Leicester took a little more pains than before, stooped a little and measured his angles, and then his ball parted like a bullet from his cue: the red ball disappeared into the right-hand middle pocket, Baddeley's into the left bottom pocket, and rebounding against the cushion at the end, Leicester's ball disappeared in the right-hand pocket in baulk. It was not only that it was done, but in order to appreciate the coup, you should have seen the mathematical precision. "Ah!" cried Baddeley, "a few more such strokes and you would recover a bit."

"It is dull work for bystanders," cried Leicester, as the game closed.

"Not at all," answered Lawford, though my attention to the game, and Baddeley's business-like devotion to it, left the statesman only to an interrupted *tête-à-tête*—"not at all,—only we must not forget time."

It was indeed long past midnight, so cunningly had our host conjured away time.

"Your carriage only waits your pleasure," he said; and he led us up another stair, emerging by a door in the wall into the room we had first entered, now enriched with wines, biscuits, jellies, sandwiches, and other light portable *bonnes bouches*. "To whet your appetite for the journey," he said.

Not long after, Lawford and I passed through the little door in the ivy-clothed garden wall into the dark, and rolled back towards London.

I have more to tell, but I must wait till my next. Meanwhile, I may hear more. Polwhele, I have just heard, is better, but desperately anxious for the mail.

Yours, ever affectionately,
J. A. W.

The Arts.

MR. ALBERT SMITH AT HOME.

MR. ALBERT SMITH has returned to his Chalet in Piccadilly in greater force and higher spirits than ever, and for the next ten months we may hope that he will be at home seven times a week to that vast circle of friends whose circumference is 'all the world.' More than half of his present entertainment is entirely new, and the rest appears to be considerably rewritten, or 'touched up' here and there with new and happy illustrations. The 'Lecture,' as it is officially entitled (would that all lectures were half as lively!), is now preceded by a pictorial prologue, in other words, a panorama of the Rhine and the Neckar, from Cologne to Heidelberg, effectively painted by Mr. P. PHILLIPS, and accompanied by music in harmony with the scenes as they unroll in bright succession. The front of the Chalet then falls for a moment, and presently, to an audience pleasantly attuned to see and hear what is coming, appears the Lecturer himself, prepared to receive the hearty welcome due to an old friend and a 'jolly good fellow.' Portly as the Great Briton, whose prejudices he flatters, and vivacious as the Mossu, whose weaknesses he ridicules (and whose beard he generously adopts), Mr. ALBERT SMITH opens fire with an introduction composed of double-shotted antithetical sentences, a long way after the manner of Baron MACAULAY; and it is amusing to observe, that like an inexperienced or amateur

gunner, Mr. ALBERT SMITH visibly trembles at the discharge, and betrays an evident sense of relief when he breaks off into the old style of familiar fun. His receipt, *à la* SOYER, for making a Diligence, is in his best style, and his electric summary of the 'railway routes of past lectures,' flashes with sparks of humour and with glances of observation inexhaustibly suggestive and incredibly minute. The Bottle of Champagne (at four o'clock in the morning) at Epernay, is a miracle of vivid reality. The description of a foreign hotel is stereoscopic, and the British tourist, personified by the typical Mr. Brown, is a kindly exaggeration of a well-known figure. A little passing chat about Basle includes a striking anecdote of HOLBEIN's youth. From Zurich, where Mr. ALBERT SMITH, always a pitiless iconoclast, is careful to tell us that the maidens are *not* fair, we pass on to the Hotel on the Righi. Here the Lecturer's astonishing versatility comes into play. He sings 'Le Moulin du Village' to a tin fiddle, and a national air of some sort or other to a hurdy-gurdy—"Voices of the night," to which even the Seven Sleepers could not have been deaf. Here, too, we meet with the undecided Mr. Parker once more—a weak brother, we must confess, and, even at second hand, a bore; but we encounter a novelty in the shape of a specimen of 'Female Girdom,' irreverently entitled 'The Prancer,' from the emphatic nature of her mien and movements. The duet for the cornet-à-piston and piano, between The Prancer and Mr. Parker is irresistible. When the 'drop' goes up again we are on the Lake of Lucerne, with Tell's Chapel to our left. We may be sure that Mr. ALBERT SMITH—a sort of comic NIEBUHR as he is—smashes the popular legend of WILLIAM TELL, and assures us it is all nonsense: the more's the pity. From the lake we pass on to the Jung Frau, and the Bernese Oberland, and thence to the Valais, and by Martigny over the Great St. Bernard to Geneva, concluding with a capital Patter song illustrative of the enjoyments of British tourists—"Brown on his travels." The diorama of the Ascent of Mont Blanc forms the entr'acte, and on the reappearance of the Lecturer we descend with him by the valley of Aosta into Italy, from Turin to Genoa, where we take the boat of the Menageries Impériales for Naples. On board the steamer a diverting incident, which we are told to take for *fact* is related; and, not content with a speaking portrait of a French cavalry officer, Mr. ALBERT SMITH invents a 'patriot' on a mission of national 'regeneration,' for the sole purpose of sneering at exiles. Perhaps it is more cruel than comic to sneer at men whose chief fault is that they are neither fat nor prosperous, nor clothed in fine linen, nor content with national degradation. Strangers will say that Mr. ALBERT SMITH would have sneered at DANTE, as he would sneer at MANIN or POERIO! But the truth is, that those who know him best know well that the kindest of social satirists, in his restless anxiety to be merry, occasionally does injustice to his own better feelings. Naples, with its beauty its squalor, its noise, and its perpetual masquerade, is a life-like picture, and the Lecturer appears to be a little softened by the delicious climate. At Pompeii (where he encounters gushing 'Baby Simmons,' now converted into the 'lady' of the Rev. Septimus Blandy—a mild, classical enthusiast) Mr. ALBERT SMITH yields a moment to the 'religion of the place,' and pays a graceful and grateful tribute to the author of the *Last Days of Pompeii*, whose genius has filled those unburied walls with life and love. But here, again, he will not allow himself to confess that *admonitus locorum*, which he evidently feels; and he takes refuge from emotion in a macaronic song, a sort of olla podrida from the Eton Latin grammar, embodying with infinite humour in the adaptation, and, what is more singular, with a sort of Horatian instinct, the Epicurean sentiment of the old Pagan dwellers on the shore of that lovely bay. This song alone is worth a visit to the EGYPTIAN HALL. The visits to Paestum and to Capri are illustrated by Mr. WILLIAM BEVERLEY'S charming pictures; the Blue Grotto is perhaps a little theatrical in effect, but it is effective: the Eruption of Vesuvius, with which the lecture concludes, is, we must say, an unmitigated *réchauffé* of *Masaniello*. Mr. ALBERT SMITH very wisely shuns politics, and he is comfortably insensible to the fact that he is surrounded at Naples by dungeons in which the best and noblest in the land are slowly tortured to death. Why, then, must he go out of his way to sneer at patriots and exiles? But let us end as we began, with a word of welcome. The 'Galignani' song has lost nothing of its freshness and *à propos*, and we may add that the comfort of the audience is perfectly cared for, and that whoever desires to pass the pleasantest of evenings in the best of company, will pay a visit to Mr. ALBERT SMITH'S hospitable Chalet at the EGYPTIAN HALL.

OPERA BUFFA.

SOME of our contemporaries appear to deal very scanty justice to the Neapolitan company at the St. JAMES'S. One might almost suppose that there was a conspiracy of silence, or of faint praise, to extinguish the Opera Buffa. Surely if there be a flourishing English Opera at one end of the town, we can find room for a few harmless Italians at the other. For our own part, we are for absolute free trade in music as in all other arts, and wherever are to be found the best singers, be they British or Italian, thither do we go. Signor RONZANI'S enterprise has had to contend not only with the grudging notice of the press, but with the disastrous inclemency of a London November; making singers hoarse, and keeping half 'the world' at home. How a tenor or mezzo-soprano, accustomed to the climate of Naples, can even breathe in London at this season, we find it difficult to conceive; yet the pleasant little company at the St. JAMES'S have been singing night after night with scarcely an 'indisposition' to speak of. The production of Ricci's *Birraio di Preston* ought to be a hit. The music is unceasingly gay, sparkling, and tuneful; flowing ever like a clear, bright, shallow stream; the instrumentation is smart and crisp; the concerted pieces are clever and vivacious, the songs full of pleasant little turns, and pretty passages. We dare say Ricci is imperfectly original. But he picks his flowers from the common bouquet of all composers. In any case he is sunny, and southern, and warm with light and colour and careless enjoyment: he is a relief to a London November out of doors. The *Birraio di Preston* is very creditably played and sung; the orchestra and chorus are fairly efficient; the principal singers have good voices, and know how to use them. Signor RAFFAELLI as *Daniel Robinson*, Signor COLOMBO as *Toby*, and Signor CASTELL as *Lord Mungrave*, contribute very successfully to the general vocal and dramatic effect; and Signor GIORGETTI is a charming *tenorino*, with a sweet voice and a pure method. Signora DOTTINI is an acquisition to the company, combining the piquancy of the French school with the flowing fulness of the Italian, although her vocalization is apparently limited in capacity. Signora TAMBURINI has perhaps more voice, with less method and experience; but she sings with spirit, and pleasingly.

The libretto of the *Brewer of Preston* is even more than usually absurd, but it is ingeniously absurd; and from beginning to end the audience is amused. The performance has given great satisfaction, and it deserves to draw the Town to the St. JAMES'S.

LORD CLARENDON ON THE SLAVE TRADE.—A deputation waited on Lord Clarendon at the Foreign Office on Tuesday, for the purpose of presenting a memorial from the committee of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, against the immigration slave trade now being carried on by the French from the west coast of Africa. Lord Clarendon spoke strongly against the system, which he characterized as 'the slave trade unmitigated and undisguised.' The question had been submitted to the consideration of the French Government, which he believed had not foreseen the result of the plan objected to. He felt sure that nothing could be further from the wishes of the Emperor of the French than to revive the slave trade. The attempts of the French agent, moreover, to obtain immigrants, had been very unsuccessful.

THE DEAD SECRET.—A translation of Mr. Wilkie Collins' beautiful story, a letter from Paris informs us, is about to be published in Paris. The translators are puzzled how to translate the title. There is no equivalent in French for the English phrase a 'dead secret,' and in this case the original title contains the very essence of the story. 'The profound secret' is a mere paraphrase, and the *mystère* a substitute for the English title. Can any of our readers, learned in French, suggest an equivalent?

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BEECHER.—On the 22nd inst., at Barnoldby-le-Beck Rectory, Lincolnshire, the wife of the Rev. M. H. Beecher: a son.

BEEVOR.—On the 23rd inst., at Upper Harley-street, the wife of C. Beavor, Esq.: a son.

DEACON.—On the 24th inst., at Cavendish-square, the wife of J. Deacon, Esq.: a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

HANDY—HANDY.—Nov. 24, at St. Peter's Church, Dublin, by the Rev. T. Marshall, John, son of the late S. Handy, Esq., of Bracca Castle, to Maria Kingston, daughter of the late W. O. Handy, Esq., of Ormeston, King's County.

HUBBERSTEY—MOORE.—Nov. 25, at the Roman Catholic Church, Bury, by the Rev. Canon Boardman, Mr. R. Hubberstey, of Hollis Vale, near Bury, to Miss Moore, of Belgrave-terrace, Bury.

DEATHS.

CRADDOCK.—On the 25th inst., at Holles-street, Cavendish-square, C. Craddock, Esq.

GREVILLE.—On the 23rd inst., at Plymouth, A. Greville, Esq., aged 63.

LE BRETON.—On the 24th inst., at St. Helier's, Sir T. Le Breton, Chief Magistrate of the Island of Jersey, aged 66.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, November 24.

BANKRUPTS.—**GEORGE PELLING**, Holloway-place, Holloway-road, and Sidney-street, City-road, carpenter and builder—**JOSEPH WILLIAM SYER**, South-street, Finsbury-market, cabinet manufacturer—**JOSEPH HEMMINGWAY**, Cleveland-street, Fitzroy-square, wool manufacturer—**ARTHUR COLLS**, Poplar, draper—**JOHANN THEODOR HEINRICH**, STOCKMARR, and **CHRISTIAN GOTTLIEB STENDEL**, Basinghall-street, commission and general merchants, and foreign agents—**WILLIAM TYLER**, Bolt-court, Fleet-street, printer—**ROWLAND PRICE**, Stourbridge, Worcester, scrivener, share dealer—**JOHN HENRY SWIFT**, Huddersfield, draper—**DANIEL BEST PARRY**, Liverpool, whitesmith, locksmith, and bell-hanger—**JOAN OTTO WILLIAM FABERT**, Liverpool, ship builder—**RALPH HARDIE THOMSON**, Liverpool, commission and forwarding agent—**JAMES STEEL**, Liverpool, trader—**THOMAS GILSON**, Manchester, shirt front and collar manufacturer—**RICHARD BRIDGE**, Chatterton, Water, and Dunoakshaw, Lanerston, cotton spinner and manufacturer—**THOMAS JAMES WILKINSON**, Hulme, surgeon and apothecary.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—**J. FRENCH**, Maybank, Penicuik—**A. B. WHYTE**, Glasgow, sheriff-officer—**J. M. MURTHRE**, Port-Glasgow, ship owner—**G. THOMPSON**, Strathmiglo, Fifeshire, manufacturer—**H. SCHULTZ**, Grunock, merchant—**H. SPIERS**, Largs, commission agent—**D. M'GLURE**, Glasgow, grocer—**M'ALLAN BROTHERS**, Glasgow, calico printers.

Friday, November 27.

BANKRUPTS.—**JOSEPH HAYWARD**, Andover, Southampton, innkeeper—**JOHN MOSS**, Stafford, grocer—**JOSEPH YEOWARD**, Liverpool, ship broker—**RICHARD HONLEY** and **EDMUND WALTER BRIGGS**, Nottingham, lace manufacturer—**JOHN MINCHIN**, Newport, milliner—**WM. THOMPSON**, Plymouth, dealer in artificial manures—**THOMAS JOHN GREEN**, Mark-lane, provision merchant—**GEORGE SMITH JEWELL**, Willow-walk, Bermondsey, builder—**JOHN WILLIAM BILLSON**, Leicester, bookseller—**WILLIAM HENRY DUNCAN ALDRIDGE**, Great Bridge, Stafford, tailor and draper—**SIMON LUCAS**, the younger, Digheth, Birmingham, grocer—**WILLIAM THOMPSON**, Lichfield, miller—**JOHN (HEINRICH) THEODOR STOCKMARR** and **CHRISTIAN GOTTLIEB STENDEL** (and not Stendel as before advertised), merchants—**GEORGE BEAN**, Cheap-side, hosier—**JAMES WARREN**, Burlington Arcade, dealer in fancy goods—**EDWARD H. HAHN** and **HERMAN FREYSTADT**, Stamford-street, cap manufacturers—**HENRY BENJAMIN MOSELY**, Great Vine-street, Regent-street, dentist.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, November 27.

IN spite of several failures and the suspension of a large bank in the North, the market has improved. The bank returns are understood to be very satisfactory, and the over issue of notes is fast diminishing. The Bank of France has reduced its rate of discount this week, and the moment that it is prudent for the Bank of England to adopt a similar course there will probably be a reduction of

2 per cent. The increase in gold is nearly one and a half million since last week. The public has set itself in one or two particular instances against Joint-Stock Banks and the shares in those undertakings have consequently been much depressed. Foreign stocks and shares remain very firm—Lyons, Lombardo Venetian, Luxembourg, Dutch Rhenish, and Belgian lines have been inquired after. The imminent prospect of the Imperial Government taking East Indian affairs into their own hands gives a much better tone to Indian railways; for should Government take the East India Company's liabilities and engagements, the Company's guarantee of 5 per cent. to shareholders in these lines will be doubly valuable as a Government guarantee. East Indian railway shares are 5 premium. New Indian Peninsulars, 2½ paid, are at 17 per share premium. Eastern of Bengals, 2s. only paid, are at 15s. per share premium. Punjab and South Eastern of Bengal guaranteed have not advanced 6d. per share.

Canadian Railway shares are all very much firmer. Grand Trunk, 37. Bonds in this line are more in demand. Great Western of Canada are buying at 18½ per 20½ 10s. share, or 22 10s. discount per share. Our own home Railway market is very firm; contingents light and money easy; the jobbers are all lenders instead of borrowers of money. Dovers, Yorks, East Lancashire, North Stafford, Berwick, and Caledonians, are 17 to 22 per cent. better. Mines and miscellaneous shares are much neglected; the disastrous fall in copper and tin must drive several poor miners out of work altogether, or, as the Cornishman says, 'she must knock.' The managers of Linares, United Mexican, Cobre, Santiago, have good account from their agents. Money has been very various in its price this week inside the Stock Exchange, and is very plentiful to-day.

Blackburn, 8½, 9½; Caledonian, 7½, 76½; Chester and Holyhead, 29, 31; Eastern Counties, 54, 55; Great Northern, 90, 91; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 96, 98; Great Western, 49, 50; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 89½, 90; London and Blackwall, 5½, 5½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 103, 105; London and North-Western, 94½, 94½; London and South-Western, 86½, 87½; Midland, 82½, 83; North-Eastern (Berwick), 91½, 92½; South-Eastern (Dover), 62, 63; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 5½, 5½; Dutch Rhenish, 5½, 5 dis.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasburg), 25, 25½; Great Central of France, 34, 35; Great Luxembourg, 5½, 5½; Northern of France, 34½, 35; Paris and Lyons, 32½, 33½; Royal Danish, 13½, 15½; Royal Swedish 4, 4; Sambre and Meuse, 6, 6½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, November 27.

THE market for all kinds of Grain is decidedly firmer. The present prices are:—Saxonska Wheat, 50s., soft St. Petersburg, 44s. to 46s. Taganrog, 48s. to 49s., Odessa Glirka, 50s. to 52s., all per 492 lbs. Norfolk Flour, 35s. to 36s. Maize, 32s. per 480 lbs. Danish Barley, 28s. per 416 lbs. Danish Oats, per 39 lbs., 21s., Swedes, 22s.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	214	212	215	.....	.....	216
3 per Cent. Red.....	89	88½	89	88½	89½	90½
3 per Cent. Con. An.....	90	89½	89½	90½	90½	91
Consols for Account.....	90½	89½	90½	90½	90½	91½
New 3 per Cent. An.....	88½	88½	89	89½	89½	90½
New 2½ per Cents.....	73½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860.....	.....	15-16	15-16	15-16	3-16	.....
India Stock.....	216	.....	.....	.....	.....	215½
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30 d	.....
Ditto, under £1000.....	35 d	35 d	.....	40 d	35 d	35 d
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	14 d	9 d	7 d	4 d	7 d	par
Ditto, £500.....	8 d	.....	.....	8 d	1 d	.....
Ditto, Small.....	12 d	10 d	7 d	.....	6 d	par

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.)

Brazilian Bonds.....	99½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.....	...
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	...	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	106
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	101	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	95½
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	63½	Spanish.....	25
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	63½	Spanish Committee Certf.....	54
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.....	90½	of Coup. not fun.....	54
Equador Bonds.....	18½	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	88½
Mexican Account.....	75½	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	97½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	41	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.....	...
Portuguese 3 per Cents.....	...	...	...

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.

These wonderful productions have now become so appreciated in every part of the world, that they form a complete household treasure. The worst cases of ulcers, wounds, and every kind of skin disease, for which so many remedies have been tried without effect, readily succumb to their power; they act so miraculously upon the system as to be considered a complete phenomenon in the healing art. For this reason they are advocated by all modern practitioners, after everything else has proved unsuccessful.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 83, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Guidicy, Smyrna; and B. Muir, Malta.

DEAFNESS, Noises in the Head, instant restoration of hearing, guaranteed by one consultation, without operation or instruments. Dr. Watters, the Consulting Resident Surgeon to the Dispensary for Diseases of the Ear, 32, Spring-gardens, Charing-cross, London, pledges himself to cure deafness of forty or fifty years by a painless treatment, unknown in this country. The Dispensary Monthly Reports show the daily cures. A Book has been published for deaf persons in the country to cure themselves, sent on receipt of letter, enclosing five postage stamps. Hours of consultation 11 till 4 every day. Examination free. No fee until cured.

DEAFNESS.—A retired Surgeon, from the Crimea, having been restored to perfect hearing by a native physician in Turkey, after fourteen years of great suffering from noises in the ears and extreme deafness, without being able to obtain the least relief from any Aurist in England, is anxious to communicate to others the particulars for the cure of the same. A book sent to any part of the world on receipt of six stamps, or the Author will apply the treatment himself, at his residence. Surgeon SAMUEL COLSTON, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London. At home from 11 till 4 daily.—6, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, London, where thousands of letters may be seen from persons cured.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—M. JULLIEN'S ANNUAL BAL MASQUE, MONDAY, Nov. 30.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that his Grand Annual Bal Masqué will, this year, take place at Her Majesty's Theatre, on Monday, Nov. 30.

The Orchestra will comprise 110 Musicians. Conductor—M. JULLIEN.

No one will be admitted except in evening dress or fancy costume. This regulation will be strictly adhered to. Tickets for the Ball..... 10s. 6d.

The Prices of Admission for Spectators (for whom the audience portion of the Theatre will be set apart) will be—Dress Circle..... 5s. 6d.

Gallery Stalls..... 2s. 6d. Gallery..... 1s. 6d.

Private Boxes from 3½, 3s. and upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball Room without extra charge.

Tickets for the Ball, Places, and Private Boxes, may be secured at the Box-office of Her Majesty's Theatre; of the principal Librarians and Music-sellers; and at Messrs. Jullien and Co.'s, 214, Regent-street.

The Doors will be open at Half-past Nine, and the Dancing commence at Half-past Ten.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—GREAT CLASSICAL CONCERTS.

A HAYDN NIGHT.

A MOZART NIGHT.

A BEETHOVEN NIGHT.

A MENDELSSOHN NIGHT.

AND

A WEBER NIGHT.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that in consequence of the great number of persons unable to obtain admission during the last performances of the "Indian Quadrille," he has made arrangements to postpone his departure for the provinces, and to give a few more concerts at Her Majesty's Theatre. The great and unprecedented success attending the "Indian Quadrille," and the other works lately produced, has prevented M. Jullien giving those classical nights which he was the first to introduce to the English public, and which have always been received with such distinguished favour by musical amateurs and the public generally.

In order to comply with the repeated requests of his numerous patrons, M. Jullien has arranged for a SECOND SERIES OF CONCERTS, which must necessarily be of very limited duration, owing to his departure on his provincial tour shortly before Christmas. They will commence on Tuesday, December 1st. It is M. Jullien's intention to give, during their continuance, a "Haydn Night," a "Mozart Night," a "Beethoven Night," a "Mendelssohn Night," and a "Weber Night." On these occasions, the first part of the Programme will be selected solely from the works of one of these great Masters. The second part will be varied as usual.

M. Jullien has the satisfaction of announcing that he has succeeded in retaining the services of that popular vocalist Madlle. Jetty Treffz. At the close of this Second Series of Concerts, Madlle. Jetty Treffz will leave London for Vienna, M. Jullien having been unable to induce her to stay, even for his Provincial Tour. Soloists of the highest celebrity are also engaged for each of the Classical Nights, including the celebrated pianiste Miss Arabella Goddard, and the Hungarian artiste M. Edouard Remenyi, solo violinist to her Majesty.

The magnificent decorations which were prepared for the Bal Masqué will remain during the continuance of these Concerts. The whole theatre will be ornamented with wreaths and garlands of flowers in gold, silver, and colours. These decorations have been prepared by Messrs. Chabot and Co., who were charged with the decorations for the grand ball at the reception of the Emperor III., at Stuttgart, and who were engaged at a great expense, for the express purpose of arranging at Her Majesty's Theatre a display which will be seen for the first time in this country.

M. Jullien feels confident that he will receive, for his SECOND SERIES OF CONCERTS a continuance of that distinguished patronage and support which have already been so freely accorded to him.

A Beethoven Night will be given on Thursday next, December 3rd.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, KING-STREET.

OPERA BUFFA, OPEN EVERY EVENING.

On Monday next, November 30, the admired Operas CRISPINO E LA COMARE, and IL CAMPANELLO.

And on Tuesday, December 1, will be repeated the new and highly successful Opera, in Three Acts, entitled IL BIRRAIO DI PRESTON. Principal characters by Signor Raffelli, Signora Dottini, Signor Colombo, Signora Tamburini, Signor Giorgetti, and Signor Castelli.

In active preparation, the new and popular Opera, in Two Acts, entitled DON CHECCO. Composed by Niccolò de Giosa.

Conductor, Signor Alberto Randegger; Maestro Concertatore, Signor Vianesi; Sugeritore, Signor G. Galli.

Private Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Box-office, which is open daily from 11 till 5 o'clock.

TRIESEMAR.—Protected by Royal Letters

Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. Triese-mar, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. Triese-mar, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of vast portion of the population. Triese-mar, No. 3, is the great constitutional remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. Triese-mar, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may lie on the toilet table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 11s., free by post 1s. 8d. extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 33s., by post, 3s. 2d. extra, which saves 11s.; and in 5½ cases, whereby there is a saving of 17. 12s.; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallouand, Roux, &c. Sold by D. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 43, King William-street; G. F. Watts, 17, Strand; Prout, 220, Strand; Hammy, 65, Oxford-street; Sanger, 160, Oxford-street, London; R. H. Ingham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.

HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by **HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO.,** Wine and Spirit Merchants, 53, Pall-mall. Oct., 1857.

EPSS'S COCOA.—This excellent preparation is supplied in lb. and ½ lb. packets, 1s. 8d. and 10d. A tin canister, containing 7½ lb., 11s. 6d.—**JAMES EPSS,** Homoeopathic Chemist, 170, Piccadilly; 82, Old Broad-street, City; and 112, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury.

IMPORTANT TO EVERY MAN who KEEPS a HORSE, COW, SHEEP, or PIG.—**THORLEY'S FOOD** for CATTLE, as used in her Majesty's stables; also on his Royal Highness the Prince Consort's farm, Windsor. Sold in casks containing 448 feeds (with measure enclosed), price 50s. per cask; carriage paid to any railway station in the United Kingdom. For horses it is indispensable in promoting and sustaining all the animal functions in health and vigour. For milch cows it is invaluable, increasing the quantity and improving the quality of milk. For beasts nothing can compare with it for feeding quickly. For sheep and pigs its effect in one month will exceed all expectation. A pamphlet, containing testimonials from Mr. Brebner, steward to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort; Mr. James Fisher, farm manager to her Grace the Duchess of Athole; Sir David Cunynghame, Bart.; Sir John Cathcart, Bart.; Sir John Ribton, Bart.; and some of the leading agriculturists of the day, may be had, post free, on application to the inventor and sole proprietor, **JOSEPH THORLEY,** 77, Newgate-street, London; 115, High-street, Hull. Post-office orders to be made payable at the General Post-office.

MAJOR'S IMPROVEMENTS in VETERINARY SCIENCE.

"If progress is daily made in Medical Science by those whose duty it is to study the diseases to which the human flesh is heir, it would seem that improvements in Veterinary art quite keep pace with it, as is manifest on a visit to the well-known Horse Infirmary of Mr. Major, in Cockspur-street. Here incipient and chronic lameness is discovered and cured with a facility truly astonishing, while the efficacy of the remedies, and the quickness of their action, appear to have revolutionised the whole system of firing and blistering. Among the most recent proofs of the cure of spavins by Mr. Major, we may mention Cannobie, the winner of the Metropolitan, and second favourite for the Derby, and who is now as sound as his friends and backers could desire. And by the advertisement of Mr. Major's pamphlet in another column, we perceive that other equally miraculous cures are set forth, which place him at the head of the Veterinary art in London."—*Globe*, May 10, 1856.

ZUTOC CIGARS! at Goodrich's Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Boxes containing 14 very fine Zutoc Cigars for 3s.; post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 105, 21s. None are genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

SISAL CIGARS! SISAL CIGARS! at Goodrich's Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Box, containing 14, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra; 1b. boxes, containing 105, 12s. None are genuine, unless signed "H. N. Goodrich."

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH USED IN THE ROYAL LAUNDRY. And pronounced by HER MAJESTY'S LAUNDRESS to be THE FINEST STARCH SHE EVER USED. Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c.

HAIR-CURLING FLUID, 1, LITTLE QUEEN-STREET, HIGH HOLBORN.—**ALEX. ROSS'S CURLING FLUID** saves the trouble of putting the hair into papers, or the use of curling irons; for immediately it is applied to either ladies' or gentlemen's hair a beautiful and lasting curl is obtained. Sold at 3s. 6d. Sent free (under cover) for 54 stamps.—**ALEX. ROSS'S LIQUID HAIR DYE** is of little trouble in application, perfect in effect, and economical in use. Sold at 3s. 6d. Sent free in a blank wrapper, the same day as ordered, for 54 stamps. Alex. Ross's Depilatory removes superfluous hair from the face, neck, and arms. 3s. 6d. per bottle; sent free for 54 stamps; or to be had of all chemists.

FRENCH MODERATOR LAMPS.—The newest patterns of the present season.—**Deane, Dray, and Co.** have completed an extensive and choice assortment of these Lamps: Bronze from 9s. 6d. to 6l. China from 19s. to 7l. 7s. each. Engravings with prices free per post. Pure Colza Oil for the above Lamps at the lowest market price, delivered in London or the suburbs periodically, or on receipt of letter order. **Deane, Dray, and Co.** (opening to the Monument), London-bridge. Established A.D. 1700.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT. **WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS** is allowed by upwards of 200 Medical Gentlemen to be the most effective invention in the curative treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring (so hurtful in its effects) is here avoided, a soft Bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected, and may be worn during sleep. A descriptive circular may be had, and the Truss (which cannot fail to fit) forwarded by post, on the circumference of the body, two inches below the hip, being sent to the Manufacturer, **JOHN WHITE,** 228, Piccadilly, London.

Price of a single truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage, 1s. Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 8d. Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 10d. Post-office Orders to be made payable to **JOHN WHITE** Post-office, Piccadilly.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.

Price from 7s. 6d. to 10s. each.—Postage, 6d. **JOHN WHITE,** Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

MECHI'S DRESSING CASES and TRAVELLING BAGS.—112, Regent-street, and 4, Leadenhall-street, London.—Bronzes, vases, pearl and ivory work, medicinal manufactures, dressing bags and dressing cases, toilet cases, workboxes and worktables, inkstands, fans; the largest stock in England of papier maché elegancies, writing-desks, envelope-cases, despatch boxes, bagatelle, backgammon, and chess tables. The premises in Regent-street extend fifty yards into Glasshouse-street, and are worthy of inspection as a specimen of elegant outfit. Everything for the work and dressing-tables: best tooth-brushes, 9d. each; best steel scissors and penknives, 1s. each; the usual supply of first-rate cutlery, razors, razor strops, needles, &c., for which Mr. MECHI'S establishments have been so long famed.

WINTER HOSIERY, of every description, including the new coloured Wool Stockings; also, Underclothing for Family use and Invalids. Printed Flannels and Dressing Gowns in great variety.—**POPE and PLANTE,** Manufacturers, 4, Waterloo-place, Pall-mall, London.

ILLUSTRATIONS.—The CONHEATH MANTLE.

"To Messrs. JAY, of Regent-street, the fashionable world is indebted for its introduction into this country, where it will doubtless speedily secure the favour it enjoys in the beau monde of Paris."—From the *Illustrated London News*.

THE SYDENHAM TOP COAT is made from the best Materials, by Workmen of cultivated taste, at the moderate sum of Two Guineas; the appreciation of the fashionable world of genuine and perfect Articles of Dress renders the success of the Sydenham Top Coat a certainty.—**SAMUEL BROTHERS,** 29, Ludgate-hill.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?—This query can be answered by **SAMUEL BROTHERS,** 29, Ludgate-hill, the Inventors of the SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d. for in the fashionable world there is associated with the Sydenham Trousers a perfect idea, synonymous with a graceful, easy, and well-fitting Garment.

THE PURCHASERS OF CLOTHING ARE specially reminded of the advantages to be obtained at the establishment of **LAWRENCE HYAM,** 36, Gracechurch-street, London, the largest Manufacturing Clothier and Outfitter in the Kingdom. The system of business pursued is to charge one uniform and low per-centage of profit, to ensure to the customer a garment warranted for strength and durability, combined with a fashionable and gentlemanly style. **THE READY-MADE DEPARTMENT** is celebrated for the extent and variety of its stock, consisting of every description of gentlemen's, youths', and boys' clothing, while the saving effected renders it important and entitles it to great consideration in large families. **THE ORDERED DEPARTMENT** offers also peculiar advantages, the artists being men of celebrity and the material the best. **CLERICAL and PROFESSIONAL** men are specially invited, the black and mixture cloths being of a fast dye, and warranted for durability. An ordered suit of black for 3l. 3s.; also the celebrated 17s. trouser in great variety. **LAWRENCE HYAM,** Merchant Tailor, Manufacturing Clothier, and Outfitter, 36, GRACECHURCH-STREET, CITY, LONDON.

THE BULFANGER, NEW WINTER OVERCOAT, 25s. to 42s., just introduced by **B. BEN-JAMIN,** Merchant Tailor, 74, Regent-street, W. **THE OUDE WRAPPER,** Registered, combining Coat, Cloak, and Sleeved Cape, from 25s. to 60s. **THE PELISSIER,** from 21s. to 30s. **THE FORTY-SEVEN SHILLING SUITS** made to order from Scotch, Heather, and Cheviot Tweeds, all wool, and thoroughly shrunken. **THE TWO GUINEA DRESS and FROCK COATS, the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS, and the HALF-GUINEA WAISTCOAT.** N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

100,000 CUSTOMERS WANTED.—**SAUNDERS BROTHERS' STATIONERY** is the BEST and CHEAPEST to be obtained. Cream-laid note paper, 2s. per ream; black-bordered note, 4s.; letter paper, 4s.; straw paper, 2s. 6d. per ream; cream-laid adhesive envelopes, 4d. per 100, or 3s. per 1000; commercial envelopes, from 4s. per 1000; black-bordered envelopes, 6d. per 100. A SAMPLE PACKET of STATIONERY (Sixty descriptions, all priced and numbered) sent post free on receipt of four stamps. All orders over 20s. sent CARRIAGE PAID. Price lists, post free. NO CHARGE made for stamping arms, crests, initials, &c.—**SAUNDERS BROTHERS,** Manufacturing Stationers, 104, London-wall, London, E.C.

A NEW DISCOVERY, whereby Artificial Teeth and Gums are fitted with absolute perfection and success hitherto unattainable. No springs or wires, no extraction of roots, or any painful operation. This important invention perfects the beautiful art of the dentist a closeness of fit and beauty of appearance being obtained equal to nature. All imitations should be carefully avoided, the genuine being only supplied by Messrs. **GABRIEL,** the old-established Dentists, from 3s. 6d. per Tooth—Sets, 4l. 4s. Observe name and number particularly. 33, Ludgate-hill London (five doors west of the Old Bailey); and 134, Duke-street, Liverpool. Established 1804.

Prepared White Gutta Percha Enamel, the best Stopping for decayed Teeth, renders them sound and useful in mastication, no matter how far decayed, and effectually prevents Toothache.—In boxes, with directions, at 1s. 6d.; free by post, 20 stamps. Sold by most Chemists in Town and Country. Ask for **Gabriel's Gutta Percha Enamel.**—See opinions of the Press thereon.

RUPTURES EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS.—**Dr. BARKER'S** celebrated REMEDY is protected by three patents, of England, France, and Vienna; and from its great success in private practice is now made known as a public duty through the medium of the press. In every case of single or double rupture, in either sex, of any age, however bad or long standing, it is equally applicable, effecting a cure in a few days, without inconvenience, and will be hailed as a boon by all who have been tortured with trusses. Sent post free to any part of the world, with instructions for use, on receipt of 10s. 6d. by post-office order, or stamps, by **CHARLES BARKER, M.D.,** 10, Brook-street, Holborn, London.—Any infringement of this triple patent will be proceeded against, and restrained by injunction of the Lord High Chancellor.

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The **BURTON** and all other **PATENT STOVES,** with radiating hearth plates.

CUTLERY WARRANTED.—The most varied assortment of **TABLE-CUTLERY** in the world, all warranted, is on SALE at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S,** at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales—3½ inch ivory-handled table-knives, with high shoulders, 12s. 6d. per dozen; desserts to match, 10s.; if to balance, 6d. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. 3d. per pair; larger sizes, from 20s. to 27s. 6d. per dozen; extra fine ivory, 33s.; if with silver ferrules, 40s. to 50s.; white bone table-knives, 6s. per dozen; desserts, 5s.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table-knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; desserts, 6s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table-knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish-carvers.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

The **REAL NICKEL SILVER,** introduced twenty years ago by **WILLIAM S. BURTON,** when plated by the patent of Messrs. Elkington and Co., is beyond all comparison the very best article next to sterling silver that can be employed as such, either usefully or ornamentally, as by no possible test can it be distinguished from real silver.

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Table Spoons and Forks per dozen...	38s.	48s.	60s.
Dessert ditto and ditto...	30s.	35s.	42s.
Tea ditto...	18s.	24s.	30s.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Cruet, and Liqueur Frames, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.

CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.

	Fiddle.	Thread.	King's.
Table Spoons and Forks, per dozen...	12s.	28s.	30s.
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