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THE
SATURDAY ANALYST
A D
LEADER;

A Review and Record of Political, Literary, Artistic, and Social Events.

New Series, No. 30.
No. 540.

JULY 28, 1860.

{ Price 3d.

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Crystal Palace.—Arrangements

for WEEK ending Saturday, August 4th.
Monday, open at nine—Display of the Great Fountains
and entire series of Waterworks.
Tuesday to Friday.—Open at 10. Admission One
Shilling; children under 12 Sixpence.
Saturday, open at 10.—FLORAL PROMENADE
CONCERT. Admission Half-a-Crown; Children One
Shilling; Season Tickets free.
Sunday, open at 1.30 to Shareholders gratuitously by
tickets.
—The Picture Gallery is open.
The Rosary is now covered with Roses, and other plants
in full bloom; and the ornamental beds on the terraces
and slopes are brilliant with thousands of Geraniums and
other flowers.

The Standard Life Assurance

COMPANY.
SPECIAL NOTICE.—BONUS YEAR.
SIXTH DIVISION OF PROFITS.
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THE STANDARD was established in 1825. The first
Division of profits took place in 1835; and subsequent
divisions have been made in 1840, 1845, 1850, and 1855.
The Profits to be divided in 1860 will be those which have
arisen since 1855.
Accumulated Fund.....£1,684,598 2 10
Annual Revenue.....289,231 13 5
Annual averages of new Assurances effected during the
last ten years, upwards of Half a Million sterling.
WILL. THOS. THOMSON, Manager.
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annum.
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rectors invite Agents acting only for Life Companies to
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dental Death Insurances, to whom a liberal Commission
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application to WILLIAM CANWELL, Secretary.

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Parties desirous of Investing Money are requested to
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The Rent Guarantee Society.

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Established 1850.

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COMPANY. (LIMITED).
PARISH OF SCHULL, COUNTY OF CORK, IRELAND.
Capital £60,000, in 60,000 shares of £1 each, of which
40,000 shares only will be issued, except with the sanction
of the shareholders.
5s. per share to be paid on application, and 7s. 6d.
within two months, and 7s. 6d. per share within four
months after date of allotment.
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SECRETARY—Charles Carter, Esq.
REGISTERED OFFICES, No. 3, CANNON-STREET,
LONDON, E.C.

This Company is formed for the purpose of purchasing
the lease and resuming the works of the Great Cappagh
Copper Mine, which were suspended under peculiar cir-
cumstances, after ore to the value of upwards of £30,000
had been raised, and about £40,000 judiciously expended
in testing the permanent rich capabilities of the mine,
which were successfully proved.

Chiefly owing to the productive State of this mine, the
former Company agreed to pay the sum of £165,000 for a
lease thereof, together with the other mineral property of
the estate, but the matter became involved in a lengthened
Chancery suit, which, however, was the means of
eliciting most important evidence, on oath, of several
eminent professional and practical men, that this mineral
property was worth the agreed purchase money; and the
present proprietor having purchased the estate and mi-
nerals under the Encumbered Estate Act, there is a clear
parliamentary title.

Amongst others who treated for the mineral property
was the late Mr. Michael Williams, of Scorriller House,
Cornwall, who offered £100,000, which sum was refused,
as appears in evidence, "as being utterly inadequate to
the value thereof."

Three experienced practical working miners (tributers),
who were the last to work the mine, being examined on
oath, stated that they had worked in every level of the
Great Cappagh Mine; that the ore was extremely rich;
that the lode in the shaft in the 84 fm. level was 3½ feet
in breadth, and that the copper therein was of the best
quality they had ever seen, from 14 to 18 in. thick,
solid throughout; and that the mine appeared to them
all through to be quite inexhaustible in copper ore.

Upwards of £30,000 of rich ore has been raised from
these mere trial workings, which will save to the com-
pany now resuming the works of this mine several years
of time, and the large outlay of capital already expended;
so that the mine having been left in a very productive
state, as appears by the evidence on oath, large and im-
mediate returns can now be made at an inconsiderable expense.

As evidence of the richness of the copper, it may be
mentioned that the adjoining copper mine of Ballycunnisk
is sending ore to market, which, at the tickings at
Svansea, Decem. or 6th, 1859, realised £1,630 11s. on 105
tons, being an average of nearly £16 per ton, 15 tons of
which gave 24 and three-eighths per cent. of pure copper.

The nominal capital of the Company is £60,000, in
60,000 shares of £1 each, of which 20,000 shares will be
reserved, to be disposed of hereafter as the shareholders
may determine, which, when the workings of the mine are
established, may therefore be cancelled, and thus increase
the value of the existing shares by upwards of 30 per cent.

The consideration to be paid for the purchase of the
lease, and previous outlay, is £25,000 in money and 15,000
paid-up shares. The lease is for 21 years, from 29th Sept.,
1858, renewable, without fine, for a further period of 21
years. Royalty, 1-16th. Rent, £50 per annum.

Prospectuses, with sections and plans, as well as forms
of applications for shares, may be obtained at the offices of
the Company, or from the brokers. The evidence adduced
before the House of Lords, on appeal, referred to in the
prospectuses, may be seen at the offices of the company.

Cardiff and Caerphilly Iron

COMPANY (LIMITED).
CAPITAL £100,000, in 20,000 SHARES of £5 each.
With power to increase to £250,000.
Deposit, £1 per Share, to be paid on Application.
Subsequent Calls not to exceed £1 per Share, nor to be
made at less intervals than Two Months.

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James John Wallis, Esq., Winchester House, Old Broad
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(To be added when the transfer of the Property is
complete.)
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(With power to add to their number.)
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Brokers—Messrs. Joshua Hutchinson and Son, 15, Angel-
court, Throgmorton-street, E.C.
Secretary—John W. Towers, Esq.
Offices—Cannon House, Queen-street, Cheapside, E.C.

The objects of the Company are the manufacture of pig
iron, and the raising and sale of coal and surplus iron ore.
The property proposed to be worked, and the proposed
site of the furnaces, are situated 6½ miles from the port of
Cardiff, and contain an extensive deposit of Haematite
ore.

Applications for shares must be accompanied by the
deposit of £1 per share. Should the amount so paid ex-
ceed the required amount of deposit on the number of
shares allotted, the surplus, or should no allotment be
made, the entire deposit will be returned without deduc-
tion or delay.

Prospectuses and forms of application can be obtained
at the Offices of the Company, Cannon House, Queen-
street, Cheapside, E.C., or at the Solicitors or Brokers.
For the convenience of parties residing in the country,
forms will be forwarded on application to the Secretary,
at the Offices of the Company, where further information
can be obtained, and plans of the property, sections of the
mines, specimens and analyses of the ironstone, coal, and
clay, together with estimates of the cost of production,
&c., can be seen.

The Conservative Land Society.

Established 7th September, 1852, and Enrolled
under the Act of Parliament 6 and 7 William IV., cap. 32.

TRUSTEES.
The VISCOUNT RANELAGH.
J. C. COBBOLD, Esq., M.P.

DEPOSIT DEPARTMENT.—Sums, large or small, may be
deposited at the Offices daily. Interest allowed is now
four per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly. With-
drawals of deposits paid every Wednesday, under £100;
from £100 to £500, at 21 days; and £500 and upwards on
one month's notice. Investors under the Deposit Depart-
ment do not become members of the Society. Remit-
tances may be made in cheques, half-notes, post-office
orders, &c.

Prospectuses will be sent free of charge to any part of
the world. Offices, 34, Norfolk-street, Strand, W.C.,
which are open from 10 to 6, except on Saturdays, and
then from 10 to 2 o'clock.
CHARLES LEWIS GRUNEISEN, Secretary.

Society of Painters in Water

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their Gallery, 5, Pall Mall East (close to the National
Gallery), from nine till dusk. Admission, 1s. Cata-
logue, 6d.

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Gold Watches .. 4 to 100 Guineas.
Silver Watches .. 2 to 50 Guineas.
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Watches sent to any part of the United Kingdom on receipt of Post-office Orders.
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All classes of **FIRE, LIFE** and **ANNUITY**, business transacted.—Rates of Premium very Economical.—No Charge for **Volunteer, Rifle, and Militia** Service within the United Kingdom.

WILLIAM NEWMARCH, Secretary.

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48, Gracechurch Street, London, for Mutual Assurance on Lives, Annuities, etc.

Established December, 1835.

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Richard Fall, Esq. Robert Sheppard, Esq.
John Feltham, Esq. Jonathan Thorp, Esq.
Charles Gilpin, Esq., M.P. Charles Whetham, Esq.
Charles Good, Esq.

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Thomas Hodgkin, M.D.

BANKERS—Messrs. Brown, Janson, and Co.; and Bank of England.

SOLICITOR—Septimus Davidson, Esq.

CONSULTING ACTUARY—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY.

Extracts from the Report of the Directors for the year 1859:—

Number of new policies issued, 952.	
Assuring the sum of	£491,026 10 7
Producing an annual income of ..	16,781 5 4
Making a total annual income, after deducting £50,112, annual abatement in premium	283,546 5 3
Total number of policies issued, 22,586.	
Amount paid in claims by the decease of members from the commencement of the institution in December, 1835	919,103 10 4
Amount of accumulated fund	1,755,685 6 11

The effect of the successful operation of the society during the whole period of its existence may be best exhibited by recapitulating the declared surpluses at the four investigations made up to this time:—

For the 7 years ending 1842 the surplus was	£32,074 11 5
" 5 " 1847 "	86,122 8 3
" 5 " 1852 "	232,061 18 4
" 5 " 1857 "	345,034 3 11

The Directors accept surrenders of policies at any time after payment of one year's premium, and they believe that their scale for purchase is large and equitable.

The prospectus, with the last report of the Directors, and with illustrations of the profits for the five years ending the 20th November, 1857, may be had on application, by which it will be seen that the reductions on the premiums range from 11 per cent. to 98½ per cent., and that in one instance the premium is extinct. Instances of the bonuses are also shown.

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st of July, are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date.

June, 1860.

JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.

NOTICE.—"BEWARE OF IMITATIONS."

Lea and Perrin's "Worcester-SHIRE SAUCE" is pronounced by Connoisseurs to be a most agreeable addition to every variety of dish.

* * See the names of **LEA** and **PERRIN**; upon every Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

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Sole Manufacturers, LEA and PERRIN, Worcester.

The Forty - Seven Shilling

SUITS are made to order from Scotch Cheviot, Tweed, and Angoras, all wool and thoroughly shrunk, by **B. BENJAMIN**, merchant and family tailor, 74, Regent-street, W. The Two Guinea Dress and Frock Coats, the Guinea Dress Trousers, and the Half-Guinea Walcoats. N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

When you ask for Glenfield

PATENT STARCH, see that you get it, as inferior kinds are often substituted. Sold by all Chandlers, Grocers, &c. &c. **WOTHERSPOON** and Co., Glasgow and London.

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Monday, July 30th, and during the week, to commence at 7, with the **OVERLAND ROUTE**. Mr. C. Mathews, Mr. Buckstone, Mr. Compton, Mr. Chippendale; Mrs. C. Mathews, Mrs. Wilkins, &c.
After which, **HIS EXCELLENCY**. Mr. and Mrs. C. Mathews. Concluding with **A HUSBAND AT SIGHT**.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE,

WYCH STREET, STRAND.

MR. W. S. EMDEN begs leave to announce that his **BENEFIT** will take place on **MONDAY, JULY 30th, 1860**, when will be performed the Farce of

THE SCAPEGOAT.

To be followed by the Comedietta of

SOMEBODY ELSE!

In which Miss Louisa Keeley (her first Appearance here) and Mr. Frederick Robinson will perform.

To conclude with

SHYLOCK.

Shylock, Mr. F. Robson, supported by Messrs. F. Vining, Franks, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, F. Charles, H. Cooper, H. Rivers. Mesdames Herbert, Cottrell, Seymour, Hughes, and Mrs. W. S. Emden.

Stage Manager, Mr. W. S. Emden. Stage Director, Mr. Horace Wigan. The Scenic Department under the Superintendence of Mr. William Telbin, assisted by Mr. H. Saunders, &c.

First Price:—Stalls, 3s., Upper Box Stalls, 4s., Dress Circle, 4s., Pit, 2s., Gallery, 1s. Second Price:—Upper Box Stalls, 2s., Dress Circle, 2s., Pit, 1s., Gallery, 6d. Private Boxes, £2 2s. and £1 1s. Family Boxes, £3 3s. The Box Office open daily, from 11 till 5 o'clock, under the direction of Mr. O'Reilly.

Doors open at 7. Commence at half-past 7.

Half-price as near Nine o'clock as is consistent with the Non-interruption of the Performance.

Jullien Festival.—On Tuesday,

31st July, at the **ROYAL SURREY GARDENS**, for Benefit of Madame Jullien. On which occasion the proprietors of the Royal Surrey Gardens have in the most generous manner placed the entire establishment and the proceeds at the disposal of Madame Jullien. The following celebrated artists have also most kindly volunteered their valuable services, gratuitously, for this occasion.

Vocalists—Madame Alboni (her last appearance this season), Mlle. Marie Brunetti (of Her Majesty's Theatre, by permission of E. T. Smith, Esq.), Madame Louise Vining, Madame Weiss, Madlle. Enrichetta Camille, Miss Poole, Miss Palmer, Miss Laura Baxter, the Misses Brougham, Miss Kate Rance, and Madlle. Parepa. Mons. Gasser (by kind permission of E. T. Smith, Esq.), Mr. Weiss, Mr. Wilbye Cooper, Mr. Leonard, Mr. Patey, and Mr. Sims Reeves.

Instrumentalist—Miss Arabella Goddard.

The Choir of the Vocal Association, consisting of Two Hundred Voices, under the direction of M. Benedict.

The Orchestra will include the principal members of the Bands of Her Majesty's Theatre and the Royal Italian Opera, and the Soloists of the late M. Jullien's orchestra; the Band of the Grenadier Guards (by kind permission of Colonel Lambert), under the direction of Mr. D. Godfrey; the Band of the Coldstream Guards, by kind permission of Colonel Lord F. Paulet, C.B., under the direction of Mr. Godfrey; the Band of the Scots Fusilier Guards (by kind permission of Colonel Dalrymple), under the direction of Mr. Charles Godfrey, jun.

Conductors—Mr. Alfred Mellon, conductor of the Orchestral Union, Dr. James Peck, Mons. Emile Berger, and M. Benedict. Prince George Galetzin will conduct his favourite Waltz and Polka. The Programme will include Jullien's celebrated British Army Quadrilles, English Quadrilles, and his Last Waltz (first time of performance).

Admission, 1s.; Dress Circle, 3s.; Second Circle, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. extra. Places can be secured at Messrs. Chappell's, 50, New Bond-street; Mr. Sams', 1, St. James's-street; Messrs. Keith and Prowse's, 48, Cheap-side; also tickets at Pigott's, Kennington-common.

Price One Shilling.

Macmillan's Magazine.

Edited by DAVID MASSON. No. X. (for August, 1860.)

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beg leave to announce that their **NEW ESTABLISHMENT**, No. 16, Grosvenor-street, Bond-street, being completed, the premises are **NOW OPEN** for the transaction of Business, with an ample stock of **PIANOFORTES** of all classes, both for **SALE** and **HIRE**.

Messrs. C. and C. trust that the arrangements they have made will be found to conduce very materially to the convenience of their customers, more especially of those residing in the Western Districts of the Metropolis. Accounts and Correspondence will be carried on at 16, Grosvenor Street, Bond Street.

16, Grosvenor Street, Bond Street.

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Have the largest stock of **ELECTRO-SILVER PLATE** and **TABLE CUTLERY** in the **WORLD**, which is transmitted direct from their manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

MAPPIN BROTHERS guarantee on all their manufactures in Electro Silver Plate a strong deposit of real silver, according to price charged.

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	Fiddle Pattern.	Double Thread.	King's Pattern.	Lilly Pattern.
12 Table Forks ..	£ s. d. 1 16 0	£ s. d. 2 14 0	£ s. d. 3 0 0	£ s. d. 3 12 0
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12 Dessert Spoons ..	1 7 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	2 14 0
12 Tea Spoons	0 16 0	1 4 0	1 7 0	1 16 0

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ELECTRO-PLATED ON HARD NICKEL SILVER suitable for Vegetable, Curries, and Entrées. Per set of 4 Dishes.

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By removing the Handles from the Covers, the set of four can be made to form a set of eight Dishes.	
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MAPPIN BROTHERS, 67 and 68, King William Street, London Bridge; Manufactory, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield.

Pianofortes.—Cramer, Beale,

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WALLACE'S New Grand Opera. The Vocal Music complete. Also Arrangements of Airs in LURLINE as Solos and Duets for the Pianoforte, by Calcott, Osborne, Brinley Richards, Favarger, Rhuc, and Benedict.

	s. d.
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Coot's Troubadour Waltz from Lurline	4 0
" Quadrilles from Lurline	4 0

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WOODLAND WHISPERS WALTZES. By Gerald Stanley. First and Second Sets, 3s. each.

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The whole of the above as Duets, By W. H. CALCOTT, 5s. and 6s. each.

THE BEATING OF MY OWN HEART. Sung by Mlle. Clara Novello. Composed by Macfarren.

THE OPEN WINDOW. Sung by Miss Poole. Composed by W. Maynard.

UNDER THE GREENWOOD TREE. Sung by Mr. Sims Reeves. Composed by J. L. Hatton.

THEY SAY THAT ALL THINGS CHANGE. Sung by Mr. Sims Reeves. Composed by W. V. Wallace.

THE COMING OF THE FLOWERS. Sung by Madame Lemmens Sherrington. Composed by W. V. Wallace.

2s. each.

201, REGENT STREET.

Keating's Persian Insect-De-

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IRRITATION AND FORTIFICATION.

LORD PALMERSTON'S fortification speech still forms the topic of conversation, and, we add, of condemnation. The peace-at-any-price party are, of course, furious at the bare idea of any further outlay for warlike purposes; and Mr. BRIGHT, who was so tame and inactive in repelling the aggression of the Lords, threatened division after division if the PREMIER persisted in attempting to carry his proposition the night it was introduced. The hon. representative for Birmingham was quite right in resisting the shameful trick of taking the House by storm, as there is ample need for deliberate discussion and investigation; but he and other members of his party will set all the country against them if they permit themselves to become as frantic at plans of fortification as bulls in the Spanish arena do at the sight of the red flags of their tormenting assailants. If Manchester were situated on the coast in the position of Portsmouth, the nation might defer to the wish of its inhabitants—if they entertained it—that the great City of Cotton should trust implicitly to the protecting influence of the Commercial Treaty; but the safety of Portsmouth and Plymouth is a matter of far greater importance, as the destruction of our arsenals might easily lead to a decline as a naval power. The people know that steam and long range guns have completely changed the conditions of naval warfare, and they will not grudge any expenditure really necessary to compensate for these alterations, and leave a decided balance both of offensive and defensive power on our side. What we have to look to is, that the arrangements to be made are based upon sound principles; that they are not too costly, and that they are adapted to the peculiarities of a densely peopled and free constitutional state.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT may consider that the time has gone by when the people will view with jealousy the building of large ports, and the augmentation of the regular army; but in both these particulars he is decidedly wrong. Whatever works are necessary to prevent a naval attack upon our arsenals will meet with universal approbation; but schemes to fortify all approaches to them by land do not so readily commend themselves to the public mind, which is still less disposed to look with equanimity upon the erection of huge strongholds in the interior of the country. Lord PALMERSTON and Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT seem to have rejected the Commissioners' plan of protecting London by a Bastille on Shooters-hill, or if they entertain it—which should be distinctly ascertained on Monday—they prudentially keep it in the background. With or without this monstrous fort they admit that the metropolis must be defended in the field, and they ask leave to begin their task of protecting the coast by an outlay of two millions and a-half for the current year, to be followed by a further expenditure of eight and a-half millions, the whole to be raised by annuities terminable in thirty years. These eleven millions will not, according to the calculations already made, prove anything like sufficient for all the expenses that will be incurred; and the so-called "Defence Committee," consisting of the Duke of CAMBRIDGE and five other officers, tell us that an increase of the regular army will be necessary. They say that the proposed fortifications will require garrisons, which the regular army cannot provide without being enlarged, and that if these fortifications are not erected, a still greater augmentation of regular forces must take place.

There is thus before us an indefinite prospect of taxation and expenditure, a great increase of the patronage so corruptly employed by the Horse Guards and naval departments, and a complete change in the relations between the Government and the people by an augmentation of the standing army, and the erection of forts more likely to alarm our own countrymen than to frighten the French. These proposals come at a time when the aristocracy usurp the functions of the Commons, when the working classes are excluded from the Volunteer movement, and insultingly told that if they had rifles they would take the property of others, and when the smallest modicum of Parliamentary Reform has been refused upon the ground that any extension of the suffrage would lead to an adjustment of taxation to which the oligarchy would object. Taking all these circumstances together, the House of Commons will egregiously fail in its duty if it sanctions the plans of the Cabinet without considerable modification, and without taking securities against a gross perversion of funds. The best plan would be to grant as much money as may be necessary for the sea defences, and stop all that is demanded for land works, at any rate until a much better case had been made out for their construction.

The Government plan is simply this—that they will under-

take to provide for the public safety if they have a much larger army, and an unlimited pull upon the public purse, for fortifications and new depots. Nothing like a systematic programme of defence has been laid before the country; and the intention is obviously to lead Parliament on bit by bit to consent to the separate portions of a frightful expenditure. A wise system of volunteer forces, a division of the country into military districts adapted to a method of defence by Volunteers, together with an increase of the navy and a few coast works, would provide all that ought to be desired; but this method would have two defects in the eyes of a Minister of the oligarchy, as Lord PALMERSTON has proved himself to be. It would place power in the hands of the people, and diminish the means of corruption and intimidation at the disposal of the advisers of the Crown. That the present Parliament will take a patriotic view of the emergency is more than can be expected of it; but it may be persuaded to proceed with some caution, unless the PREMIER is strengthened by an unreasonable opposition on the part of the Manchester school, who have an unhappy knack of provoking a reaction whenever they meddle with warlike affairs.

Having thus briefly contemplated the question of defence, let us look at the extraordinary speech by which Lord PALMERSTON astonished the House on Monday night. His oration was a long one—long enough to have contained abundant explanation of the plans he advocated, and of the reasons for their adoption. But it has never been his Lordship's practice to tell the people anything that he could manage to conceal, and on this occasion he followed his old method, and did his best to create doubt and alarm, and to get the House to vote away millions with its eyes blindfold, and its brain stupefied. When his Lordship tells us that the army and navy of France are larger than can be requisite for purposes of defence he announces what has become a mere truism, and no one will deny that the vast armaments of our next door neighbour must be balanced by armaments of our own. The bearing of a speech can be sought, not in a few passages containing statements so obvious that their mention can excite no surprise, but in its whole tone and scope, and, so examined, Lord PALMERSTON'S utterance is a prolonged war-whoop against the man he has done so much to aggrandize and sustain. Little objection in the way of denial can be made to the several statements. It certainly was a general war in which this country was engaged against the first BONAPARTE; at its close our defences were neglected; the Duke of WELLINGTON sounded his alarm bell. The "future is not free from danger," and the "horizon is charged with clouds that betoken the possibility of a tempest," and we have "no right to look for our security to the mere forbearance of a rival power." But to string these and other similar facts together like a rosary of war, without any decided expressions of hope that the peace may be preserved; to speak of France as "a rival power" without any intimation of expectation that sufficient grounds of agreement may be found to prevent the desire for collision—this, in a man holding the very responsible position of chief adviser of the British crown, is conduct which can only be excused or palliated by a knowledge of facts which the PREMIER did not communicate to the House. If nothing more exists than a general conviction that the peace of the Continent will be again broken, and a possibility arise that France will support ideas that the English Government may not agree to, then Lord PALMERSTON'S proceedings amount to no less than a flagitious and wanton trifling with the best interests of his country. He knows full well the impression his words will produce abroad, and he could scarcely have made a speech more calculated to endanger our relations with France.

When the PREMIER exclaims, "Now is there nothing in the state of Europe that leads us to think that we might in the course of events be called upon to defend ourselves from a hostile attack?" Is the policy he is pursuing—which is alienating him from Mr. GLADSTONE, and securing something like an idolatry of the Tory faction—is this policy calculated or intended to place us in opposition to France upon the European questions that are likely to arise? If so, we have a right to know what that policy is, that we may repudiate it if it be wrong. If the PREMIER does not mean this, he must contemplate the occurrence of a war with us for the mere purpose of ambition and revenge—a war in which the French EMPEROR will show how it is that he "represents" the "defeat of Waterloo." A few passages from Lord PALMERSTON'S speech will suggest this inference. Let us take the following:—"I do not mean to say that that army is raised for the deliberate pur-

pose of aggression. I trust it is not. But the possession of the power to aggress frequently gives the desire to do so, and you are not entitled to rely upon the forbearance of a stronger neighbour." Speaking of the navy of France, his Lordship said in similar strain, "That is a navy which cannot be required for any purposes of defence for France, and which we are therefore justified in looking upon as an antagonist whom we may have to encounter." We should be the last persons to preach a foolish confidence in the hero of the *coup d'état*, but the country does not need frightening into precautions. Unless the Admiralty deceives us, our navy is stronger than that of France, though the disproportion is less than we should like, and General PEEL, who has no tendency to overrate our forces, stated on Monday night, that, after deducting 80,000 men for India, and 40,000 for the colonies, we should have, including the possessions, "at least 160,000 regular troops available for the defence of the country." "Then," added the General, "with our army of reserve, the militia, and that magnificent army, or Volunteers, which is now springing up on all sides, would, if properly organized, place us beyond the reach of all alarm whatever." General PEEL said nothing of the Irish Constabulary, of the Police, who are now regularly drilled; nor of the Coast Guard, all of whom put together would make a powerful addition to any force. If these preparations are so insufficient as to justify Lord PALMERSTON's alarming speech, what is he concealing from the people. And why does he not propose measures to popularize the Volunteer movement, which would rapidly give him another 100,000 men?

When the French fleet is spoken of as not intended for defence we must not forget that England is occasionally under the Tories, and that Lord DERBY's Government evinced a strong disposition to prevent the French intervention in Italy, and that our neighbours may be right in attributing their safety on this occasion to the large preparations which they made.

Unless some proof to the contrary appears, we shall regard the PREMIER's speech as a further indication that his policy is becoming dangerously reactionary,—that he looks upon himself as a Tory Minister, and is prepared to make the most unscrupulous use of power, in order to make wars and rumours of wars the means of diverting attention from the aggression of the Lords, and the urgent need of measures of Reform.

FRANCE, SYRIA, AND ITALY.

IT is gratifying to learn that Sicily is now completely free. The troops of the hated Bourbon have by this time left the fortifications of Messina and Syracuse, being wanted to defend their master on the mainland, to which the war of independence is now to be transferred. Thus far GARIBALDI has achieved a brilliant success, which all Europe will applaud, and the "autograph letter" from VICTOR EMMANUEL will not prevent his capturing Naples, if he has the opportunity of so doing. The royal injunction to be quiet must be regarded as a concession to diplomatic remonstrances, intended as a demonstration of what the red tapists thought, and not of that which the gallant King himself desired. If GARIBALDI succeeds as well on the mainland as he has done in Sicily, both CAVOUR and VICTOR EMMANUEL will be ready enough to accept the profitable consequences of his labours; while if he fails, they can point to the "autograph letter," and say they advised him not to do it. We do not accuse the Sardinian King and his astute Minister of intending to deceive anybody in the transaction. GARIBALDI, no doubt, is perfectly aware of their wishes, and neither the diplomatists nor the King of One Sicily are entitled to believe the declaration they have managed to extort. It is a pity that diplomacy will never let anything be managed truthfully, but happily for Italy there is a higher kind of truth than that of words, and we trust she may still find it in the statesmanship of CAVOUR, as well as in the soldiership of her favourite chief.

A curious plan is now put forth by some friend of Austria, in the shape of a proposal to sell Venetia for five hundred millions of francs, provided Sardinia will agree to restore Tuscany to the House of Lorraine. An unconditional sale of Venetia would be the wisest move Austria could make, and would, no doubt, be well met at the Court of Turin; but the restoration of an Austrian pro-Consul in Tuscany would be a fatal step for Sardinia to take, as it would amount to a betrayal of the national cause, and the creation of an obstacle to the great design of Italian unity, which the patriotic party are determined to carry out.

It is not at all unlikely that Austria will be anxious to come to at least a temporary settlement of her Italian business,

as France must have alarmed her by so readily preparing an expedition to Syria, and thus manifesting a desire to interfere with the affairs of the last, on which the House of Hapsburg has its own designs. It is to be hoped that the peace between the Maronites and Druses, and the efforts of the SULTAN to punish the guilty parties will remove all pretext for active intervention; but if not, the effect of French meddling will be to weaken the little authority remaining to the PORTE, and confusion in Syria will soon be followed by troubles in other places, and perhaps on the Danube, which more French assistance will be required to redress. The Syrian intelligence is too contradictory to be reliable, and we trust it is not true that the SULTAN only intends despatching 6,000 troops to the scene of disturbance, and that Damascus, with its 150,000 inhabitants will not suffer itself to be the prey of the Druses.

The renewed attacks of the French Government on the Press, and the strange doctrines laid down by M. BILLAULT indicate a sense of danger which the Imperial manager will try to ward off by directing attention to some startling effects of continental policy; and thus Europe will be kept in alarm until a crash occurs, and the second Empire furnishes a story with a moral not less striking than that which historians have drawn from the first.

FRENCH EXPEDITION TO SYRIA.

IN one of his cleverest pamphlets M. About affirms that of all the questions which affect the peace of Europe, the Eastern question is the most urgent. "The sick man," he says, "is on his deathbed, the succession may open at any moment." Unfortunately, the progress of events in Syria seems likely to hasten the decease of "the sick man," and add to the complications of the Eastern question, by introducing upon the theatre of conflict the mightiest nations of the West, whose eyes have long been fixed upon the fertile province now convulsed by civil strife, where the local Government seems totally unable to put an end to the petty warfare of two mountain tribes, whose united population does not much exceed a quarter of a million. The Druses, who are more warlike, and better organised than their Maronite rivals, though inferior in numbers, have obtained a decisive advantage in the recent struggle, which they are pursuing with such ruthless ferocity that the total extirpation or expulsion of the Maronites must be the result, unless they receive speedy and powerful assistance. They have, indeed, been much to blame if (as a correspondent of the *Times* twenty years resident in Beyrout asserts) the present onslaught of the Druses has arisen from the discovery of a Maronite plot to put an end to their national existence; still they are a Christian tribe, who for fourteen centuries have maintained themselves in their mountain strongholds. For the sake of humanity, therefore, and for that of a common Christian faith, the nations of the West must come to their aid; especially as the Government to which they pay tribute, and from which they are entitled to look for protection, has not only refused to aid them, but has also betrayed them into the hands of their hereditary and merciless foes, and, even in some cases, assisted these foes in their work of treachery. But interference with the sovereign rights of a monarch with whom they are at peace, even when that monarch is unable to assert his supremacy by maintaining order within his own dominions, is a matter of great delicacy and difficulty. No one can object to ships of war being sent to the coast of Syria to afford protection to Maronite refugees flying from the exterminating sword of the Druses; but France now proposes, without the consent of the Sultan asked or obtained, to invade Syria, an integral part of his dominions, with an army of 13,000 men, in order to assist the Maronites, whose conduct may, after all, have been the original cause of the strife from which they have since so fearfully suffered, and to chastise the Druses, who, in attacking their adversaries perhaps only anticipated the assault prepared for themselves, though their subsequent atrocities admit of no justification. Now, such a step on the part of France, even with the consent of the other Western Powers, appears to us a flagrant breach of international law. She is at peace with Turkey; she but lately assisted to deliver her from the iron grasp of Russia; she is bound to her by treaties. Unless, therefore, her intervention is distinctly called for by the Sultan, the despatch of an army into his dominions to assist one body of his subjects, and to make war upon another, is the act, not of a friend but of a foe, not of an ally but of an aggressor. But, besides being a violation of the law of nations, this expedition, part of which has already sailed, is a political blunder. It will be costly; and the finances of France are not in a flourishing state.

It is large enough to give offence to the Sultan, but not large enough to conquer the Druses—a race of robust, active mountaineers, dwelling in a rugged and difficult country, trained from their youth up in every stratagem of mountain warfare, and numbering 30,000 warriors. But if it cannot conquer them, it cannot occupy their country; so that there is both the certain cost, the risk of defeat and disaster, and the impossibility of any compensating advantage; and we are, therefore, somewhat surprised, not that the French Emperor should despatch an army into Syria, without the consent and approbation of the Sultan, for he has repeatedly shown that he is perfectly unscrupulous where he has his own interests to advance—but that he should stake his reputation for political sagacity, the glory of the French arms, and the peace of Europe and of the East, upon so very uncertain and perilous a venture.

NAUGHTINESS IN HIGH PLACES.

EVIL communications are corrupting the good manners of our old nobility. We have it on the authority of the *Morning Post*, or we should have it to hint at such a thing. When the special organ of high life feels it incumbent upon him to lecture his aristocratic pets and patrons, we may be sure that the case is very bad indeed. Flatterers do not speak their minds until things come to the last pass, and flattery becomes a mockery. The encouraging doctor leaves off prating of hope, and bids the family prepare for the worst, when the death-rattle is in the patient's throat. The courtiers of King Canute no doubt begged their royal master to sit a little back when they saw the rebellious waves disrespectfully washing up upon his royal feet. So the moralist of the *Post* is inspired with courage by the alarming symptoms which have attacked our old nobility, to speak out, plump and plain, and tell his master and patron that he is in a bad way. We have been induced to believe that, since our gracious and exemplary QUEEN came to the throne the whole tone of upper class society has been renovated and improved. We have flattered ourselves that hard drinking went out with Mr. PITT and Mr. FOX, and that the reign of the *demi-monde* passed away with that of his gracious Majesty KING WILLIAM IV. Our QUEEN, we know, has been a pattern to all classes, and we have fondly believed that her bright example has been reflected down to the lowest station of society through the aristocracy. We may have charged the Upper Ten Thousand with being "bloated aristocrats" in political matters, but, in point of morals and social propriety, we have been eager to bear testimony to their distinguished worth. So heartfelt has been our admiration of their irreproachable social and moral qualities as men and brothers, that we have been enabled to join in chorus with that eminent poet, Lord JOHN MANNERS, singing "God preserve our old nobility," even if laws and learning, arts and commerce, and everything else besides, should go by the board. But we have been mistaken all this time, cruelly mistaken, and all the admiration, reverence, respect, esteem, and high regard which has been obtained from us, has been obtained—alas! that we should have to write the words—on false pretences. Yes; the fine young English gentleman, and the fine young English lady, are both up on a very serious charge. Let the detective of the *Post* state his case. "We accuse," he says, "the fine young English gentleman of permitting, practising, and fostering a lax system of demeanour in public which is capable of producing very serious results on society. He is becoming much more emulous of making the acquaintance and frequenting the society, even in public, of ladies of a notorious character. There is ASPASIA, for example, a person of noted ill-repute. He has seen the fine young English gentleman nodding with her in the Park, and scarcely avoiding the recognition of his more respectable friends. He has seen the fine young English gentleman descend from his mother's box at the opera to exchange *persiflage* with ASPASIA in the pit. He has seen him rise from a seat beside LAIS, in Rotten Row, to chat with Lady ALICE or Miss FANNY over the rails, avoiding no opportunity of admitting, even in the presence of those nearest and dearest to him, a close intimacy with those naughty persons, and that being the style which he prefers, the tone which has the surest attractions for him. This, however, is not the whole of the offence. The distinguished culprit is further charged with corrupting the mind of Lady ALICE and Miss FANNY, who are clearly proven, through his evil influence, to have become, to some extent, the associates of improper and guilty characters. The active and intelligent officer aforesaid deponeth that Lady ALICE and Miss FANNY are perfectly conversant with the persons, names, nicknames, and even the personal habits and pursuits of LAIS and ASPASIA. They know that these ladies are naughty persons; they know that their brother, Lord TOM, and their lover, the Honourable AUGUSTUS, frequent their society; and they are accustomed to talk about them, to regard them as rivals, and even to imitate their fast graces. "I continually hear the remark," says the fearless witness, "that none but the 'fast girls' get on;" and the "fast girls" appear to be those who can as nearly as possible imitate the flaunting manners of the ladies of the *cannellia*.

This is a very dreadful state of things, indeed. Who would have thought it? We middle class people, whose wives and daughters do not even allow themselves to dream of such people as LAIS and ASPASIA, can scarcely conceive the case. We cannot calmly contemplate the idea of a respectable young woman, or even a respectable old one, being brought into contact, even in the most remote degree, with such society. The bare thought of a daughter or

sister being familiar with the names and persons of these outcasts, is perfectly revolting. The conduct of a man who dares to insult the modesty of his mother, or respectable female acquaintances, by introducing persons of this character to their notice, is nothing less than brutal. The existence of such a state of things among the aristocracy can only be regarded as a phenomenon, a sudden and virulent form of moral disease, introduced by contact, and not likely to become epidemic. We are happy to hear that the malady has only manifested itself within the last half-dozen years. Until that period vice confined itself to its own quarter, seldom appeared save when it was called out of its hole, and never obtruded itself in places in which it would be sure to meet with scorn and reprobation. In certain streets, theatres, casinos, and other haunts of the kind, the ladies of the *cannellia* were alone to be found. Vice seldom comes forth into the outer world without paying to virtue the homage of trying to hide its head. What then has changed all this, and brought vice and virtue into such close companionship? Let us see. It is almost six years ago that improper operas came into fashion. The ladies of the upper classes, both old and young, rushed to HER MAJESTY'S Theatre to weep tears of sympathy over the woes of a consumptive courtesan. Could it have been that spectacle which reconciled them to association with LAIS and ASPASIA in Rotten-row? Or did loose morals come in with ornamental petticoats and Balmoral boots? It will not be forgotten by the male community that about four or five years ago the ladies suddenly began to show a great deal of their ankles, not to say their legs. Until that period, their feet, as Sir JOHN SUCKLING has it, "Peeped in and out, like little mice, as if they feared the light." But that charming delicacy, all of a sudden, gave way. Ladies' boots and petticoats were made to be shown, and legs and ankles were shown with them. It was LAIS and ASPASIA, we believe, who introduced this fashion, and Lady ALICE and Miss FANNY were not ashamed to follow it. It became them, and it still continues to be exceedingly difficult to distinguish between ASPASIA and Lady ALICE. They both walk the streets in the dirtiest summer day, as if the town were one uninterrupted puddle—Lady ALICE as properly conscious as ASPASIA that my Lord TOM NODDY is behind her, admiring her legs. This is a problem that may well occupy the attention of the statistical Society, and we heartily commend it to the notice of that learned body.

Meantime, we are not greatly astonished that loose behaviour should manifest itself among a class whose lot it is to lead an idle purposeless existence. What is the daily course of life of a young lady of fashion? She dresses, drives, dines, flirts, and figures at the opera. Her thoughts are entirely occupied with the last new fashion in dress, the last new novel, the last new opera, and the last new acquaintance. Her whole mission in society is to shine as a belle, to be courted, admired, and in the end married to some man who is rich enough to minister to her selfish wants. There is really very little difference after all between Lady ALICE and ASPASIA: they both prostitute their faculties to base uses; they both devote themselves to a life of thoughtless gaiety, and if there be any excuse for such conduct it is due rather to ASPASIA than to Lady ALICE. Profligacy is business with ASPASIA; with Lady ALICE it is pleasure. We are glad to see that the writer in the *Post* has made an appeal to the mothers of England on this matter, and we sincerely trust that his admonitions may not be in vain.

THE BANKRUPTCY BILL.

THE Bankruptcy Bill has been compelled to take its turn in walking the plank, and appearing amongst its brethren, "*Nantes in gurgite vasto*," to be fished up again, and rescued at some future opportunity, though the *Times* thought it was to be carried safe into harbour, in spite of the general cutting away and casting overboard, which generally takes place at the end of a session. However generally useful the measure might be there were reasons for the sacrifice. In the first place, the mercantile body, though strong by no means the strongest in the House of Commons; in the second, the unmercantile part of the House belong to a class who are fond of long credits. Again, it was a measure giving small promise of jobbery; once more, it could not be screwed or twisted into a party matter; and lastly, except to a lawyer's eyes, a bill of five hundred clauses would appear to admit of simplification: quite a sufficient number of objections to interfere seriously with the passing of a bill, no matter how great its promise of utility.

We certainly shall not enter into a discussion of the clauses, for various reasons, nor upon its supposed action as regards strictly mercantile failures, but in that portion and aspect of it to which most objection has been made—its severity towards debtors not in trade, or what the *Times* might call "the impossible part of the bill," but which we, though doubtless in a minority, should like to see modified, rather than altogether given up, and with sufficient lapse of time to allow of our "putting our houses in order," before it came into operation. The *Times* wishes to attach to itself the "genteel" part of our population, and if it sees their steps, accidentally tending even towards a prize ring, far be it from our great organ not to be in the fashion, and affect to lead the way. There are some cases in which it is most desirable to see what the nation *will* do, and where united action is necessary; such are matters of war and peace, where disastrous courses lead to stultification in the eyes of foreign powers; but where internal national morality is in question there ought to be no truckling to humours and habits. There is no point in which the upper classes of English society have more need to raise the cry of "Save us from ourselves,"

than in the matter of extravagant personal and household expenditure. The hundreds, if not thousands, of cases which the *Times* has to record in the year of ruin, destruction, and dishonesty, owing to this cause alone, ought to prevent it, if honest, from taking anything like an "easy" view of debt, or talking fashionable twaddle about gentlemen being made bankrupt whilst taking their little tour on the Continent; or finding brokers in the house, and carpets hanging out of the windows, after a few month's absence at Ryde or Scarborough. When writers are driven to such feeble instances as these, it shows us the weakness of the whole case, and that there is a great deal more will than argument in their objections. People don't like making up their housebooks, or settling their little accounts regularly, that is the long and short of it; and tradesmen like to get them on their books, and keep them there—but only if they are worth it. Till you are known, few people are sharper than the Westend tradesmen;—where you are known, few people more lax. We know this from experience: and let any of our readers try the experiment. Order an article at a strange shop, it will be at home with the bill before you are, and the bearer will, in many cases, refuse to leave the former except on payment of the latter. So far from disapproving of this we should be glad to see it, not general, but universal. It is the other, and equally common line of proceeding, that is objectionable, namely, that when your probable solvency and respectability are once ascertained, you are insensibly and, as we firmly believe intentionally, led into extravagances by the difficulty of getting in your bills. Why, only the other day, a lady of our acquaintance, the wife of an officer in the navy, had to send, after numerous ordinary applications, a lawyer's letter to her milliner, in order to get in her "little account." Only to mention one other case which recently came to our notice: the widow of a clergyman, in Oxfordshire, on the death of her husband, called in the accounts which she was anxious to pay, and which she then had the means of paying. Some were sent in and settled, and she believed that all stood clear, but subsequently, and at such intervals precisely as suited the policy or convenience of the creditors, other, and unknown debts came tumbling in, till she scarcely knew when her liabilities were to be over. This evil is rife everywhere more or less throughout the country; we have everywhere lamentations over insensible extravagances, but when a lancet is to be put to mischief, "No thank you." Sir R. BETHEL is quite right in offering, at any rate, one form of remedy for the cunning of tradesmen, the carelessness of the rich, and the shuffling and delays of those who overlive themselves, or swindle; he thinks that a rough, trenchant, untemperish law would do us good, and put our domestic affairs in a safer and sounder condition, and he is in the right of it. It is the duty of every honest Englishman, whether it is his pleasure or no, to accommodate his "life's form" to his ordinary means, and once, at least, in every half-year he ought to be able to make good his obligations, or leave in some respectable hands the means of doing so. No one denies that there are pressing years and occasions where an extraordinary expenditure is forced upon an honest man. Still the demands must be met, and there should be a retrenchment as soon as possible, down to the inexorably necessary. If ruin is to come, let it come without spreading. For people who have a thoroughly good character, undeniable securities, really reasonable expectancies, or even that known honesty which will gradually deduct from future what is imperiously called for in present expenditures, loans are generally not difficult to procure, and charitable societies would do well, on investigation, to relieve such cases. We fully believe we should all be in a far healthier state if no tradesman could claim his account after the expiration of a year. For every really honest man that such a measure would distress there are fifty careless and unprincipled ones that it would curb. As for the poor, they should submit to the same law as the rich; but they are not, as it is, allowed much credit, and it is not out of mercy to them, but to be in the mode and curry favour with the fashionables, that this portion of Sir R. BETHEL'S Bill is disapproved by the *Times*.

"S. G. O." AND GREENWICH HOSPITAL.

ASSOCIATION has strange links, and the owner of these three initials, and the reader in general may wonder what is the connection between "S. G. O." and the Man-of-War's Man's retreat.

CICERO, in his book on the "Nature of the Gods," says, that the kites and crows are in the habit of peering spitefully into each others' nests; and cracking the eggs; so do Whigs and Tories, so do High and Low Church "Parties;" they delight to crack each others' eggs, or to proclaim them addled. "S. G. O." is a great proclaimer of addled eggs, when he cannot crack them. He is occasionally true and useful, occasionally troublesome and incorrect. One society, we believe, has already proved him wrong in scent. Also he has a habit of sometimes assigning eggs to wrong birds, and lately, because he found a rotten charity he thought it must have been sat upon by an evangelical nobleman, whom he addresses in no very courteous terms. "What does Lord SHAFTESBURY know about me?" or words equivalent. With all excuses for natural party bitterness, this style of language is hardly gentleman-like. "S. G. O." has no business to challenge and complain against his own notoriety; he knows that he is known, and spares no pains to make himself so, that is, as a public man; as to private memoirs, the history of one "G. O.," as it has appeared lately, is enough at a time. We wish both Lord SHAFTESBURY and "S. G. O." long lives, and useful ones, each in their way, without that clashing on the stream of life which is exceedingly likely to prove "S. G. O." to be the weaker vessel of the two, though he assumes the position of wishing certain

"noblemen" to be prosecuted as impostors. But *summa dies veniet* for both of them; and if it is vouchsafed to the spirits of the departed to view their own funeral honours, we predict, that, for any good they have each done, Lord SHAFTESBURY will be found to be a good deal the better "known" of the two. "S. G. O." may not "know" what we believe we are quite right in asserting, that Lord SHAFTESBURY never gives his name without giving his money, and that consequently he does not give the former without due investigation. His name, it seems, was inserted by a "Mutual Benevolence Association," and "S. G. O." without exercising the courtesy of inquiring whether the name was used justifiably, recommends a certain nobleman to the notice of the police courts.

It is to be desired that every party should look thoroughly into what they themselves consider unexceptionable charities. If evangelical secretaries are in any cases overpaid, and expenditure not clearly and satisfactorily accounted for in these associations, they are far from being the only offenders. The idea of rummaging into high-and-dry, orthodox, old-fashioned charities of royal or ancient foundation, never or rarely occurs to the like of "S. G. O.," as if noblemen and gentlemen, guardians and governors could not now and then turn a penny or perform an act rather more in their own interest than that of the charity with whose funds they are intrusted. When Low Churchism was a thing almost unknown in England, the jobbing with and malappropriation of old charities and foundations was notorious and universal; as SOUTHEY says in one of his Quarterly Review Essays: "Let the reader examine into the state of the charitable foundations over the kingdom, where the same number of poor persons are now maintained in the same manner as when the Institutions were endowed centuries ago, and the increase of the rents—which in some places is twenty, fifty, and even a hundred fold—is swallowed up by chaplains and trustees." How much time did it require to rectify even one of these, Dulwich Hospital! Even Lord BROUGHAM has not swept quite clean. Where one pound has been malappropriated in Low Church Charities, or Missionary Societies, we will undertake to say that the old high-and-dry have, directly and indirectly, misused and misappropriated a hundred; but "S. G. O." and his clique have no notion of swindling or hypocrisy, except, as it would seem, in connection with Exeter Hall, and a nobleman who has taken personal trouble in sounding the depth of misery in this city, when many of those who abuse him were only talking about it. CARLYLE, who is certainly not an evangelical, but who, to use his own language, "knows a man when he sees him," says, "Honour to the name of ASHLEY, that faithful ABDIEL," and we echo the praise gladly.

Greenwich Hospital is one of our fine old-fashioned orthodox institutions, and "S. G. O." probably would have considered it a kind of profanity to pry into its proceedings; but its management has been so bad that the very Admiralty themselves cry "Shame!" If any of our contemporaries wish to make play upon the subject, we recommend them to Lord ERSKINE'S famous speech on its villanous maladministration in the time of Lord SANDWICH, in 1779, when he dilated upon the "clerks of clerks in an endless subordination of idleness," and when he told the Court that "the hospital might as well have been under the tuition of the fixed stars as so many illustrious persons in different and distant departments." We have given too much space to "S. G. O." to dwell on the affairs of Greenwich Hospital, which, like almost all the matters of present interest, are, as we have often shown, only a re-appearance for those who are familiar with the history of the past. Our only comment is, that our hospital for retired sailors has been waiting for thorough reform nearly a century, if we date only from Lord ERSKINE'S speech; how much longer, it might be arduous to inquire.

RECENT FRENCH HISTORICAL WORKS.

WHILST Louis XIV., deceived by the evil suggestions of Madame de Maintenon, Louvois, and the Jesuits, was giving full play to his ambitious designs, and hurrying on France to the brink of the precipice, a powerful opposition had arisen within the very Palace of Versailles; under the shadow of the throne, schemes were prepared for the purpose of upsetting the entire system of despotism which the Cardinal de Richelieu had organised and bequeathed to *le Grand Monarque*. The centre of the opposition, the man around whom the French Liberals of the seventeenth century gathered together, was the famous Duc de Bourgogne, so eloquently portrayed by Saint Simon, and who, if he had been spared to reign, would most probably have anticipated the great national movement of 1789, and prevented altogether the terrible catastrophe of 1793. The Ducs de Beauvilliers and de Chevreuse, Fenelon, Archbishop of Cambrai, and Saint Simon himself were the leading men in the movement we have just been alluding to; an opposition, the programme of which still exists in that beautiful prose poem, "Telemaque"—a work, which, containing the principles of the most enlightened form of government, faintly concealed under the mask of fiction, could scarcely escape the notice of a prince like Louis XIV. Visited with the royal displeasure as a *bel esprit chimérique*, Fenelon was banished to his diocese; but this measure proved ineffectual, because the dissatisfaction had become universal and the prelate, in describing the happiness of Salentum, had only expressed the feelings, the longings, of the whole of France. The Comte de Boulainvilliers, the Abbé de Saint Pierre, drew up several schemes for the anticipated reform; the Dauphin himself had a desk full of MS. memoirs on the finances, the administration, the magistracy; and it is well known that the father of the unfortunate Louis XVI. had discovered, and caused to be copied, another important

document on the same subject. In the course of his researches amongst the treasures of the Imperial library at Paris, M. P. Mesnard, lately engaged upon a history of the Duc de Bourgogne, found a most valuable MS. volume entitled, "Projets de Gouvernement résolu par Mgr. le Duc de Bourgogne, Dauphin, après y avoir mûrement pensé."* This political memoir, now for the first time published, deserves the greatest attention, first on account of the subject treated in it, and also from the fact that it is satisfactorily proved to be a work of the celebrated memoir writer, the Duc de Saint Simon.

M. Mesnard's preface, extending to nearly 120 closely-printed octavo pages, is in itself a most curious and interesting production. The editor begins by settling the difficulty relating to the authorship, for the MS. is anonymous, and although any one acquainted with French literature must recognise at once Saint Simon's style, yet this point requires to be established beyond the limits of a doubt: then, coming to topics of a more general nature, he examines the views which Fenelon and his noble friend respectively entertained touching the political reforms so imperatively called for, and he shows how these reforms were likely to act, had they been carried out. Fenelon has hitherto been appreciated too exclusively as a divine, or as a mere *littérateur*; but there was also to be found in him all the foresight of an accomplished and enlightened politician; and M. Mesnard's essay, or introductory disquisition, enables us to study him perfectly from that point of view. A number of quotations furnished by the "Telemaque" and other published writings of the Archbishop are introduced by way of illustration, and give us a complete key to the scheme he had proposed for the Dauphin's adoption.

The new edition of Saint Simon's Memoirs has once again led critics to examine more closely the character of that extraordinary man, who, like another Tacitus, has painted in the most repulsive colours the excesses of despotic government. A certain school of writers, recently sprung into notoriety, has asserted the proposition, that the *beau idéal* of a body politic is the reduction of the whole nation to a dead level, under the supreme authority of one individual. These writers, of course, pool-pool Saint Simon, and affect to consider him merely as a disappointed and jealous man—a *Frondeur*, a one-sided, untrustworthy historian. M. Mesnard refutes admirably this opinion, in a page—which we should like to quote entire, did time and space permit. He says:—

"Une monarchie aristocratique, telle que Saint Simon la voulait, établie sur des principes de justice, de droit, de patriotisme; substituant à un capricieux arbitraire des garanties d'institutions nationales, fixes et respectées, ne doit pas être confondue avec l'oligarchie, et contient naturellement les germes d'une liberté plus large et plus générale, que le temps ne peut manquer de murir et de féconder."

It is now the fashion of some people in France to denounce, as aristocratic and oppressive, every tenet, every fact that interferes with their favourite system of centralisation, and to invoke the principles of 1789, as they term them, against the slightest manifestation of Liberalism. Such people would blot out, if possible, Saint Simon from the catalogue of French writers, and certainly M. Mesnard's book will meet with no good treatment at their hands. It is nevertheless an important publication, and throws the greatest light upon a momentous epoch in the reign of Louis XIV. The learned editor has added a copious selection of notes, which elucidate the home policy of the King and the condition of the various branches of the administrative service at the time when the *projet de gouvernement* was drawn up.

In one of its last sittings, the Académie Française has awarded the prix Gobert (value 10,000fr. or £400), to M. Wallon, professor of Modern History at the Sorbonne, for his biography of Joan of Arc.† A great many works have already been written on this illustrious champion of French independence, but we know of not one which might make us qualify M. Wallon's volumes as superfluous or valueless. In the first place, the really important publications treating of that subject are almost exclusively collections of documents relating to the life, exploits, and condemnation of *La Pucelle*; State papers, charters and chronicles, which are of immense value, but which cannot, of course, lay claim to the title of literary performances. They constitute, so to say, the materials from which the edifice might be raised. Historians are bound to study and discuss them; but to the generality of readers, in their original form, they would be inaccessible. Then the popular accounts which exist in such plentiful numbers of Joan of Arc are simply narratives reproducing the traditional facts given by the historians of the last century, such as Millot, Anquetil, Velly; utterly devoid of critical knowledge, and composed by inefficient bookwrights, who, satisfied with the information they could secure at second-hand, did not think it worth while referring to original sources. Between these two classes of works there was a middle course to follow, and we think that M. Wallon has been particularly happy in his treatment of the biography. His first volume contains the life of *La Pucelle* down to her trial at Rouen; the second being entirely occupied by an account both of the trial and of the *procès de réhabilitation* which was subsequently instituted.

In writing the volumes M. Wallon had to overcome a difficulty which, if we may believe M. Quicherat, was almost insur-

mountable. Two distinct series of documents compose the sources from which the work was to be done, and according to the erudite author of the "Aperçus nouveaux sur l'Histoire de Jeanne d'Arc," these two series were of a contradictory character.

"Le procès de réhabilitation," he says, "vint ensuite donner une tournure de commande aux souvenirs, qu'il eut au moins le mérite de fixer. Il est la source de tout ce qu'ont écrit les chroniqueurs favorables à la Pucelle, il a fourni les traits de cette image qui a trop longtemps défrayé l'histoire."

Whilst giving his preference to the first class of *pièces justificatives*, those belonging to the *procès de condamnation*, M. Wallon expresses his opinion that they must necessarily be completed with the assistance of the documents supplied by the *procès de réhabilitation*. This last inquest was conducted and terminated from the evidence of the individuals most interested in supporting the validity of the former, such as J. Beaupere, P. Cauchon, H. de Courcelles, &c., &c. Our historian has accordingly made equal use of both sources of information, and the result is a work carefully written, imbued with a religious, solemn spirit, and which will subsist as a masterpiece of biographical composition, equally free from any heavy display of learning, and from that mere rhetorical verbiage which too often disfigures *resumes* intended for general reading. At the end of each volume M. Wallon has affixed a few explanatory quotations, and a variety of notes enabling the students to refer at once to the original texts.

With M. Perrens we are taken back to the fourteenth century, that is to say, to one of the darkest epochs in the history of France.* Etienne Marcel, the chief of the Revolution, the vicissitudes of which are described in the volume we are now noticing, has been variously appreciated by historians and political writers, some representing him as a mere revolutionist, anxious for popularity at any cost, whilst others admire in him a generous patriot, who saw all the evils of the feudal system, and who wished to ensure for the bourgeoisie their legitimate share in the government of the kingdom. The States-General, convened under King Jean II., must they be considered as an attempt to bring about the results obtained in 1789? Was the *Prevot des Marchands*, a kind of mediæval Bailly, misunderstood by his contemporaries and maligned by posterity? The revolt of the Jacquerie, in short, was it an unjustifiable rising, or what Lafayette would have called *le plus saint des devoirs*?—M. Perrens takes the favourable view of the case, and his book, written, as the author says, by the advice and almost under the inspiration of the late Augustin Thierry, is an avowed apology of the part which the Commons played during the civil wars of the fourteenth century. The nobles, we believe, were most to blame:—

"Prenant exemple de ses maîtres, elle (the nobility) gouvernait, c'est à dire opprimait ses vassaux comme le roi ses sujets. L'art du gouvernement consistait pour elle à faire rendre le plus possible aux misérables, au risque d'épuiser la source et de son opulence, de tuer la poule aux œufs d'or."

Much fault, we believe, can justly be found with the feudal barons for their cruelty and rapacity; but M. Perrens has darkened the picture in an unnecessary manner, and he has adopted (though without premeditation, we grant) statements which are not substantiated by facts. Former historians have accustomed us to consider King Jean and the Duc de Normandie, who afterwards ascended the throne under the name of Charles V., as wise princes, anxiously wishing for the good of their subjects, though sometimes led to adopt measures which they were the first to regret. Now, the case is quite different; and the conclusions endorsed by the panegyrists of Etienne Marcel are so entirely opposed to those of his predecessors, that we might almost believe we are introduced to altogether different personages. Thus, of the former of the two monarchs, M. Perrens says:—

"Tout porte à croire que nous disons Jean le bon, parce qu'un Froissart a dit une fois le bon roi Jean, comme Virgile a dit le pieux Enée, ou plutôt pour faire entendre qu'il était léger, confiant, étourdi, prodigue, et même, peut-être, bon homme à ses heures, ce qui ne l'empêchait pas de tuer quelquefois ses sujets et de les ruiner toujours."

Charles le Mauvais, King of Navarre, is, of course, portrayed, on the contrary, as a prince whose character has been designedly aspersed by prejudiced annalists:—

"S'ils ajoutent qu'il cachait un naturel pervers sous ces dehors aimables et son air d'enjouement, et qu'il détournait plusieurs personnes considérables de l'obéissance et de la fidélité qu'elles devaient au roi, ils se font l'écho des accusations dont on poursuit ce jeune prince."

Indeed, if we would believe M. Perrens, it often happens that a sort of combination is made by chroniclers and other writers to suppress the truth or to disfigure it. Perverse men enter upon an *entente cordiale*, the object of which is to make posterity believe that black once upon a time was white, and towards so desirable an end all things work with admirable harmony—State papers, official records, chronicles, pamphlets, pasquils, squibs. Now, this is a theory which we cannot bring ourselves to credit, even backed as it is by the authority of the accomplished historian we are now considering.

In conclusion, M. Perrens seems to us to have overshot the mark whilst composing his narrative of the designs of Etienne Marcel and of the Paris bourgeoisie during the fourteenth century; at the same time he has with all fairness reproduced the arguments of his opponents, and his history is written with a simplicity and a dignity which cannot be too much praised.

*Etienne Marcel et le Gouvernement de la Bourgeoisie au quatorzième Siècle. Par F. T. Perrens. 8vo. Paris and London. Hachette.

* Projets de Gouvernement du Duc de Bourgogne, Dauphin; mémoire attribué au Duc de Saint Simon, et publié pour la première fois d'après un manuscrit de la Bibliothèque Impériale. Par M. T. Mesnard. 8vo. London and Paris: Hachette.

† Jeanne d'Arc. Par H. Wallon, Membre de l'Institut. 2 vols. 8vo. Paris and London: Hachette.

NOTHING LIKE HOME.*

THE present volume is devoted to a study and description of English antiquities, dating from the remotest period of our national history. The author aptly observes in his preface, that this branch of research must necessarily possess in the eyes of Englishmen an interest not inferior to that formerly felt by the learned in the classic remains of the ancient world. Hitherto, in order to arrive at any satisfactory information relative to the past condition of our island home, its heirlooms, architectural remains, &c., it has been necessary to wade through so many erudite compositions, as might well have the effect of deterring even the most industrious from making the attempt; now that difficulty is removed by the zealous aid of collectors of Mediæval and Renaissance art, who have thrown their collections open to all who choose to take advantage of the facilities they afford. This work is intended as a slight contribution to such as are entering for the first time into this field of inquiry, and contains a great deal that is both valuable and interesting to the reader, so much so indeed, that we shall proceed to give a slight analysis of its contents.

The book opens with a description of the habitations of the ancient Britons, which, it appears, were far superior to those of most barbarous nations, though they were not, of course, constructed with a view to many of the comforts of domestic life. We are, however, told "that the Britons understood the art of working metal, of shaping timber, of moulding clay into pottery, of making cloth, and manufacturing articles of dress;" but it does not appear that they applied the knowledge of these arts to many useful purposes. When the Romans evacuated Britain, they left behind them many traces of their civilization; but this part of our history is so well known that the author passes lightly over it, and comes directly to an account of "Homes in Pagan Saxondom." History does not throw much light upon this particular era, and the information we possess concerning it is chiefly contained in the song of Beowulf, which, composed by a Saxon minstrel, may be considered as a truthful exponent of Saxon manners and peculiarities. The author thus describes the celebrated "mead hall," or "Heorat," built by Heriothgar, chief of the Saxons; and which description is of course taken from the poetical effusion above alluded to. It was approached by stairs, and when Heriothgar spoke he stood upon the steps, and saw the steep roof variegated with gold. It rose aloft, and was "high, and carved with pinnacles;" the doors were hung on hinges, and made strong and fast with bands hardened in the fire. The floor, like the roof, was variegated; the wooden walls were made fast within and without, with bands of iron curiously wrought. The interior was furnished with many a mead bench; golden tapestries hung upon the walls, and were things of wonder and admiration to all who gazed upon their refulgent beauties. This hall was dedicated to the god of wine, and the festivities which were held in it were of the most riotous and uncontrolled description.

We now pass over to the period of Christianity, when the ecclesiastics introduced a more elevated style of architecture in the erection of churches, which was in many instances successfully imitated in the construction of domestic buildings. Still the hall was the principal, and, only too often, the sole apartment in a Saxon home, and, spite of the admonitions of the clergy, was still devoted to purposes of drunkenness and revelry. With the Norman conquest commenced an entirely new era of things. "This period," says the author, "was one of slow but gradual progress; step by step, by rude efforts of invention, by slight improvements upon ancient contrivances, and by a partial encouragement of art, something more was gained in the appliances and adornments of home, than was required by the mere promptings of necessity." We have then a graphic description of the manners and customs of the middle ages, some of which are so obnoxious as to cause us to dwell with peculiar satisfaction upon the cultivated tastes of the nineteenth century. For instance, in speaking of the banquet halls belonging to the baronial castles, which, instead of being boarded or paved, as is the case in all modern habitations, were simply strewn over with a slight covering of straw and rushes, the author says, "the straw was allowed to remain so long that, mingled with the refuse of the table, it often became rotten and offensive. Nor was this the only annoyance to which the inmates were subject; it was complained that even the hall of the king was insupportable from the stench arising from an uncovered drain, which passed almost under the noses of the guests as they sat at table."

It is somewhat curious to note the extraordinary hour of the day at which our ancestors considered it fashionable to partake of their principal meal, being, as it is, so entirely opposed to modern usages. In the days of Queen Elizabeth, the gentry never dined later than eleven o'clock a.m.; before her reign an hour earlier, the exact period at which we consider it fashionable to breakfast. We never read of late dinners in the olden time, unless, indeed, as a freak, or from eccentricity. The ceremony of spreading the cloth in the middle ages is somewhat ludicrous; we have it thus described:—"Two ushers entered the hall: they both knelt down, and, unfolding the cloth, commenced spreading it on the table at the lower end; when they reached the middle of the board, they again made a low obeisance, and on arriving at the top they knelt a third time with the most profound reverence. This ridiculous ceremony was performed even if the hall was vacant." The author then goes on to enumerate, and give us a slight history of the different articles of utility, luxury, and refinement, which, at different periods, made their appearance in the houses of our aristocracy and gentry. He also presents us with an interesting sketch of the social condition of

the trading classes, peasantry, &c., during the fifteenth century, none of whom could be said at that time to derive much benefit from the numerous inventions and improvements which added so greatly to the domestic happiness of their betters. It was, however, at the close of the Tudor dynasty that the real era of civilization commenced in England. Men, in proportion as they began to enjoy the blessings of more liberal constitutions, also engendered a taste for domestic enjoyments. And if "the exterior of the Stuart homes were less ambitious in style, and the graces of ornament were too readily sacrificed for the useful, the interior could boast of fresh charms and new home attractions. The hall was no longer a characteristic feature in the English mansion. Hospitality suffered, but men grew more independent, and found a wider market for their labour than of old." We will conclude our notice of this admirable little work with the closing remark of the author. "Those innumerable enjoyments which we pass unobserved, because we have always been familiar with their presence, were in the old times luxuries, of which we can find no trace save in the household records of the great; and it is by no means exceeding the bounds of truth, when we say that the homes of English artisans in the nineteenth century are surrounded with more conveniences, and possess within themselves more of the accessories to comfort, than were enjoyed by the majority of the nobility in the vaunted days of chivalry."

THE HORSE AND ITS MASTER.*

WE are taught in an old book, or rather in a collection of old books, that daily rises in estimation the more severely it is criticised, and the better it is understood, that "the merciful man is merciful to his beast." Mr. Edward Mayhew has written a volume on the horse in the spirit of this text, and has called upon man, who derives such services from the faithful, feeling creature over whom he tyrannises so unjustly, to mend his manners as a ruler of the inferior animals, and to act in a manner more rational and kindly towards them. In the closing sentences of his treatise he tells us that "he has designedly rather appealed to the reason of his readers, than sought to enlist their feelings. The subject was, indeed, a wide one. Man has hitherto been too content to consider animals as something given absolutely to him, to be treated according to his sovereign will, or merest pleasure. He has not reflected that, when he was created lord of this earth, he was invested with a title which has its responsibilities as well as its privileges." Mr. Edward Mayhew entered the veterinary profession late in life, and after much exercise as a literary man; and carried into it the feelings and intelligence of his former calling. Hence the noble sentiment which pervades his production; and hence its excellence as a composition. Besides this, Mr. Edward Mayhew has proved himself capable of some capital artist work, and has furnished the volume with more than four hundred drawings illustrative of the text.

Mr. Edward Mayhew is not afraid of the ridicule that he may provoke by his affection towards the animal that he has so diligently studied. Should he be accused of wishing to institute an hospital for horses, he replies that something like one exists now in the Royal Veterinary College of Camden Town, and that what he really contends for is an extension of such institutions; may we add, he wishes that every stable should be such on a small scale. He would take the noble beast out of the hands of the ignorant, and treat him according to science. What is there really absurd in this? Yet the interested will answer superciliously, as they have answered Mr. Mechi in regard to his agricultural experiments, and probably, as in that case, demand a sight of his balance-sheet. But it is not always right to "answer a fool according to his folly," though sometimes it undoubtedly is. But of this the judicious must judge for themselves. They must not suffer the fools to judge, or rather misjudge, for them.

True to his old instincts for the stage, Mr. Edward Mayhew commences his argument in a startling and dramatic manner. He begins with the mad horse, both in picture and letter-press. The former is spirited and the latter eloquent. And, after all, the subject is rightly started; for is it not proper to commence with the root of all, "the brain and nervous system?" The poor animal suffering under phrenitis is violent, but not malicious. "The creature strives only to injure itself. It may, in its efforts, shatter and demolish the structures which surround it; but it does so without intention. That is merely the result of *its being carried away beyond the things of this world by a mighty anguish*. It desires harm to no one; but it cannot remain quiescent, and endure the torment which rages within its skull."

There is something more than merely fine writing in this description of the mysterious rapture of the great agony that possesses the phrenitic brain. It is only the extreme of that excitement which while genial—(we use the word with reference to its root)—is pleasurable. Pain is but the opposite pole of an intelligent power whose beginnings and continuations are but degrees of delight, until the fatal limit is reached. Mr. Mayhew, in some instances, points to the analogies in the human and brutal developments;—and surely these should awaken some sympathies. We are alike kindred to the animal and the angelic. Think of this, and feel accordingly.

Abundant are the reasons why, in the language of the author, man should establish more than a brutal mastery over the animal

* *The Illustrated Horse Doctor*: being an accurate and detailed account, accompanied by more than 400 pictorial representations of the various diseases to which the equine race are subjected; together with the latest mode of treatment, and all the requisite prescriptions, written in plain English. By EDWARD MAYHEW, M.R.C.V.S. W. IL Allen and Co.

* *Our English Home, Its Early History and Progress. With Notes on the Introduction of Domestic Inventions.* London: J. H. & James PARKER.

he possesses. The horse, he says, is the most timid of creatures; but quickly learns to recognise the voice of its owner. In its vast affection, it soon trusts with confidence to the person who is kind to it. An occasional word thrown to a patient and willing servant, spoken softly to the animal which is putting forth all its strength for our pleasure, would not be cast away. When dread overpowers the horse and it begins to run at its topmost speed do not pull the reins: the first check should be given by the voice. Speak cheerfully to a timid creature. If the first word produces no effect, repeat it. Watch the ears. If these are turned backward to catch the accents, talk encouragingly to the horse. The voice of one it loves will restore its confidence. The pace will slacken. Talk on, but always in a tone calculated to soothe the distress. Then gently touch the reins. The first gentle movement may not be responded to, but the second or the third will be; and the animal, released from terror, is once more under your control.

Such are the gentle instructions that Mr. Edward Mayhew gives in regard to the gentle though spirited creature which man so shamefully misgoverns. The style in which his book is written should carry it into every household, whether the owner of it keep a horse or not. We all of us have something in some way to do with horses. If we hire a Hansom, we are brought into a responsible relation; and should see that the driver does nothing that is cruel. It will do us no harm to know something of the subject, when we have to argue out some matter with cabby, or with the ostler when we borrow a steed for the day. In the latter case, the remarks above made will be useful to the driver or rider. And thus, in some manner or other, the present admirable volume may be made of universal utility.

THE MIDDLE AGES.*

UNDER the practical title of "From Eve till Morn," Mrs. Agar has written a well-intentioned work on what have been called the DARK or the MIDDLE AGES in Europe. In composing this work, the writer proposed to suggest a comparison between the old civilization and the new, and to point out the gradations by which the existing communities of Christendom attained their present degree of polish and refinement. In illustration of her position, our authoress has admitted facts and details, anecdotes and incidents, wholly excluded from history. The condition assigned to women at different periods has likewise interested, as might have been expected, the mind of a female essayist. For the matter contained in her volume she prefixes a list of respectable authorities, well indicating the general course of her reading and study.

So much by way of preface to an inquiry of no ordinary interest, conducted with no ordinary care. We begin with the Gauls and Franks, who, in their rudeness, drank wine out of the skulls of their enemies, mounted in gold; when not only cities, provinces, and districts, but even single families, were at feud with each other; and when, in their love of liberty and independence, they immolated their wives, their children, and themselves, rather than become the prey of the victor. They set little value on life, much on honour. The Druids even sacrificed human victims to the Deity, believed in sorcery, and were otherwise superstitious. Becoming tributary to the Romans, the Gauls consequently attained a comparatively high degree of civilization. Witness the Gallic cities of an early period (600 B.C.) such as Narbonne, Autun, Arles, and Marseilles; and the naval ports crowded with the sails of commerce. But on the decline of the Roman power, barbarism again overspread those countries; and the Franks soon afterwards undertook and effected the conquest of Gaul, the women accompanying their husbands in their warlike expeditions. Then came the ravages of the Huns under Attila, "the scourge of God," and their defeat by the Merovignians. Clovis, the grandson of Merovig, embraced Christianity about A.D. 491.

Clovis was a hybrid character. He "could display at will the sanguinary manners of the heathen, or appear to be touched by the milder doctrines of Christianity. He could assassinate a prince of the blood, or attend a synod of bishops, with equal sang-froid." But his successors were less vigorous, whether for good or evil, and ultimately, indeed, justly obtained the name of the "do-nothing kings." But Charlemagne arose, and the face of affairs changed. The events of these times are well sketched by the pen of Mrs. Agar, which touches with facility, and sets in glancing lights, the symbolic facts of each particular epoch.

The scene now changes, and the Normans tread the stage. The rugged nature of the Scandinavians comes into play. That nature was favourable to liberty. In Norway no feudal nobility could exist, or slavery prevail; for man's incessant labour barely enabled him to obtain subsistence for himself and family. Oh, thou stern North! nurse of equality, of freedom, of brotherhood; teaching all these by the one lesson of mutual need. Oh, poverty, how much safer art thou than riches! All hail, thou stern North, and thou cold poverty! Immortal blessings are the issues of your united influences. History rejoices in you, and justifies Nature, even in her utmost severity;—just mother, though seemingly untender. Adversity is safer than prosperity: let us welcome that truth, and learn to be heroic. The reader must seek for the detail; illustrating the indicated principles, in our authoress's picturesque review; reserving to ourselves one excerpt:—"After the Northmen had embraced Christianity, they entered, with all the enthusiasm belonging to their character, into the prevailing superstitions of their age." And even this is a mystery which it would take more than columns (nay, gods and men besides) to interpret.

Feudality was signalled by many eccentric characteristics, on which our authoress dwells with amusing *gusto*. There are traces of it among the Orientals; in the Syrian *sanjaks*, for instance, and the customs of Tartary. Thus, the father of Genghis Khan held many fiefs, from the Khan of Caracorum, who, though a prince of great power, was subject to the Emperor of Cathai, when the latter, in accordance with feudal usages, summoned his vassals to quell an insurrection which had taken place in his kingdom. The Celtic barbarians also supplied examples of such institutions, dividing themselves into three classes—nobility, priesthood, peasantry. Under Hugh Capet and his successors, feudalism displayed itself in the most tyrannical form. By the end of the eleventh century, most of the estates of France had become feudal; and in a short space of time, fortified castles arose in every direction. In our times, the practice has degenerated into the slaveholding system of the Southern States of America; a system which, next November, is likely to receive a death-blow.

Into the story of feudal contests we have no space to enter; nor have we any inclination to repeat the detail of barbarous manners, already familiar to the intelligent reader. Some incidents are, however, full of instruction. Let us trace a few of them: for instance, the treatment of children. Young men, in the times of barbarism, stood silent and bareheaded in the presence of their fathers; grown-up daughters were only allowed to repose by kneeling on a cushion, until their mothers left the chamber. The most trifling faults were punished with blows. Learning, also, was a reproach; and nobility and clergy were alike ignorant. Even the possessors of two hides of land unwillingly sent their children to school, and had to be compelled by law to do so. The law-making monarch was in advance of his subjects. To the institution of chivalry we can only allude. In its poetic form it survived to the sixteenth century; and Elizabeth imbibed its spirit from Spenser's verse.

The mention of chivalry and Elizabeth naturally introduces the subject of the condition of women during this night of time. Mrs. Agar has devoted an intelligent chapter to this topic. In the earliest ages it was better than in later. In Egypt nearly all business was transacted by women; and in Greece also they were honoured. The ancient Roman women were domestic and virtuous; and the ancient Germans treated their women with great respect. In ancient Britain also the equality of the sexes was established. The barbarous treatment of Boadicea and her daughters by the Romans made more impression on the British chiefs than any injury they suffered. In the late ages of Christianity women found relief from adversity within the cloisters' walls. And though the life led by the barons in the dark ages opposed powerful barriers to all improvement, yet, while they remained in their castles, they lived with their wives and families on terms of equality; and when they left their strongholds, their wives remained mistresses of the castles, representing their husbands, and defending the honour of the fiefs. Women, accordingly, gave abundant evidence of courage and self-reliance. Instances of womanly heroism abound. In the sixteenth century women were educated with great care; many were good Latin scholars.

Such is a meagre account of a book abundant in resources, and well arranged. We can conscientiously recommend it as an instructive volume, written with that womanly instinct which makes example serve instead of philosophy. Mrs. Agar gives us the facts, and leaves us to infer the laws. But the latter is seen in the former as their symbols. From the latter, the student, or even the ordinary reader, may deduce the proper conclusions, and learn the wisdom that is involved in experience, for those who industriously seek it out, and compare it with those inward monitions which are the criteria of judgment in the human consciousness. This every individual can do for himself; and, indeed, must do: for the employment of a substitute in the work is the source, in every case, of personal weakness and deficient development.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

SPECIAL.

HANOVER, July 24, 1860.

IT is difficult in this country for the most impartial observer to maintain an unbiassed judgment with regard to the Emperor of the French and the policy of England. Press and people have, since the Italian war, kept up one constant howl against both France and England. That all is not as it ought to be, and might be, is evident from the fear of war, and consequent injurious stagnation in trade which everywhere prevails. It is certain that the alliance or conspiracy against the liberty of the people, formed and maintained till 1848 by Russia, Prussia, and Austria, managed matters better than France and England. Since 1848 we have nothing but wars and rumours of wars, and no sooner is one war concluded than the prospect of another opens to view. How was it that the alliance of Russia, Prussia, and Austria secured peace and confidence in the future, while the alliance of England and France has brought war and confusion among the nations? This is a question frequently put by people here who have become rather oblivious to the Anti-1848-Slavery, and degradation of the nations, and the proud independence of the princes. For my own part, well remembering the official insolence of former days, I am perfectly content to live in the midst of alarms, and see the potentates trembling at the threatening attitude of the traditional enemy. As a lover of civil liberty, I revel in their unceasing alarm. And why? Because I know and feel in my own person that the liberty at present tolerated is entirely owing to the attitude of France. In spite of the natural antipathy of the Germans to LOUIS NAPOLEON, and their dissatisfaction with the policy of England, they cannot

* From *Eve till Morn, in Europe*. By Mrs. Agar. London: Thos. Cantley Newby.

help perceiving that the French and English alliance has tended to reduce the power of Austria and Russia, the two main pillars of Continental despotism; it has rendered the formerly absolute and insolent Prince of PRUSSIA almost the model of Constitutional Sovereigns. Who that travelled on the Continent in 1850 can have forgotten the audacious impudence of the police officials, more especially in Prussia and Austria? Who can have forgotten how and why the Austrians billeted their troops upon Hamburg? How Bremen was threatened with a similar punishment unless the liberal institutions adopted in 1848 were instantly replaced by the old police guardianship system. The constant fear of LOUIS NAPOLEON and his Zouaves is, in my humble opinion, doing more for German freedom than any exertions made by the Germans themselves. The princes, not knowing how soon they may be in need of the services of their people, are more disposed to strive for their love and respect. They feel that the slightest appearance of discord between people and sovereigns would be the signal for an attempt upon the Rhine. Consequently the German princes were never so liberal, never so patriotic, never so particularly Germanic, as at this moment; nor, as far as I can remember, were the police officials less insolent. Never since the days of TACITUS, I am inclined to think, did Germans enjoy so much liberty as at this present time. They are not obliged to procure a license for the performance of some natural functions, and we may expect, if LOUIS NAPOLEON keeps the ruling powers a few years longer upon the tenter hooks, to see the people free to live, marry, and gain their bread honestly without permission from the police. Compared with 1850 we are living in a state of savage liberty, which is entirely owing to LOUIS NAPOLEON. The German Liberals ought to regard him as their best friend; but, far from this, they are most rabid against him. It is singular that with regard to LOUIS NAPOLEON the English and continental Liberals are totally at variance. The German Liberals are for an English Tory policy against France, but desire a Whig policy against Russia. The Feudalist or Absolutist party, as represented by the *Kreutz Zeitung*, would have no objection to an alliance between France, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, for the isolation and ultimate ruin of England.

As you may imagine, the observations of Mr. KINGLAKE in the House of Commons have attracted much attention, not because of the newness of the information, for what he said in Parliament with so much pomposity has been exaggerated from mouth to mouth these weeks past. Little credit, however, was attached to reports of that nature, because if there were any truth in them the princes themselves must have been the authors—a very improbable circumstance. We are, in fact, inundated with stories similar to those repeated by Mr. KINGLAKE. The other day the papers circulated the news that a French officer, disguised as an organ grinder, had been seized in the act of taking a drawing of the fortifications of Dantzic. Another report was that French officers had been seen taking soundings at the mouth of the Weser. Strength is lent to the last report by a letter from Paris to the *Allgemeine Zeitung*, or rather M. Orges, which letter is supposed to have been written by a diplomatist of high standing. He says: "Your fears with respect to the intentions of the Emperor against Germany are but too well founded, although I cannot state the exact period when the mask of peace will be cast aside. As to the state of public opinion in foreign countries we know nothing in Paris, but a fearful presentiment seems to possess the nation that we are upon the eve of war, or, at all events, that we cannot be sure of peace from one day to another. Four days ago I paid a visit to . . . (a general staff officer of note), with whom I have kept up acquaintance, although it has been of late confined to occasional greetings. He lately, in a chance meeting, suddenly began a lecture upon the advantages and disadvantages of the French and German system of fortification, and appeared as though he wished to enrich his very superficial knowledge of the subject through me. I promised him some details as to the principles which I took to him on Tuesday. It was evident that he had devoted close attention to the battle-fields of Germany, for he had made vast progress in his knowledge of geography, a science in which he had formerly been no great adept. (Your readers must understand that it is a general belief in Germany that the French, as a nation, are very ignorant of geography—possibly because a Frenchman is seldom to be met with who knows the names and degrees of latitude and longitude of all the German Cities.) I should not have felt surprised at his studies in the geography of Germany, for he had always evinced an inclination to study; but what particularly struck me was the following circumstance: Among a number of maps which lay spread out upon his table was one with a white border. On my endeavouring to obtain a nearer view of it he covered it with his hand, and quickly shuffled it under the others. I saw enough of it, however, to be able to state that it was a photographic copy of PARE's map of the kingdom of Hanover, including the country of the mouth of the Weser. I can hardly have made a mistake about it, for I observed the fine neat leaves too exactly, besides a military map of this description exists only in one copy. I would not hesitate to speak positively were it not for the peculiarity of the colouring, and that the photograph copy seemed smaller than the original. I so little suspected the object of his studies and inquiries that the map would have escaped my attention but for his haste in concealing it. I asked him whether it was a photograph; he replied in the negative, and commenced talking so rapidly about MONTALEMBERT that I could not well return to the subject. At any rate you may rely upon it that this was a photographic copy of a German military map of the mouth of the Weser.

The war against Germany is no longer a mere idea, it is a settled plan; you need only go into any *café* frequented by the military to be convinced that the army believes we are on the eve of war. I am told that in Chalons numerous bodies of cavalry will be assembled under the pretence of comparing the merits of heavy and light cavalry. The former, it is said, is to be abolished. As the infantry can be sent across the country in masses much quicker by the railway, the pretence of trying the cavalry is a clever invention, and does the Emperor honour.

The foregoing is a neat sample of the reports and rumours which have kept the eyes of princes and people directed towards the Rhine these twelve months past. We shall doubtless be interested with many more of the same sort, but I shall not attempt to intrude them into your columns.

The *Berlin National Gazette* says, with reference to Mr. KINGLAKE's statement, "The members of the English Parliament who have, within the last few days, mooted again the Savoy question, have performed a service the value of which we will not seek to depreciate, but it is to be regretted that they have allowed themselves to be made 'the speaking trumpets' of Austria. These Austrian fables which they have given utterance to have been carried to England, because their origin is so self-evident, that, if brought first before the public by the organs of the Austrian Government, they would be too supremely ridiculous. Now, however, that they come through the parliament of England and the English journals, they are readily reproduced and accepted as sterling fact. We were likewise favoured with a version of the Conference at Villa Franca, which version, in our opinion, was more deserving of credit than that given by Mr. KINGLAKE. In our version there were divers sarcastic observations against Prussia by the Emperor NAPOLEON, its semi-liberal institutions, its ingratitude for the services rendered by France in the affair of Neufchatel; finally, some interchanges of views as to the compensation for the loss of Lombardy, without exactly defining what the compensation was to be, hinting, however, rather to the East than to Silesia. LOUIS NAPOLEON was, of course, not sparing of consolatory words to bring about the necessary state of resignation, and to keep Austria in hopeful expectation till the peace of Zurich. He pretended, no doubt, to share the opinions of FRANCIS JOSEPH with respect to Prussia, but he knew better than to risk his position in Italy without the certainty of gaining an advantage on the Rhine. With or without Lombardy, Austria, after the battle of Solferino, was totally unable to take an effective part in a campaign against Prussia on the Rhine. Even at this present moment, in the event of such a campaign, her forces would be fettered in Italy and Hungary. We laugh at such second-hand fables of Austrian generosity. They are opposed to all Austrian traditions.

The Prussians seem to be growing somewhat ashamed of the continual state of alarm in which they are held by the restless policy of LOUIS NAPOLEON. The Emperor of the French, they say, is not the only man who can enter the lists for an idea. If France can lend her armies for Italian unity, so can Prussia. If France can fight for "La Volante Nationale," Prussia can fight for constitutional liberty. Luckily, too, Prussia represents an idea which, to the intelligent classes of all nations, is as pregnant with meaning and affords as animating a battle-cry as "Liberte, Egalite, Fraternite;" or, "Vive la Republique," or "Vive l'Empereur." Prussia's idea is civil and religious liberty; and her cry "Long live our Constitutional King, and Down with all Despots."

The truth of a report, for some time past in circulation, as to an intended meeting between the Prince Regent of Prussia and the Emperor of Austria, is thus confirmed by the *Prussian Gazette*:—The relations between the two great German Powers having become latterly much more cordial, his Majesty FRANCIS JOSEPH desiring to form a closer alliance with his brother confederates, has expressed his wish in an autograph letter for an interview with his Royal Highness the Prince Regent. The place of meeting the Emperor leaves to the option of the Regent, who has fixed upon Toplitz. The meeting will take place on the 26th inst., and it is expected that several of the other princes of Germany will attend.

Mr. WARD, late Consul at Leipsic, has been appointed Consul General to the Hanse towns, in the room of Colonel HODGES.

THE RHETORIC OF CONVERSATION.*

UPON the subject of conversation, much has been said and written in all generations. Every parent, every schoolmaster, every religious teacher, has in his turn, time, and place counselled the child and the man as to the nature and character of what he should say or what he should hear. Standing forth more prominently, however, than all other counsels upon the subject, is the essentially calm and comprehensive sentence: "Let your conversation be yea, yea—nay, nay; for whatsoever is more than this cometh of evil." One would think there was not much art in conversation, if this were all it ever embraced. Yet in this very sentence is contained not only the religion, but the rhetoric and philosophy of conversation. He who uttered those words

* *The Rhetoric of Conversation; with Hints specially to Christians on the use of the Tongue.* By G. W. Hervey. Edited, with introduction, by the Rev. Stephen Jenner, M.A. London: Richard Bentley.
Essays. By the late George Brimley, M.A., Librarian of Trinity College, Cambridge. Edited by William George Clark, M.A. London: Macmillan and Co.
The Grand Volunteer Review. By George Augustus Sala. To which is added, an Account of the Wimbledon Rifle Match, and the distribution of Prizes at the Crystal Palace. London: William Tinsley.
The Collected Works of Dugald Stewart, Esq., F.R.S.S. Supplementary Volume. Edinburgh: Thomas Constable and Co.

added, Himself, by His own divine conversation, the most splendid example and illustration of its meaning. Perhaps it is not so much the organ of speech—the capacity which we have of exchanging thought and feeling with each other—that distinguishes us from the brute creation, as it is the power and wisdom to use well and skilfully that gift. If we speak foolishly and without the understanding, if we speak profanely or licentiously, if we speak insincerely and falsely, then the gift of speech, instead of being a distinguishing attribute of man—something that exalts him above the rest of the creation, and allies him with higher and holier intelligences—debases him below the unreasoning inhabitants of the forest and the field, and makes him an exceptional and a sad being in creation, governed and directed neither by the dictates of instinct nor by the light and intuitions of reason. The command, however, “Let your conversation be yea, yea—nay, nay,” does not denote the special brevity and particular kind of phraseology which we must use, but the spirit, the nature, and object of conversation. Were we to confine ourselves, on all occasions and upon every subject, to the expression and iteration of the exact words yea, nay, we should be ever obscure and unintelligible, and liable to be either misunderstood or not understood at all. This would be the result of an invariably simple affirmative and negative form of conversation, with the extreme brevity of utterance contained in the words we have quoted. This, every man of ordinary understanding will at once perceive. We need not, therefore, enter into any argument to show that it is the nature and intention of our conversation that is meant by yea and nay, and not the manner of it.

To be brief, taking up this view of the subject, the author of the “Rhetoric of Conversation” has produced a work that is truly excellent in design, and deeply interesting and profoundly instructive and elevating in tendency. It is a work that should be read by everybody. We cannot but confess that one of the characteristics of the present day is a looseness of conversation, degenerating too frequently into evil, not, perhaps, from a love of what is indecent or vulgar, nor from a desire to “corrupt good manners,” but from thoughtlessness, or habit, or from some silly feeling best known to the talker himself; for we cannot think that any evil communication is made, or obscene jests indulged in without a silent check in the conscience of the speaker, even while he speaks.

For the infinite variety of topics for conversation, and in order to learn how to improve in this the best of social arts and entertainments that men may enlighten and benefit one another, we cordially draw the attention of the reader to the work itself. He will, we are sure, be amply rewarded by the reading of it.

It is ably edited by the Rev. S. Jenner, whose introduction, notes, and additions are extremely valuable contributions to the present edition.

We have received a copy of the second edition of the admirable “Essays,” by George Brimley, M.A., who was one of the finest critics of the present day. They will contribute materially to form the taste and judgment of the reader, and we sincerely recommend the volume to general attention.

The extreme popularity of the subject has, no doubt, occasioned a considerable demand for Mr. Sala's clever and interesting narrative of the “Volunteer Review” in Hyde-park. Mr. Tinsley has published a second edition of this work greatly improved with some important additional particulars. To this edition is also added a full account of the “Rifle Match” on the common at Wimbledon, and the distribution of prizes at the Crystal Palace. Containing these interesting additions, the little work will, we doubt not, be still more attractive to the army of Volunteers and to the public generally.

This supplementary volume contains the translations of the passages in foreign languages contained in the Works of the great Scotch philosopher. They have been prepared in conformity with instructions contained in the trust settlement of Miss Stewart. The author had, indeed, desired to do this service himself, but was prevented by the state of his health. The renderings are clear and faithful, and will be of great use to the student of the collected works.

“AUTUMN ON THE HUDSON.”

PALL-MALL GALLERY.

MR. CROPSEY labours under peculiar disadvantages in presenting to the English public a picture portraying the glories of a scenery of which it can form no adequate conception. Few Europeans are aware how gorgeous are the autumnal visits in America; and even tourists in the New World may possibly escape them, as they last in perfection only some ten or twelve days, and happen at no fixed period—the state of vegetation, dependant on the season, determining that. The remarkable brilliancy and variety of colour form one of the peculiar features of American scenery; and not more exquisite tints can be found in the world than the foliage which autumn displays. The eye, in wandering over its ocean of forests, is dazzled by the brilliancy of its million hues. We observe, also, that in detail this picture is as exquisite as it is elaborate—as elegant in its unlabored effect as it is artistic in style. In the distance flows the Hudson, with the tower of Cornwall on its bank, bathed in the golden beams of a western sun, and over which the filmy vapour of autumn hangs like a gauzy curtain. You feel the mist, rather than see it, for, on inspection, each object it envelopes lies clearly defined—even to sharpness of outline—yet still seen through haze. Between this and the fore-ground, slightly to the right of the picture, is a tree of so peculiar a beauty as at once to arrest the attention; its foliage of a bright green would cheat you into the belief that a gentle shower of rose-dust had fallen over it; so delicately is each leaf fringed with “corise,” and in its happy position just escaping the direct line of sunbeam a something of shade tones its blushing beauty into the calmness of repose.

More immediately in the fore-ground, at either side of the picture, the trees assume a splendid aspect, and vie with the flowers scattered over the mossy banks of the stream which ripples in front; here are found resting tired sportsmen—the game hanging from the branch of a tree exhibit a plumage in keeping with the scene, and

peculiar to some American birds. Above them rise the giants of the forest in their fiery robes.

Gilded by the setting sunbeams, so bright and orange in their tone, the foliage is pre-eminently vivid in colouring, and each branch teems with new prismatic light. Every hue, from the dazzling scarlet, such as we know only in the geranium, to the rich yellow of the elscholtzia we find here. It is startling in its effect, but is, nevertheless, a strict portrayal of nature as she is seen in America, during the Indian summer. The American creeper, in our own gardens, is an earnest of the gorgeousness of the forests of her native soil on their verge of decay. The subject offers great scope to the artist, and is well chosen. Under Mr. Cropsey's pencil every leaf has life, and forms itself a study. Yet, to thoroughly appreciate “Autumn on the Hudson,” we must know what autumn in America really is, but we trust it is not equally necessary to visit the land of his birth to appreciate Mr. Cropsey as an artist.

CIVILIZATION IN HUNGARY*

SOMEBODY, who calls himself a “Hungarian,” is anxious to counteract the effect of M. Szemere's letters to Mr. Cobden, which were noticed some time ago in the *Leader*. His object is to damage the cause of Hungarian nationality as much as possible, and to support the Austrian Government in Germany, and all its territories. He talks of the Germans being “infinitely superior” in intellect to all the other national fragments. This is simply ridiculous. We have great respect for the German intellect, but could not for a moment pronounce it higher than the Italian, and in comparing it with the Hungarian, all that he can allow is, that it has made use of greater advantages than the Hungarians have ever possessed. German literature, so far as it affects the thoughts of the day, is nearly all modern, scarcely dating earlier than Goethe and Schiller, whom many living men knew, and when German intellect is spoken of, the truth should be told about Austria which has done far more to repress than to resist its manifestations. When Hungary obtains freedom and intercourse with other civilized countries we have no doubt the Magyar mind will display itself in strong and brilliant colours, but national life is essential to literary excellence. What England honours the Hungarians for is their determination not to be crushed into the worthless inanity of the Austrian system. Austria has no means of becoming a nation. Her government represents no moral or intellectual ideas that can form a basis of nationality, and she has never used her German element for the extension of civilization. No Germans are so ignorant and frivolous as those under her control, and she has been the bitter opponent of every movement of the German mind from the days of Luther to our own. The “Hungarian,” if he be such, is equally erroneous in the inferences he draws from the aristocratic character of the Hungarian constitution. It was, like all early constitutions, aristocratic, and remained so until the Magyar Kossuth obtained power to emancipate the serfs, because its development was arrested by one unfortunate connexion with the House of Hapsburg. If the Austrian government had been enlightened and liberal some centuries ago, or if it had learnt any wisdom from its misfortunes, and possessed any honour at the time of the Treaty of Vienna, it would have succeeded in forming its dominions into a federation of free states. This it would not do. From the Reformation to the battle of Magenta, and from that happy incident to the present moment, it has been the special representation of ignorance and tyranny, and its one function has been that of brutal repression of every noble instinct and faculty that man possesses. The “Hungarian” had better call himself an Austrian, and not hope to excite the civilized world to a crusade against France. We all deplore the want of liberty in that country, but no sane man would prefer the despotism of Austria or the petty German Princes for that of Louis Napoleon. All despotisms are bad, and abominable when exercised over civilized nations, but humanity will not lose if the despotism of France once more overthrows the worse systems that prevail in neighbouring lands. Italy has gained greatly by Louis Napoleon's aid, and if similar assistance should be offered to the Hungarians, they will be mad if they do not accept it with joy.

MISCELLANEOUS WORKS. †

A third edition of the interesting and excellent work, “The Old Court suburb, or Memorials of Kensington,” is published by Messrs. Hurst and Blackett. It contains an engraving of Kensington Palace, and is nicely printed and bound.

Messrs. Longman and Co. have published a third edition of the able and useful work entitled, “The Education of the Feelings or Affections,” by Mr. Bray. We heartily recommend it to the attention of our readers.

* *Civilization in Hungary.* By a HUNGARIAN. Trübner and Co.

† *The Old Court Suburb; or Memorials of Kensington, Royal, Official, and Anecdotal.* By Leigh Hunt. London: Hurst and Blackett.

The Education of the Feelings, or Affections. By Charles Bray. London: Longman, Green, and Co.

History of Genghis Khan. By Jacob Abbott. With engravings. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

Spread Eagleism. By George Francis Train. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Co.

A Course of Grammatical and Idiomatic Studies of the French Language. By Auguste Aligre de Charente. London: Longman and Co.

French Vines and Vineyards; and the Way to find Them. By Cyrus Redding, author of “The History and Description of Modern Vines.” London: Houlston and Wright.

Pen and Pencil Sketches of a Holiday Scamper in Spain. By A. C. Andrews. London: Edward Stanford.

The Wife's Domain. By Philothalos. London: John Churchill.

Skin Diseases and their Remedies. By Robert J. Jordan, M.D. London: John Churchill.

The Official Illustrated Guide to the Great Western Railway, with 300 beautiful Engravings. The Official Illustrated Guide to the Bristol and Exeter, South and North Devon, South Wales and Cornwall Railways. By George Meason. With 150 Engravings. London: Richard Griffin and Co.

The Channel Islands in 1858. By F. GASTINEAU. London: C. Westerton.

Mr. Abbott, the excellent American writer, has produced an historical tale, entitled "Genghis Khan," which we strongly recommend to our readers. It is a well-written and exceedingly interesting narrative of the greatest of the Princes of Central Asia.

"Spread Eagleism" belongs to a class of literature peculiar to America. It is characterised by considerable vigour of style, a lively spirit of observation, and no small graphic power of description. It is such a work as a man might produce who was compelled to travel, observe, and write at full speed. Mr. Train has evidently been a great traveller, and the result of what he has seen and said during his rambles we find recorded in the present volume, the contents of which, however, are more noticeable for the area over which they extend, than the height to which the author's "power of thought" ascends. It will, nevertheless, for its peculiarities, be read with a good deal of interest.

The exercises contained in the second volume of the "Course of Grammatical and Idiomatic Studies of the French Language," are admirably adapted to facilitate the acquisition of a sound knowledge of the French language. The work is divided into three branches, viz., the practical, the theoretical, and the colloquial.

"French Wines and Vineyards" is decidedly the best work in the language upon a subject which is becoming more important both in a commercial and political point of view. It supplies, besides, much valuable information respecting the introduction and cultivation of the vine in France.

"Pen and Pencil Sketches in Spain," by A. C. Andros, are very neatly done, and form altogether an attractive and entertaining volume.

"The Wife's Domain is a work of so much real value and excellence, that it should, we think, be read carefully by all those for whom it is intended.

Upon "Skin Diseases and their Remedies," Dr. Robert J. Jordan has produced a work that for a thorough knowledge of the subjects, and the clearness of manner with which he treats them, must render it a popular authority, and a useful guide in these matters.

We have received an excellent little work, "Phinehas, or Scripture Paramount," published by Messrs. Partridge and Co. Also "Biographies for Young People," published by J. H. and J. Parker; and "Remarks on the Oxford Museum," by Dr. Acland, published by J. H. and J. Parker. These are useful little works; the former being particularly adapted for the amusement and instruction of the young.

These works are extremely attractive, and will, we doubt not, be much sought after by the thousands who travel annually by train, for the sake of the interesting information both descriptive and historical which they contain about the towns and cities wherever a railroad runs or a train stops. Such illustrated guides as these have long been wanted; and the amount, accuracy, and cheapness of the intelligence so conveyed must conduce to place them in the hands of everybody.

"The Channel Islands" is a well-written work, containing the "Seeings, doings, and musings," of one Tom Hobbler, during a four months' residence in those parts. The tourist and reader will find it as useful as it is interesting.

TO THE METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

GENTLEMEN,—Referring to your advertisement of May 8th, "for tenders or proposals from any person who may be desirous of contracting for deodorising or otherwise treating the sewage conveyed by the main-outfall sewers of the metropolis, so as to render the same innoxious, or for removing and disposing of such sewage, with the view to its application to agricultural and other purposes," I beg to say that I have given more than twenty years' consideration to the sewage question, and that I have arrived at certain practical results that cannot fail to comply with the conditions required for the sewage system of London, in the deodorisation and utilisation of the flow of matter, with due regard to sanitary regulations. But I find, on making inquiry at your office, that your plans and works are not sufficiently advanced to permit any prudent man either to devise efficient detail, or form any estimate of the means to effectuate a contract. The works are inchoate, and legislation is incomplete, so that change of one or the other might involve ruinous consequences to a contractor who would now engage upon an economical basis for the purification of sewage, or its removal. However, I make bold to state, and I undertake, that, subject to compensation for the result of such changes, I can contract for the objects above stated by the advertisement.

I shall not only remove all noxious solids and gases from the sewage, but provide that the fluid that will pass into the river shall be thoroughly divested of deleterious and offensive properties, pure and limpid; and, at the same time, the residuum shall be available to the fullest extent, and in the most advantageous form, for fertilization, at a price greatly conducive to economy in agriculture,—conditions that, I venture to assert, no one else can actually satisfy.

The question naturally ensues, At what cost, and in what form, is this desideratum attainable?

The *modus operandi* is the result of my experience of more than twenty years' investigation, and, as its most profitable application is to the sewage of London, you will no doubt excuse my stipulating for an adequate remuneration before you require me to place it at the disposal of your engineers.

The cost of the requisite works will, in fact, effect a vast economy of outlay in the operations which I am informed you have contemplated at the present outfalls. The future value, also, of the sewage will be enhanced largely by my plan. Therefore, it is not unreasonable, I presume, to think that I should ask a fair proportion of the saving in works to be effected, not exceeding 20 per cent., and a small royalty on the quantity of the sewage sold, in case you employ myself or any other person to carry out the principle I may divulge, which I am satisfied has not yet been suggested to your Board; nor do I think it probable it will be communicated, in answer to your advertisement, by any other person.

It certainly can do no irreparable mischief to delay a decision on the subject; nay, I feel assured you will adopt this course as a wise policy.

In that event, if my general proposition be entertained, I shall be ready, when required, to submit a more definite statement of the terms on which I shall place myself entirely at the disposal of your Board and your engineers, to operate as I have mentioned.—I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

CHARLES F. KIRKMAN.

Palace New-road, Lambeth, July 4, 1866.

RECORD OF THE WEEK.

HOME AND COLONIAL.

The weather in Norfolk was showery and unsettled in the week ending on Saturday, and the completion of the hay harvest has consequently been retarded. The prospects of the wheat crop have much improved, and barleys, except on very cold and strong lands, are likely to prove better than was at one time anticipated. In Suffolk the accounts of the wheat crop are very various, but on the whole not unfavourable. The barley crop on many lands is, however, very indifferent. Harvest operations will become general in about three weeks or a month.

Late on Tuesday evening we were surprised to learn that the celebrated Madame Lola Montes, Countess of Landsfeldt, lay at the point of death, and was not expected to survive the night. On Saturday morning she arose in her usual health, but soon complained of giddiness, and, lying down, was at once deprived of speech and motion by a paralytic stroke. Sunday and Monday she was able to partially recognise those about her, but on Tuesday seemed to have lost all consciousness, and was pronounced by her medical attendants as beyond hope of life. For some time past she has resided at No. 15, Clinton-place, and during her sickness has been faithfully cared for by several of her intimate friends.—*New York Tribune*, July 7.

On Saturday night the premises of Messrs. White, Brothers, lace manufacturers and merchants, Warser-gate, Nottingham, were almost entirely destroyed by fire; and goods, consisting of fancy laces and edgings, Spanish mantillas, &c. were consumed or irreparably damaged to the amount of from £5,000 to £8,000. The fire broke out soon after seven o'clock, and was extinguished about ten. Warser-gate is contiguous with the lace-market, and great apprehension was felt throughout the town lest the fire should extend through the intervening pile of compact buildings to the great centre of our staple trade. The insurances on the property will cover about one-third of the loss.

The Rev. Jacob S. Harden, a Methodist minister, was hung at Belvedere, New Jersey, on the 6th. He seduced a Miss Dorland, married her to save his reputation, and soon conceived a passion for a Miss Smith, who lived at his boarding place. Five months after marriage Mrs. Harden suddenly died. In his confession he admits having given her arsenic and laudanum at eleven different times. He first gave her the poison when she was sitting on his knee. He purchased an apple, which he cut into halves, upon one half of which he spread arsenic, and kindly invited her to partake of it. She unsuspectingly ate it, remarking that it appeared to have something gritty in it. He very coolly replied it was "nothing." Subsequently he administered the deadly drug to her again in milk and water, &c. He died firmly.

The disparity of the sexes in the crudely-formed colony of Victoria appears to be greater than in any other part of Australia. The last census of the population of the colony showed 88,355 unmarried men, of 20 years and upwards, to but 12,545 unmarried women of corresponding ages. The proportion of unmarried men on the goldfields was still greater, the bachelors being to the spinsters in the proportion of upwards of 20 to 1. Could not the Employment of Women Society take this matter in hand with advantage, instead of endeavouring to block up still more the home labour market?

The assisted immigration to the colony of Victoria from July, 1851, to the end of 1858 amounted to 82,512, of whom 32,197 were males and 50,315 females. This number includes only those who had arrived in the colony before the end of 1858; and if we add those who left this country, but had not arrived before the end of the year, the numbers would be 32,473 males and 51,592 females. Last year the Emigration Commissioners sent out no single men, with the exception of 18 who accompanied their families; the whole number of males, including married persons and children, proceeding in the Commissioners' ships did not amount to more than 336, while the number of females was 1,698, of whom 1,397 were single women. It thus appears that since July 1851, the number of females in the assisted immigration has exceeded the number of males by 20,481.

On Tuesday morning the mortal remains of Lord Elphinstone were deposited in the Catacombs, near Godstone, Surrey, in the presence of a numerous circle of relatives and friends. The inscription plate bore the following:—"John, 13th Baron Elphinstone in the peerage of Scotland, and Baron Elphinstone in that of the United Kingdom, G.C.B., G.C.H., and P.C., Governor of Madras 1837; Governor of Bombay, 1853; born June 23, 1807; died July 12, 1866."

Sir Cursetjee Jamssetjee Jejeebhoy, of Bombay, has forwarded a liberal donation to the Royal National Lifeboat Institution, and in doing so writes "That a society which embraces so wide a field of beneficence and usefulness merits the warmest support of his best wishes disposed; and he would wish to add the expression of his best wishes for its prosperity, with a view to its increased usefulness and efficiency."

In the week that ended last Saturday the number of deaths registered in London was 975. For the corresponding weeks of the ten years 1850-59, the average number of deaths is found, with correction for increase of population, to be 1,156. The result of the comparison is satisfactory; for the actual number of deaths in last week was less by 181 than the estimated number.

Last week the births of 809 boys and 827 girls, in all 1,636 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1850-59 the average number was 1,530.

On Monday, July 23, a verdict of guilty was returned against the schoolmaster, Thomas Hopley, for the manslaughter of Reginald Chan-

nell Cancellor. The Lord Chief Justice addressed the prisoner, and after commenting upon the brutal character of the offence of which he had been convicted, sentenced him to be kept in penal servitude for four years.

In the suit, Nottidge v. Prince, judgment was pronounced on Wednesday, July 25. The stock amounting to the sum of 5,728*l.* was ordered to be transferred to the plaintiff as legal personal representative of Miss Louisa J. Nottidge, and all the dividends which have accrued there on it since her death paid to the plaintiff. The defendant must pay to the plaintiff all the costs of the suit.

FOREIGN.

Naples, July 22.—After a conference with Count Cavour it was decided that the King of Sardinia should send an adjutant with an autograph letter to Garibaldi, requesting him not to attack the mainland.

Paris, July 23.—The *Patrie* says,—"According to the latest news from Syria the state of things continued to be serious. Three French steamers were off Latakia, Saida, and Acre, in order to restrain the inhabitants, who continued to display very hostile dispositions."

Orders have been given for the simultaneous embarkation of troops at Marseilles, Toulon, and Algiers, with the shortest possible delay. Two regiments from Chalons have just arrived at Toulon.

The reserve squadron will be armed, the motives for which are stated to be the fresh exigencies of the service.

Letters from Naples of the 21st inst. announce that Garibaldi had left Palermo with from 8,000 to 10,000 volunteers. It was expected that Garibaldi would soon effect a landing on the Continent.

The chiefs of the revolutionary movement at Naples had caused an illumination of the whole city to take place.

Crowds of people shouted "Garibaldi for ever!" in defiance of the Royalists.

About ten of the late police agents had been killed.

The evening edition of the official *Weiner Zeitung* publishes the following telegram, dated Pesth, July 21:

Last night a large crowd gathered before the Zrinig Coffee House.

After the conclusion of the performance in the Hungarian theatres, a man addressed the public in the Hatvauer Gasse. Several seditious cries were heard.

The guard who interfered met with strong resistance.

Order was re-established at midnight.

Ten individuals of the working class were arrested.

Paris, July 25.—The *Constitutionnel* contains the following:—The latest news from Syria announces that the state of things was still serious.

Ten thousand Druses were marching on Damascus, where the Christians run the greatest danger.

It may be added that a perfect good understanding prevails between France and England.

The last measures have been taken in concert with the English Cabinet, and nothing delays the departure of the expedition for Syria.

Constantinople (via Marseilles), July 18.—The Ambassadors have received accounts of the recent massacre at Damascus.

The Druses and Bedouins, in returning to Kaman (?), passed through Damascus, and proposed a general massacre of the Christians to Abd-el-Kader, who refused to countenance it. The inhabitants, however, became accomplices in the murder of the Christians.

It is confirmed that some of the Turkish soldiers assisted the assassins. Their General, Ahmed-Bey, took to flight, but the other authorities remained in the fortress.

The Turkish reinforcements sent to Syria are said not to exceed 6,000 men, as it is not possible to withdraw the troops from Roumelia on account of the agitation prevailing there.

The Prussian Government has directed that in future all its military establishments are to be open to the inspection of any military officers of the other German States. In consequence of this order, artillery officers in the service of Baden, Wurtemberg, Saxony, Hanover, and Hesse are now in Berlin examining the Royal cannon foundries, and attending the practice of the Prussian field artillery.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

On Wednesday night, the performances took place at DRURY-LANE Theatre, for the benefit of the widow and children of the late Mr. Robert B. Brough. Two of the most interesting features in the evening's entertainment were the lamented deceased's poem of *Godiva*, excellently recited by Mr. Leicester Buckingham, and the burlesque of "The Enchanted Isle," written by "the Brothers Brough." To every mind not void of sensibility, it was calculated to excite no common emotion to hear these products of the lively fancy and poetical temperament of one now passed from among us, presented on such an occasion as that which we are chronicling.

The company of the Princess's Theatre—Misses Carlotta Leclercq, Rose Leclercq, A. Lavena, Mrs. Weston, Messrs. A. Harris and Garden—performed Messrs. A. Harris and T. J. Williams's comedietta, "Cruel to be Kind." "The Last of the Pigtales" (Mr. C. Selby's petite comedy) was allotted to the company of the Strand, comprising Misses Gilbert, Oliver, Turtle, Bufton, Mrs. Selby, Messrs. Paracello, J. Bland, and J. Clarke. To the share of the Adelphi company fell the Milkmaid scene, from Messrs. D. Boureicault and Kenney's domestic drama "The Willow Copse," the parts being filled by Mrs. A. Mellon (late Miss Woolgar), and Messrs. J. L. Toole and Paul Bedford. Mrs. Wilkins, Miss Henrade, Messrs. Buckstone, W. Farren, and Rogers, of Haymarket celebrity, appeared in Mr. J. M. Morton's farce, "Fitzsmythe, of Fitzsmythe Hall." And in "The Enchanted Isle" the principal parts were divided between the following professional artists and amateurs:—Mr. George Cruikshank, Mrs. A. Mellon (Miss Woolgar), Mr. W. H. Angell, Mr. Leicester Buckingham, Miss Kate Terry, Mr. F. Talfourd, Miss Fanny Stirling (her first appearance in public), Mr.

J. Deffett Francis, and Mr. John Hollingshead. Prior to the commencement of this piece an epilogue, written by Mr. Shirley Brooks, was delivered with admirable grace and feeling by Mrs. Stirling. Between these various pieces Mr. George Augustus Sala delivered an address, written by himself, replete with noble and appropriate sentiments; and Miss Louise Leclercq danced a graceful *pas seul* with considerable elegance and spirit. The bands of the Olympic Theatre and of the Fusilier Guards occupied the orchestra at different periods of the evening, and the Princess's Rifle Corps also lent their aid.

The music of the "Enchanted Isle" was under the direction of Mr. J. Barnard. Mr. Samuel May, of Bow-street, was the costumier. Mr. Edmund Falconer was the stage, and Mr. Leicester Buckingham the acting manager. The members of the Savage Club mustered in their strength, and emulated in their spirited characterisations many a practised veteran of the boards. In addition to the names we have already recorded, the following gentlemen remain to be mentioned as having appeared on the present occasion:—Messrs. Andrew Halliday, C. H. Bennett, Julian Portch, Horace St. John, W. McConnell, Harrison Weir, E. L. Landells, Edward Draper, Frederick Lawrance, Edwin F. Roberts, H. Ottley, W. Dalton, E. H. Thomas, Godfrey Turner, Thomas Archer, Charles Watkins, A. O. Christie, Sussex Milbank, Grattan Cooke, D. W. Deane, Charles Furtado, James Fraser, J. Barton, James Kenney, W. Romer, T. C. Foster, Thomas Roberts, J. K. Courtenay, Vane St. John, W. B. Teggett, H. N. Tooby, Benjamin Clayton, L. Pickard, J. W. Palmer, A. Flinders, S. J. Meany, F. A. Barnard, Albert V. Clayton, C. S. Lidderdale, H. W. Dulcken, Dr. G. L. Strauss, and Colonel Addison.

The performances did not terminate till long after midnight. The theatre was well filled.

Wednesday night there was a private amateur performance given in the neat little theatre in CAMDEN HOUSE, KENSINGTON, by the gentlemen of the Oxford Dramatic Club. The performance consisted of three pieces, the principal one being Mr. Tom Taylor's clever drama, in three acts, entitled "Plot and Passion," which was thus cast:—*Fouche* (Minister of Police), Mr. E. W. Rellim; *M. Desmarests* (Head of the Secret Department), Mr. Lorrequer; *Marquis de Cevennes* (a Legitimist), Mr. F. W. Burnot; *Berthier* (Grand Chamberlain), Mr. W. G. Haines; *De Neuville*, Mr. F. Campbell; *Jacob*, Mr. H. Marks; *Grisboulle*, Mr. G. Beverley; *Officer*, Mr. Draw; *Soldiers*, Mr. Stewart and Mr. George; *Madame de Fontanges*, Miss Kate Carson; *Cecile* (her Maid), Miss Russell. As a rule, amateur performances are exempted from criticism. It can, however, be truly said that the amateurs on this occasion acquitted themselves exceedingly well. The part of *Madame de Fontanges*, by Miss Kate Carson, was well conceived and the conception well carried out, and the sleek and oily hypocrisy of the consummate scoundrel, *M. Desmarests*, the obsequious tool of *Fouche*, was exhibited with very telling effect by Mr. Lorrequer. The other pieces were Morton's comic drama of "A Desperate Game," and Charles Selby's farce of "The Widow's Victim," in which, in addition to those named, the following ladies and gentlemen sustained parts:—Miss A. de Terry and Miss Turner, and Messrs. G. Herbert, G. Perks, and J. W. Pearson. An appropriate address, written for the occasion, was well delivered by Miss A. de Terry. The performance was in aid of the funds of the Kensington Benevolent Society, and we hope that excellent institution will benefit considerably by the occasion.

CRYSTAL PALACE ART-UNION.—The Art-Union, established in 1858, again rapidly approaches completion with increasing success. The subscription list, already more numerous than last year, closes on the last day of July, and the drawing for the prizes will take place at the Crystal Palace early in August. Many works of great beauty in ceramics, glass, metal, chromo-lithography, photography, &c., have been selected for presentation, and the prizes, in addition to the above, comprise paintings, small marble figures by artists of eminence, with numerous other works of taste and vertu. The great annual excursion of the Odd Fellows' Societies will be held at the Palace on Tuesday, the 7th of August. Excursion trains have been organised from all parts of the country, and from the increasing interest attaching to this great popular *fete*, it promises to become one of the greatest days of the present successful season. The great fountains will play on this occasion, and, combined with the various sports and pastimes indulged in at these anniversaries, a day of popular enjoyment may reasonably be anticipated.

SURREY GARDENS.—The incessant rain was against the complete success of the "day and night *fete*" which the "Society of British and Foreign Musicians" gave on Monday at the Surrey Gardens; but in spite of the unseasonable inclemency of the weather, the music-hall was well filled in the evening by an audience whose enthusiasm manifested itself on every possible occasion. Among the most successful of the *morceaux* selected may be mentioned the shadow song from "Dinorah," and the graceful ballad, "The magic of a smile," in both of which Madlle. Parepa was encored; Virginia Gabriel's effective song, "The Skipper and his Boy," rendered with great spirit by Madame Sainton-Dolby; Bishop's evergreen, "Tell me, my heart," very nicely sung by Miss Theresa Jeffreys; and the comic song, "Tom the Tinker," for which, when encored, Mr. Hatton substituted his favourite "Merry little grey fat man," and in which he excited the loud merriment of his audience. Mr. Sims Reeves sang Linley's "Bonny Jean," the new ballad, "Sweet love, good night to thee," composed expressly for him by Mr. Hatton, and Mori's favourite, "Who shall be fairest," and gave them all with such admirable expression, that at end of each he received a recall. The other vocalists were Madlle. Enrichetta Camille, Miss C. Hamilton, the Misses Brougham, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. Walbank, and Mr. Santley, all of whose efforts were received with great applause. Mr. Hatton and M. Emile Berger accompanied the singers, and two popular overtures were well played by an efficient orchestra. At these popular gardens on Tuesday, the 31st July, Madame Jullien will take her benefit, on which occasion the proprietors of the Royal Surrey Gardens have generously placed the entire establishment, and the proceeds at the disposal of Madame Jullien.

PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords on Thursday night, Lord DERBY called attention "to the mode of conducting the public business of the House." There were, he said, a great many measures before the House of Commons which could not possibly, considering the present period of the session, become law. These were measures originating in the House of Commons, while not one of the measures sent down to that Assembly by the House of Lords had yet passed through committee. The only suggestion he could make to remedy such an evil was that a prorogation should only be looked upon as an adjournment, and that measures which had been discussed and not passed, owing to the lateness of the session, should be re-introduced in the following session in the same stage in which they would have remained had the House been adjourned instead of prorogued. Lord GRANVILLE did not deny that such evils existed, but could not at present see his way to an adequate remedy. Perhaps the best course would be to appoint a joint committee of both Houses to examine the subject. It would not be desirable, however, to do this during the present session, as a feeling of soreness with regard to the House of Lords was felt by a party in the House of Commons, which might militate against a cordial co-operation. Their Lordships adjourned at half-past 7 o'clock.—The House of Commons, at the morning sitting, was engaged in committee in discussing the details of the Landlord and Tenant (Ireland) Bill. In the evening, the House, having resolved itself into a Committee on the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Bill, resuming the consideration of Mr. HENLEY's proposed amendment of the 152nd clause, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL rose, and, after stating the reasons which had induced him to suppose that the House was favourable to the extension of the law he had proposed, to do away with the distinction between bankruptcy and insolvency, announced that he had come to the conclusion, with the approbation of the Government, under the circumstances in which he was placed, that it was necessary to abandon the measure. He expressed his regret at this necessity, and promised, if he held his present office, to introduce another Bill early next session. He moved that the Chairman leave the chair. The motion was agreed to, and the chairman left the chair. The House went into a Committee of Supply upon the navy estimates. The votes agreed to, after undergoing a long discussion, were ordered to be reported. The report of the committee of Ways and Means was brought up and agreed to. The Prisons (Scotland) Bill and the Herring Fisheries (Scotland) Bill were amended on the report. The London Corporation Bill was withdrawn. The Militia Ballot Bill was read a second time. The Tenure and Improvement of Land (Ireland) Bill was read a third time and passed. The Heritable Securities, &c. (Scotland) Bill passed the committee. The Gunpowder, &c., Bill, was read a second time, after a short discussion, and committed *pro forma*. The Clearance Inwards and Lien for Freight Bill passed the committee. Other Bills were forwarded a stage. The House adjourned at a quarter-past two o'clock.—In the House of Lords on Friday night several public and private Bills were forwarded a stage, after which their Lordships adjourned, at twenty-five minutes to eight o'clock.—The House of Commons, at the morning sitting, went into Committee upon the Savings-banks and Friendly Societies' Investments Bill. After a long and animated discussion, the first clause being negatived on a division, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER considered that the loss of this clause was tantamount to the destruction of the Bill, and, on his motion, the chairman left the chair. The clauses of the Refreshment Houses and Wine Licenses (Ireland) Bill were then proceeded with during the remainder of the sitting. In reply to a series of questions put by Mr. PULLER, Lord J. RUSSELL said, although some of the continental Governments had promised to consider the question as to the taxes or restrictions on the export of rags, nothing had yet been done; that the French Government were favourable to a change of the system of prohibition for a system of duty on the export of rags, and that that Government had not claimed a diminution of the Customs' duty on French paper imported into this country. The second reading of the Maynooth College Bill was carried by 135 to 57. The report of the Committee of Supply was brought up, and, after some observations by Sir C. NAPIER and Admiral WALCOT, agreed to. The Industrial Museum (Scotland) Bill went through the committee and was read a third time and passed.—In the House of Lords on Monday night, Lord STRATHEDEN moved the second reading of the Newspapers, &c., Bill. After some discussion, Lord CHELMSFORD moved that the bill be read a second time that day three months. On a division, the numbers were—For the second reading, 10; against it, 31; so the bill was lost. Their Lordships adjourned at 8 o'clock.—In the House of Commons, in reply to a series of questions put by Sir J. FERGUSSON, Lord J. RUSSELL stated what had occurred with reference to the sending of a body of French troops to Syria, in consequence of the massacres there, to stay which, he observed, there was an impression on the coast that the Turks had not done all they might have done. He added that a telegram had been received from Constantinople stating that peace had been established between the Druses and Maronites. The House having resolved itself into a committee on Fortifications and Works, Lord PALMERSTON rose to propose a resolution, the object of which was to carry into effect the recommendations of the Royal Commission, with a view to secure our dockyards and other vulnerable points. The Commissioners' recommendations would require a total outlay of £11,000,000, including about £1,500,000 for armaments; and he proposed for the safety of the country that these recommendations should substantially be carried out. Mr. HUBBARD thought it was unadvisable to raise this amount by terminable annuities, which would be throwing away a large sum of money. Mr. BRIGHT said during his seventeen years' experience in that House he had never known an instance of a question of such magnitude and importance brought before the House without notice, and of such a resolution being proposed to be adopted on the same evening. In all probability, the proposition would involve an expenditure of twice £12,000,000. He should move that the Chairman report progress. Mr. S. HERBERT, observing that it was but fair that the House should be put in possession of the plans which the Government pro-

posed to execute, proceeded to explain the nature and extent of the works at the different places, and their respective cost. Lord PALMERSTON said he was prepared to yield to the request for delay, and moved that the Chairman report progress and ask leave to sit again on that day week. After some further conversation, the Chairman reported progress, and the debate was adjourned till the day above named. The House then went into a Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates. On the vote for public offices and buildings, the sum of £1,200, asked for the erection of a building for the reception of the Wellington car, was objected to by Mr. MILDMAI and other members, and was withdrawn from the vote by Mr. COWPER. The other votes were agreed to without alteration, but not without much discussion and many objections. The Maynooth College Bill and the Sheriff Courthouses (Scotland) Bill passed the committee. The Heritable Securities, &c., (Scotland) Bill was read a third time and passed. Other Bills were forwarded, the remaining business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter-past three o'clock. In the House of Commons on Tuesday leave was given to Sir C. WOOD to bring in a Bill to remove doubts as to the authority of the senior member of Council, the Governor-General of India, in the absence of the President. On the motion for leave to bring in a Bill to extend in certain cases the provisions of the Superannuation Act (1859), Mr. HORSMAN put it to the House whether so many Bills ought to be introduced at so late a period of the session, and without a syllable of explanation. Sir C. WOOD shortly explained the object of the Bill, and then moved for leave to introduce a third Bill, to extend certain provisions for Admiralty jurisdiction in the colonies to HER MAJESTY'S territories in India. Mr. HORSMAN repeated his objection, to which Sir C. WOOD replied, and leave was given. The Votes at Elections Bill was read a second time. The Local Government Supplemental (No. 2) Bill passed the committee. The Turnpike Acts Continuance Bill was read a third time and passed. The Militia Bill and the Poor Relief, &c. (Ireland) Bill passed the committee. Other Bills were forwarded, and the House adjourned at 3 o'clock. In the House of Commons (Wednesday) the Coroners' Bill, introduced by Sir G. C. LEWIS, and which stood for second reading was withdrawn. The Gunpowder, &c., Bill passed through the Committee. On the order for going into committee on the Ecclesiastical Commission, &c., Bill, Sir G. C. LEWIS, in order to facilitate the progress of the measure, considering the lateness of the session, said he proposed to withdraw certain compulsory clauses of the Bill to which opposition was threatened. The House went into committee upon the Bill. The clauses were under discussion during the remaining portion of the sitting allotted to debate, the Chairman being ordered to report progress after the 21st clause had been agreed to. The Highways Bill and the Larceny Laws Consolidation Act Amendment Bill were withdrawn. The other Bills on the orders were advanced, and the House adjourned at six o'clock.

PARTIES about to make presents are strongly recommended to visit the show-rooms of Messrs. Parkins and Gatto, of 24 and 25, Oxford-street, London, who have displayed excellent taste in the selection of an immense stock of really useful articles, (at moderate prices), especially adapted for presentation, consisting of writing and dressing cases, bags, reticules, stationery cases, blotting books, ink-stands, despatch-boxes, desks, work-boxes, book-slides, beautiful specimens in pearl, papier-maché, and tortoise-shell, elegantly mounted articles, Bibles, Prayer-books, and Church Services; in fact, an endless variety of articles to suit every taste and pocket.

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HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—An ordinary meeting of the society, for the election of fellows and ballot for plants was held on Tuesday, July 24, at the Museum of Science and Art, South Kensington, by permission of the Lord President of the Privy Council; O. Wentworth Dilke, Esq., V.P., in the chair, when the following ladies and gentlemen were elected fellows:—The Hon. Mary Trefusis, the Hon. Adela Trefusis, Shirley Hibberd, Esq., James M. Venning, Esq., the Hon. Mary C. Abercromby, Lady Macdonald, Pryse Loveden, Esq., Miss Cox, and Sir Walter O. James, Bart. A ballot for various plants, the third and last for the season, then took place, after which the meeting separated.

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