

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

	Cont	ents:	
The American President's Message 914 The Slave Question	National Charter Association	PUBLIC AFFAIRS— Truth of the Anti-Popi-h Turmoil. 923 The Great Day in Smithfield 924 A Glance at Both Sides of the Atlantic 924 The Grizzly Bears 925 OPEN COUNCIL— Religion versus Sectarianism 925 Social Reform 925 The Testimony of Mr. Lucas of the National Public School Association 926 Political Economy 926 Justice to Catholics 926	LITERATURE— Mary Barton's Christmas Book 92 The Dark Ages 92 Pendennis 92 Books on our Table 93 PORTFOLIO— The Bad Time Present 93 Sketches from Life 93 The Song of the Stars and the Dance of Heaven 93 COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS— Markets, Gazettes, Births, Marriages, &c. 933-3

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Mews of the Week.

REACTION is in full swing; it moves, not only abroad, but at home; it is seen, not only in France and in Germany, but in Limerick, and even in the agitation of England. The election which has just taken place for Limerick county is an event that stamps the so-called Reformers as recreants; it is a calamity for Ireland, an opprobrium and disgrace to English Liberals. There were three candidates, and they divided between them 565 votes; the registered electors are set down, for 1850, at 1096. Two years earlier they amounted to 1678, having been reduced, no doubt, by famine and emigration. But supposing the population to have been reduced, by the same means, in spite of the natural encrease, below the amount at which it stood in '41 -281,638—what a farce is it to talk of popular election in Ireland! The 565 persons elect the members for 280,000; the registered electors being fewer than the figures cast out to make round

It is notorious that certain Ministers and Liberals have pandered to the Protestant agitation in England, in order to divert public attention from the substantial political questions of the day—financial reform, extension of the suffrage, the state of the poor and of the working agriculturists, the grand questions, in short, of taxation, representation, and land: and by the declaration of Mr. Hall, at the Cambridge meeting, we see the systematic perseverance with which the promoters of such meetings avoid the presence of the working classes. It is an agitation carried on between Ministers, members of the two Houses, and the middle class, while the real People is unconsulted and ignored. The worst trait of the time is, that the People knows this and suffers it. The past policy of the working classes is worn out; they have not yet matured another policy: and until they do so, they must be content to let public affairs be carried on without them.

We see how the system of popular passiveness works abroad. Look at France: public action, even of a covert order, is limited to the professional politicians in Paris, who have forgotten the People as completely as a party of Hottentots have forgotten the lion that shook its mane among them last year; and now they are engaged in their own petty tradings and competitions. The only overt action is that among the Legitimists: the Count de Chambord, who pretends to be King of France as "Henry the Fifth," keeps up a sort of provisional government in Paris, under the modest title of "committee," and there has just been a "Ministerial crisis" in this Cabinet of King Henry: such are the gambols played by the lower creatures of the political world, while the People is asleep or oblivious. The blowflies of Royalty are sporting on the carcass of the Revolution.

[COUNTRY EDITION.]

In Germany it is the same. The People of any Austrian state, to all appearances on the surface, is non-existent. After exciting his subjects to the highest pitch of national pride and military ardour, after calling for the vast but willing levies, King Frederic William has exceeded himself in hoaxing his People. He and the Emperor Francis Joseph, as it appears by the recent accounts,—the Peachum and Lockit of Germany,—have compounded their quarrel, and are henceforth to divide Germany between them; Prussia coequal with Austria in sharing the Residency of the Federation. Prussians are moody; but what will they do? Schleswig-Holsteiners are indignant; but they will be overwhelmed. Schleswig-Holsteiners, Germans, Frenchmen, Italians, may be as indignant as they please; but they have, as yet, no machinery to bring them into alliance; while the Governments of Paris, Vienna, Naples, Berlin, Rome, and St. Petersburg, can arrange their combined plans within any given week.

Let the People of Europe watch two movements just commencing. Austria has proclaimed a common tariff and customs for all her states, a "Zoll-verein" imitating the Customs League which has at last made Prussia and her adherent states a "collectivity" in Germany; and the new "solidarity" will take effect in the spring. Russia has just proclaimed the like for her states, including Poland. The new plan is "good for trade"—will conciliate the trading interests; but, as we have seen in the development of Prussian schemes, the People gains nothing by this consolidation of bureaux.

We have been led away from the sectarian view of the Anti-Papal movement by its political bearing; but the week has not been without its peculiar incidents.

First in extravagancy is the Liverpool drama. The sentiment imputed to the Reverend Hugh M'Neile at Liverpool-claiming the punishment of death for Roman priests who use the practice of the confessional—created much sensation on both sides: it grossly committed the Anti-Papists. His subsequent explanations, however, although they have not quite cleared him from the indiscretion, show that there was no such turpitude in the sentiment as he expressed it. He only said that the priest who received the confession of a criminal intent, which he took no steps to prevent, was as deserving of death as the murderer who actually committed the crime. This is a very prejudiced view, inasmuch as the very practice of the confessional presumes, in the first place, an absolute confidence, and, in the second, a consideration of the disclosures solely for spiritual purposes, and not for worldly uses. A violation of these rules would be equivalent to enforcing a discontinuance of the practice. We share the feeling of the country, which condemns the practice; but the Romanist interest is promoted, not injured, by exaggerated or one-sided representations.

First in insignificance is the Archbishop of Can- under pampered officialism.

terbury: certain of the laity ask his advice in reference to what they should do to discountenance Tractarian practices in the churches that they may attend: substantially, he advises them to do nothing, except perchance subscribe to some Protestant missionary society; he seems to have no ideas on the subject, and to shrink from any decided course.

Contrast with the poor Archbishop the explicit account which Dr. Pusey gives of his own highly-Tractarian practice of confession. Probably, if he were attacked, he would prove a less yielding antagonist to an embarrassed Bishop than Mr. Bennett has been. Pusey is a bold, meek man, astutely candid; carried on, but not carried away, by his purpose—a John Henry Newman still within the church of Archbishop Musgrave.

Contrast with the poor Archbishop, too, Bishop Thirlwall's self-possessed, clear declaration of opinion, against the episcopal agitation.

Contrast with it Sir Edward Sugden's most anti-Catholic but specific declaration of opinion, that the promulgators of the bull in this country have been guilty of a distinct offence at law, although not amenable to the excessive penalties which, and which alone in that regard, were repealed by the Relief Act of 1847: so thinks Sir Edward; a high authority in mere questions of law, and a man who knows what he means.

President Fillmore's Message to Congress is much admired for its dignified style—a great relief after the Yankee slang of recent Presidents. But in England we are not likely to rate very highly a gentleman who avows the wish to dabble in a little revived Protection, and the opinion that the slavery question is "finally" settled by the recent budget of Compromise Acts!

Our readers remember that Dr. Lang, the leader of the separation movement in Australia, has deounced Earl Grey as a discourteous and heedless Minister of the colonies: the Earl has just published a letter at Dr. Lang, virtually attesting that he is a sort of swindler, and denying the discourtesy; while affecting, in aristocratic superiority, to forget whether he has seen Dr. Lang or not!

It is pleasant to turn from meanness to the nobler aspect of humanity—from Lord Grey to the brave seamen who bore up in the wreck of the Helena Sloman under hopeless difficulties, and those not less brave who rescued them, the seamen of the Devonshire. Better the fate of Johnson and his men, who perished in their obstinate efforts to save their fellow-creatures, displaying, amid the storm of death, "the inextinguishable goodness of human nature," and the sustainment which courage gives to goodness, than the paltry victories of the petulant Earl, sustained in his place by Whig cabal, to make the colonies identify allegiance to the Crown with degrading subjection to cliquery, and hope for separation as a release from servitude under pampered officialism.

THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The New York papers received by the last packet contain Mr. Fillmore's first Message to Congress. The document, although much shorter than such missives generally are in America, is much too long for us to quote. We shall content ourselves with giving a clever summary of its contents from the New York Tribune, which characterizes the several items in the following manner:-

"1. Mutual reproach and crimination, leading to useless irritation, among the several members of the Union, should be avoided and deprecated. 2. All laws, while they exist, must be enforced and obeyed, whether popular or obnoxious. The President must see the laws enforced, without exception or discrimination. 3. Our i creign Relations generally are amicable and satisfactory. With Portugal, Brazil, Chili, Peru, and 'the Hawaiian Kingdom,' they are improved or improving; Mexico is being importuned to grant a more unrestricted right of way for a railroad across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec; and the President hopes we shall fix things with Great Britain respecting the Ocean Ship Canal through Nicaragua. 4. The receipts into the treasury during the fiscal year, which closed in June last, were nearly fortyseven and a half millions: the disbursements therefrom were forty-two millions; half a million of public debt has been paid off within the last year, and the surplus in the treasury encreased about five millions. The President is opposed to further loans, and wants to pay off and extinguish eight millions of public debt within the next two years. 5. The public lands have been used up, at least for many years, as a source of revenue, by the passage of the Military Bounty Land Bills. 6. The federal revenue should be raised mainly by duties on imports. Those duties should be so levied as to benefit incidentally home industry by shielding it from destruc-tive foreign competition. They should be not exorbitant, but moderate; should be specific so far as possible; and, whenever ad valorem rates are tolerated, they should be computed on the home, instead of the foreign valuation. Ad valorem duties, based on the foreign valuation, tempt to fraud and give the dishonest importer an advantage over the upright. 7. California ought to have a branch mint, and meantime gold stamped by the United States assayer there should be received in payments to the Government. 8. An efficient agricultural bureau should at once be created. 9. The railroad to the Pacific ought to be constructed. Congress should help. 10. The Mexican land-titles in California should be promptly adjudicated, and our land-laws extended to California, Utah, and New Mexico. The gold lands should be sold in small quantities. 11. We have bought a fresh lot of Indians of Mexico, which prove rather a hard bargain. A regiment or more of mounted men are needed in New Mexico and South of it to help to keep them within bounds. A military asylum is also necessary. 12. The navy will cost one million less next year than this (owing to the speedy completion of the dry docks, &c.), unless a dry dock is built in California. 13. A revision of the naval code is rendered necessary by the recent abolition of flogging. 14. The post-office department has cleared 340,000 dollars the past year, and the P. M. General and President unite in recommending a reduction of the rates of postage to three cents for prepaid and five cents for unpaid letters, no matter what distance conveyed, with some reduction on printed matter also. Lastly, the President is absolutely in favour of the 'Peace measures' of the late session, Fugitive Slave Law included. He says :-

"The series of measures to which I have alluded are regarded by me as a settlement, in principle and substance—a final settlement, of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embraced. Most of these subjects, indeed, are beyond your reach, as the legislation which disposed of them was, in its character, be presumed, final and irrevocable. It may which they all encountered, that none of those measures was free from imperfections, but in their mutual dependence and connection they formed a system of compromise, the most conciliatory, and best for the entire country, that could be obtained from conflicting sectional interests and opinions.

" For this reason I recommend your adherence to the adjustment established by those measures, until time and experience shall demonstrate the necessity of further legislation to guard

against invasion or abuse.

"By that adjustment, we have been rescued from the wide and boundless agitation that surrounded us, and have a firm, distinct, and legal ground to rest upon. And the occasion, I trust, will justify me in exhorting my countrymen to rally upon and maintain that ground as the best, if not the only means, of restoring peace and quiet to the country, and maintaining inviolate the integrity of the Union."

THE SLAVE QUESTION.

The excitement in the United States caused by the attempt to carry out the provisions of the Fugitive Slave Bill has greatly subsided, but it will be revived, no doubt, with the reopening of Congress. Mr. George Thompson has addressed a meeting at Rochester, where resolutions were passed severely denouncing several of the Boston journals. Mr. Thompson is thus reported:-

Talk of this country being free, it was not free. No honest Englishman, expressing his honest feelings, could even travel through it. He himself might wish to visit the mammoth cave in Kentucky, but he could not do it, at least, with any assurance of returning alive. He could not see the "father of waters" at the South-he could not cross the Potomac-he could not travel anywhere in the South with one-half the liberty that would be accorded to him within the most despotic territories of Europe. And if he could not—if the country were not free-then its example and its history would be cited by the advocates of kingeraft and priesteraft all over the world as an evidence of the utter failure of republican or so-carled free institutions.

The Legislature of South Carolina, has been discussing certain resolutions, declaring their determi-

nation not to elect United States senators to fill vacancies, and instructing Senator Butler and the representatives of the State not to take their seats in Congress; also, a resolution instructing a committee to report a bill of non-intercourse with the States that throw obstacles in the way of the enforcement of the Fugitive Slave Law; and another, with a long preamble of grievances, declaring that, in the judgment of the Legislature, secession was the proper remedy, and that South Carolina, sooner than submit to the aggressions of the Federal Congress, will interpose her own sovereignty to shield her citizens from future outrages and wrongs, at every hazard. The Governor of Virginia, in his message to the Legislature, says :-

Virginia, and, I think, all the slave-holding States, can and ought calmly, but explicitly, to declare that the repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, or any essential modification of it is a mutual repeal of the Union. The faithful execution of this law is, in my judgment, the only means now left by which the Union can be preserved with honour to ourselves and peace to the country.

THE UNDEVELOPED GERMAN DRAMA.

German affairs get on more slowly than ever. The meeting of the Free Conference, at Dresden, has been postponed, on account of the Christmas holidays, from the 18th to the 25th of this month. If that is the real reason of the postponement, it is strange that Christmas should be fixed upon as the day of

The Augsburg Gazette states that Austria, Bavaria, and Wurtemberg will participate in the Dresden Conferences only on condition that the resolutions shall not be submitted to the Chambers of the separate states. Hitherto no such condition has been announced to the Prussian Cabinet, which, on the contrary, fully intends submitting to the Chambers any provision affecting the constitution before allow-

ing it to take effect. A note from London has been received at Berlin, requesting explanation touching the Dresden Conferences, which are said to contemplate such a revision of existing arrangements as causes some uneasiness. Those who pretend to know more than their neighbours affirm that the most striking act of the German drama remains to be played. In that case, we hope that poetical justice will be done to the

leading villains of the play.

The disarmament proceeds, but at a very slow rate. The entrance of the Bavarian troops into Rothenburg, has been signalized by further measures against the opponents of the September ordinances - soldiers have been quartered in the the houses of many refractory judges. Almost all the constitutional judges have resigned. Count Rechberg, previous to laying down his government at Rothenberg, has spared his successor, Count Leiningen, a disagreeable task, by again publishing an edict, whereby the Hesse territory is declared to be in a state of war; the carrying of arms is forbidden to all; the forcible deprivation of them is announced if they are not delivered up; all public meetings, whether for political or other purposes are prohibited, and all unions and societies, whatever may be their object, are, by the bare will of the prince, declared to be dissolved.

A Berlin correspondent in the Neuen Bremer Zeitung, makes some very remarkable statements; he says:—

"The causes of the turn our policy has of late taken are by no means fully known. Much is yet obscure; only it is certain that the King till the last moment, hesitated between contradictory decisions. In the Cabinet Council of the 3rd of December, the balance inclined towards the side of war. Not only the Prince of Prussia, by the King himself, had opposed the acceptance of the Olmütz compact, and a communication to this effect was made by an illustrious personage to the Chambers. In the night between the 3rd and the 4th, other councils prevailed. What took place on this night, no one knows, but in the morning the traces of a severe mental struggle were evident in the face of the King. On this morning the Cabinet Council was held, in which the adjournment of the Chambers was decided on."

THE LAW OF MARRIAGE.

An important decision was given in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on Saturday, in favour of Mrs. Geils, on the question of international law involved in the case of divorce, at her instance, against her husband, John Edward Geils, Esq., of Dumbuck. In this case, as our readers will recollect from a report we gave some months ago, the lady withdrew from her husband's society in 1845, and went to reside with her mother in England, with whom she has resided ever since. The husband having instituted a suit against her, in the Arches Court of Canterbury, to compel her to return to his society, she successfully resisted that suit by pleading and proving his adulteries. Upon this ground she obtained what in England is erroneously called a divorce, but which in truth is only a separation a mensa et thoro (that is to say, a separation from bed and board), which is all that the Consistorial Courts have the power to grant.

In England, under the present law, a marriage can only be effectually dissolved by a special act of Parnament, which usually costs from £700 to £1000, referred in the following passage to the commercial according to circumstances; and it is even doubtful relations of England and America:—

whether Parliament would interfere at all to divorce a guilty husband at the suit of his innocent wife. But in the case of a judicial divorce or separation, such as that of Geils in the Consistorial Court, the innocent wife, although relieved from cohabitation with the guilty husband, still remains bound by the marriage, which can only be dissolved by death, or by a special act of Parliament. In the case now alluded to, the husband, during the last five years, has been drawing £1200 a-year from his wife's estates in England, under their marriage settlement, and the English Courts have no power to prevent this. In order to procure the effectual remedy of a Scottish divorce a vinculo matrimonii, which would not only set the lady free from the marriage, but would carry along with it a forfeiture of the £1200 annuity, and entitle her to her marriage provision of £400 a-year out of Dumbuck estate, she, in May, 1849, brought an action of divorce against her husband, in the Supreme Court of Scotland, of which country he is a native, and where he not only has a landed estate and domicile, but where the adulteries are said to have been committed. The question as to whether Mrs. Geils is entiled to sue this Scottish divorce, after having obtained all that the law of England could give her, has been discussed at great length in the Court of Session, and the Lords in the Inner House, affirming Lord Wood's judgment, have now decided, that she is not barred by anything that was done in the Arches Court, in which she was merely a defender, from seeking and obtaining the effectual remedy of a Scottish divorce, so as entirely to dissolve the marriage, and save her estate from the grasp of her husband.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS AND SOCIAL REFORM

We are glad to see, from the Perth Advertiser, that Ragged School Farm, in that neighbourhood, continues to be successful, and that the practicability of carrying on a school-farm "is now placed beyond a doubt." About four acres of land were rented by the committee from Sir Thomas Moncreiffe, and upon this little spot the experiment has been tried, for the first time in Scotland, of employing criminal or vagrant boys upon the cultivation of the soil. So far as matters have hitherto gone, this experiment has been attended with the most gratifying success. The boys have evinced a great liking for the employment, and have proved themselves capable of performing such a very considerable amount of work, that sanguine hopes are entertained of the institution ultimately being made nearly self-supporting.

In connection with this and other industrial questions, we observe that a lecture on "The Progress of Social Reform" was delivered in Queen-street Hall, Edinburgh, on Monday evening, by the Reverend Dr. Begg, at the request of the "Scottish Social Reform Association." A number of gentlemen were present, but the audience, which was large, consisted

chiefly of the working class.

Dr. Begg began by explaining the meaning of social reform as distinguished from political reform -gave an account of the origin of the Scottish Social Reform Association, and of the points which it advocated. It did not take up all questions of social reform. It did not take up the education or the temperance questions, however important, as others were engaged with these, and he trusted would secure their objects. He then proceeded to advocate better houses for the working classes, and to explain what had been done in that direction. He pressed the importance of each man seeking to be landiord of his own house. The important question of what ought to be done on the land was also largely discussed. The reverend doctor condemned compulsory emigration, advocated the total abolition of entails, and a great simplification of tithes. He explained the tenant-right struggle of Ireland, and the freehold land movement of England, and advocated the extension of the 40s. freehold system to Scotland. He advocated labour on land by criminals and paupers.

The lecture occupied an hour and three-quarters in the delivery; and at its close a motion approving of the objects of the Association, and pledging the meeting to support it, was unanimously adopted.

DINNER TO THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR.

The members of the American Chamber of Commerce, in Liverpool, gave a splendid entertainment to his Excellency the Honourable Abbot Lawrence, Minister of the United States, and his suite, at the Adelphi Hotel. The invitations were confined solely to the heads of departments resident in or immediately connected with Liverpool. The banquet took place in the large room of the hotel, which was tastefully fitted up for the occasion, the most conspicuous ornaments being the flags of the two nations, England and America, gracefully placed in juxtaposition, and designed as emblamatic of the commercial intercourse which is carried on between ourselves and our brethren on the other side of the Atlantic.

The usual toasts having been given, the health of Mr. Abbot Lawrence called up that gentleman, who

"This town, gentlemen, has become one of the largest commercial emporiums on the face of the earth; its growth has been in the last forty years almost equal to some of our new cities in the western world; and, for my own part, I can see nothing to retard its progress. We envy not your prosperity, believing that your interests are identical with those of the United States, and both with those of mankind. (Great cheering.) By the application of science to art you have made this 'little application of science to art you have made this 'little fast anchored isle' the centre of commerce and the great financial settling-house of all nations. (Hear, hear.) Yes, gentlemen, you, the merchants, have forged a financial chain that encircles the world, and a single link struck in England not only vibrates around, but is felt in every quarter of the globe. Hence, I say that all countries, and my country in particular, cannot but look with interest upon all you say, and more especially upon all you do. (Cheers.) Commerce, Mr. President, has been, and will continue to be, the pioneer of civilization and Christianity, and through all time has been the har-binger of rational liberty. Wherever unrestricted com-merce exists within and without, there you will find freedom of thought and action. And now, Mr. President, I will, in connection with the position occupied at this time by your country, advert to a point which, perhaps, may in some quarters have caused feelings of not the most amiable character. I allude to the competition now that does, or is likely to, exist between the navigating interests of the two countries. (Hear, hear.) so-called navigation-laws of Great Britain have been swept from the statute-book; and you have embraced a reciprocity navigation law of the United States which was established in 1817. I am thankful that Great Britain has embraced our law. Many shipowners in the United Kingdom, as well as in the United States, entertained doubts respecting this repeal of the navigationlaws here upon their respective interests. Now, I beleive both countries will derive great benefits from this change. ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.) But a single year has elapsed since the present law came into operation, and it may be said that we cannot yet judge of its effect. (Hear, hear.) I cannot deny that such is the fact, and that there is to be a sharp competition. I believe, however, that both parties will be stimulated to greater skill in modelling and constructing vessels, and more economy in sailing them. (Hear, hear.) It is a family affair; it is the old Anglo-Saxon against the young Anglo-Saxon; it is the son competing with the father; it is the stars and stripes against that flag that has 'braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze.' (Great cheering.) I pray you, gentlemen, let us in this, as in everything on both sides of the Atlantic, dismiss from our minds all jealousy of feeling. Let us strive to learn of each other whatever is good, whether it be in the construction and sailing of a ship, in religion, law, education, morals, or whatever it may be. ('Hear, hear,' and cheers.) There is room enough for both countries: we have but just commenced developing the resources of this planet upon which we live. (*Hear*, hear.) I must say, however, in truth and soberness, that we shall do our best to beat you in ships, and not only in ships, but in whatever else tends to improve our race and elevate the moral and in-tellectual condition of man. Our policy is to level up, and not to level down. You have the advantage of cheaper capital and cheaper labour for shipbuilding than ourselves, and we must make up as far as possible for these advantages on your side by youthful vigour, and by that confidence in ourselves that youth inspires, in order to meet you in friendly competition upon the mighty deep. (Cheers.) I know that our constructors and navigators have a serious task before them; but they have entered upon it with zeal, and the effect will be to sharpen the wits of the two greatest maritime nations on earth. (Cheers.)

AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

At an agricultural dinner in Birmingham, Mr. Muntz, in acknowledging the toast of "The Members for the Borough," made some reference to a speech he had delivered last year, which, he said, had made a very great sensation through the country. On that occasion

"He had said that the manufacturing interest was going on well, and would go on well, so long as it had an agriculturist to eat up for supper every night. (Laughter.) He had no doubt that many people thought his remarks severe, and had found fault with him because the farmers were not all eaten up for supper. (Laughter.) He had not said they were eaten up, but they were being eaten up for supper. Could they expect that the whole of the farmers would be eaten up in one or two years? How many did they suppose there were? They were estimated at 1,000,000, and suppose every farmer was worth £100 capital, they had a right to estimate him at £100 more credit, and that would give £200,000,000 of capital destroyed before all the farmers were eaten up for supper. He did not pretend to know much of agriculture, but it appeared to him that matters were going on in the same course, and, if all he heard was true, the farmer had lost two rents and a half on the average price of produce within the last few years. Now, without understanding agriculture at all, any man who understands common arithmetic must see that if the farmer had lost two and a half rents, he must either be very poor now or he must have been very rich before. (Hear, hear.) He knew from circumstances that had come to his knowledge that the farmers were not rich—that many men who began agriculture with ample capital and great industry and attention had become poor. He knew that to be a fact. Let them take the average price of wheat at 60s., at which they had lived for the last twenty-five or thirty years, and that was reduced now to 40s., and, taking the present average, it was even lower than it was last year, because the profits were not equal to last year. If that was the case, must they not be wasting their resources, and be literally eaten up by the manufacturers for supper?

It was all very well to say that manufacturers were going on well. They might ask Mr. Matthews how iron was going on, or Mr. Chance how glass was going on; or Mr. Shaw how commercial matters were going on; that was all very well, but even large businesses, if they did not produce a profit, were only robbing their neighbours of a fair share of the work of the country, while they themselves were spoiling the trade and doing no good. ('Hear, hear,' and laughter.) Well, then, all the writers in town and country said that the trade of England was good; that the working people were well off; that they were never so well off. He (Mr. Muntz) thought they were better off than they ought to be at the expense of other classes, but how would it all end? He thought when the farmers were all eaten up the landlords would not long remain behind. ('Oh!' and laughter.) It was only a question of time, and in the long run they would all eat up each other like mulligrubs. (Roars of laughter.)"

All this worked very well for the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for it could hardly be supposed that the landed interest could lose £30,000,000 or £40,000,000 a-year without the revenue being the better of it. Those who were living on the agricultural interest were consuming more exciseable articles than they had a right to do; the Chancellor of the Exchequer received the profit, and then he boasted of the prosperity of the country. Mr. Muntz went on to explain that the farmers could never live with wheat cheap and taxes high. But they could not get protection. If they got it to-morrow it would not last twelve months.

At the general meeting of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, on Saturday forenoon, Mr. Williams, a tenant-farmer, protested against the resolution of the council to hold the next year's show in Hyde-park, for the purpose, as he believed, of holding out the right hand of fellowship to the other exhibition, which had been denominated by the Morning Chronicle—one of the organs of free-trade -" an inauguration festival of free-trade." Now, they were all perfectly aware of the disastrous consequences of the free-trade policy to the farmers. Sir Richard Price rose to order. The society was founded upon the distinct principle, that politics should not be introduced into its proceedings. Colonel Challoner also reminded the meeting that the introduction of politics was a violation of their charter. (Hear, hear.) The chairman (the Duke of Richmond) regretted that the subject had been introduced, though he was not at all surprised at it; but he would remind the honourable gentleman that the society would forfeit its charter if they allowed anything like political discussion to take place at its meetings. (Hear, hear.) The honourable gentleman had an undoubted right to complain, if he chose, of the resolution to hold the show in Hyde-park. He had a right to show that it ought to have taken place elsewhere, but he was out of order in making allusion to politics. If his (the chairman's) vote, therefore, could have decided the matter, he would have decided in accordance with the view of the honourable gentleman. Mr. Williams said he was determined to abide by his resolution, to tender his resignation, and to transfer his subscription to the Association for the Protection of British Industry. The chairman, while accepting office of President of the Society for the third time, stated that, considering how many opportunities they had of meeting for political discussion, it was not very hard that they should occasionally assemble on neutral ground. (Cheers.)

ANTI-POPERY MOVEMENT.

The Bishop of St. David's (Dr. Connop Thirlwall), in sending for publication the following letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury regarding the recent address by the Bishops, explains that "my letter, having only reached after all the Bishops, except the Bishop of Exeter, had given their assent to the address, the Archbishop thought it too late to make so great an alteration as would have been necessary to meet my objection":—

"My dear Lord Archbishop,—I am sure that you will do me the justice to believe that nothing short of a very deep conviction of a paramount obligation would induce me to take a step so repugnant to my feelings, especially at this juncture, as the withholding my signature from the address proposed by your Grace. In its altered form it is certainly free from some of the objections which I urged against it before; but it seems to me to have become liable to others, perhaps, still graver. The reference to the act of Elizabeth appears to me in every respect most unadvisable. My own opinion would have been that the provision cited from it has been virtually repealed by the Roman Catholic Relief Act. But, at all events, the quotation seems to me to prove, if anything, far too much. For the law of Elizabeth has not been riolated for the first time by the recent bull. It was equally set at 'defiance' by the appointment of Vicars-Apostolic, who have so long exercised their functions without complaint or molestation; and it seems unreasonable to charge the Pope with 'defying' a seems unreasonable to charge the Pope with 'defying' a law which has been so long permitted to sleep. But a still weightier objection, in my mind, is that those who refer in such a manner to the statute of Elizabeth must be considered as expressing a wish to see it again put in force, which it seems to me would involve the repeal of the Relief Act. I cannot consent to make myself responsible for language which, directly or indirectly, indi-

cates such an object; and I would respectfully entreat your Grace to consider whether this part of the address does not admit, if not require, such a construction. There are some others with which, I must own, I am not satisfied. I think it is needlessly harsh, to say the least, to treat the Pope's 'anticipation' of our return to his communion, which he must consider as the greatest of all blessings to us, 'an unwarrantable insult.' And I am still afraid that the concluding petition for protection to the labours of the clergy will be interpreted, not without an appearance of justice, as a wish to see the Roman Catholic proselytizers silenced by act of Parliament. These last objections, however, I might consent to waive in deference to your Grace's judgment, and for the sake of unanimity. But that which relates to the act of Elizabeth appears to me to involve principles which I may not sacrifice to any other consideration."

The Guardian of Wednesday night says, that at a meeting of the committee of the London Union on Church matters, held on Tuesday, the following resolution was adopted:—

"That inasmuch as misapprehension has arisen respecting the resolution expressive of sympathy with the Reverend W. J. E. Bennett-which was adopted by the general meeting of the London Union on Church matters on the 10th instant—and it being a principle of this Union to 'pay dutiful and affectionate deserence to episcopal authority,' and not to intrude itself into the office of 'judge in spiritual matters, but that such matters be left to the authorities of the Church'—this committee think it their duty to the Union to make known that the resolution was adopted by the London Union in reference solely to the disgraceful interruptions at St. Barnabas Church, and to the instigators and perpetrators of those wicked acts, before the correspondence between the Bishop of London and Mr. Bennett was in the hands of the members of the Union; and did not, and was not intended to express any opinion upon that correspondence, or upon the questions which were, or had been, under discussion between the Bishop and Mr. Bennett, upon which questions it would be contrary to the beforementioned principles of the Union to express any opinion either way.'

The church of St. Barnabas, Pimlico, was closed by order of the churchwardens on Sunday, and notice to that effect was placed on the door. At St. Paul's the service was performed as usual, but Mr. Bennett was not present. The Reverends G. F. De Gex and F. A. G. Ousley, curates of St. Paul's, and the Reverend Henry Fyffe, curate of St. Barnabas, have resigned, on account of the proposal to give up the Puseyite ceremonials.

A correspondence has taken place between the Bishop of London and the Rev. W. Dodsworth, with reference to a passage in his lordship's letter to Mr. Bennett, in which he says—"Supposing even that I had not objected (which, however, I have done in the strongest manner) to some practices in the churches to which you allude, &c. Believing that this referred to his church, Mr. Dodsworth addressed a letter to the bishop, asking him to relieve him from the imputation the passage was calculated to convey. In his reply his lordship exonerates Mr. Dodsworth from the charge, and states that the churches to which he referred were St. Andrew's, Wellsstreet, and Margaret-street Chapel. "In the former of these cases," his lordship observes, "I remonstrated very strongly with the incumbent, but without effect; in the latter I objected to certain observances, some of which I believe were laid aside, while others were suffered to continue till the consecration of the new church, to the building of which I consented upon the express condition that no form should be practised therein which is not authorized by the Rubric, or sanctioned by established custom."

We learn that a large number of the clergy of this diocese, impressed with a conviction of the erroneous and insufficient statements put forth in the protest now in circulation in many parishes of this county, for the signatures of the laity, have agreed to put forth a new protest, adequate, as they conceive, to the exigencies of the present crisis, and containing a distinct reference to the principles of Protestantism. It is expected to appear in the course of a few days.—Oxford Chronicle.

A meeting of freeholders and inhabitants of the county of Surrey, convened by the High Sheriff, was held at Epsom, on Tuesday, to address the Queen on the recent attempt of the Bishop of Rome to interfere with the prerogative of her Majesty and the liberties of her subjects. The proceedings were attended by a considerable body of gentlemen resident in the county, but of the general public the numbers were very scanty, not exceeding 400 or 500. Resolutions of the usual kind were carried without opposition. The chief speakers were Sir Edward Sugden, Mr. H. T. Hope, M.P., Sir J. Easthope, Mr. Alcock, M.P., Mr. Mangles, M.P., and Mr. Locke King, M.P.

A large meeting was held in the Corn Exchange, Nottingham, on Monday, for the purpose of protesting against the Papal aggression. The vicar of St. Mary's, the Reverend J. W. Brooks, occupied the chair, and delivered a long and argumentative address; besides which, speeches were delivered by several other clergymen and the principal Dissenting ministers of the town. The mayor and ex-mayor of the borough, several aldermen, and most of the influential manufacturers of the borough, were also in attendance. The only amendments that were moved were by Mr. Goodacre, Wesleyan, and by Mr. Symes, Baptist; the former contending for a condemnation of the Romanizing practices of the Wesleyan Conference as well as the Tractarian party in the Church; and the latter proposing that the address to the Queen should be omitted as unnecessary. The original resolutions were all carried amidst great applause.

The Roman Catholic clergy of the diocese of Cork assembled in that city last week, to congratulate Cardinal Wiseman and the English Roman Catholics upon the appointment of their hierarchy. Dr. Delany, the Roman

Catholic Bishop of Cork, presided. Several resolutions were adopted, referring to the aspect of England on the Papal aggression question. They repudiate the idea that the Pope aims at assuming other than a spiritual jurisdiction; and as regards the "mapping out" of the country, say, "That this act of authority by the Sovereign Pontiff, within the proper sphere of his jurisdiction, affects no other denomination of Christians, who, in the exercise of their liberty, choose to continue separated from our communion."

EARL GREY AND DR. LANG.

The New South Wales papers, last received, contain a despatch from Earl Grey to Sir Charles Fitzroy, in which his lordship replies to the charges brought against him by Dr. Lang. These charges of discourtesy and refusal to grant assistance to certain emigration schemes, we have adverted to on more than one occasion. Earl Grey gives them a flat contradiction, and then proceeds to accuse Dr. Lang of something very like swindling. The concluding and most important charge he brings against the doctor is: -

"That having been repeatedly warned that any immigrants sent out in the manner in which those despatched on that occasion were sent out would not be entitled to grants of land, he induced them nevertheless to pay for their passages, and to emigrate under the impression that they were so entitled; so that those emigrants arrived under circumstances altogether different from those they expected, and some of them, it may be inferred from your report, in actual want of the means of subsistence."

The Legislative Council having had Dr. Lang's conduct under discussion, have passed a series of resolutions, nem. con., accusing him of "discreditable fraud." In consequence of these resolutions Dr. Lang published an address to his constituents, who held a meeting, and passed resolutions condemnatory of the council, and sympathizing with the doctor.

ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.

The latest arrivals from Australia bring accounts of the attempted escape of Mr. Smith O'Brien to California, which proved abortive. The following particulars of the event are taken from the Hobart Town Advertiser.

"On Sunday and Monday the Victoria cutter, commanded by a man named Ellis, was observed hovering about the island, the wind being light until evening, when it fell calm. Shortly before sundown, Mr. S. O'Brien, who, notwithstanding his avowed intention of escaping, should an opportunity offer, has considerable liberty allowed him, went down to a sandy cove, one of the few places where boats generally land, and just as he reached the shore a boat with three men put in, and he rushed up to his middle to meet it. A constable on duty, who was a witness of the act, covered him with his piece and called to him to forbear, seconding this by rushing at the boat and knocking a hole in her bottom with his carbine. He then pointed out to all four the folly of resistance, and required them to submit quietly, which they did. The officer in charge, meantime, having missed his prisoner, came rushing down the beach, and secured him while still in the water. He was then conducted to his house, and the three men confined for transmission to Hobart Town. A whale boat with six hands was sent on board the cutter, seized her, and brought her in. She, too, with the parties on board, will be sent up imme diately. It has not been thought necessary to impose any restraint on Mr. S. O'Brien greater than that to which he was previously subjected.

MR. COBDEN AND SIR THOMAS HASTINGS.

At the peace congress at Birmingham last month, Mr. Bright made some allusions to the evidence given by Sir T. Hastings, R.N., before a parliamentary committee on navy estimates, in the course of which he referred to the alarm about a French invasion, and caused much laughter by telling how Sir Thomas Hastings, when pressed to give the grounds on which his alarming statements about the danger of a French war were founded, could only give as his authority the Bishop of Madagascar. Sir Thomas Hastings wrote to Mr. Bright, demanding his authority for making such a statement. Mr. Bright, in reply, said he had made it on the authority of Mr. Cobden, and the latter acknowledges that he mentioned the anecdote to Mr. Bright, and in a letter to Sir Thomas Hastings, affirms that it was substantially true. This did not satisfy Sir Thomas, who called upon Mr. Cobden for a more satisfactory explanation. This being refused, on the ground that the statement was correct in the main, Sir Thomas writes to Mr. Cobden in the following terms:—

"I once more call on you to state, directly and explicitly, whether, after reperusing my evidence, you can with truth assert that my sole reason for believing that the hostile feeling of France to this country up to 1844 was founded on an idle story told of the Bishop of Japan, which Mr. Bright declares expressly he asserted in public on your authority, and you, therefore, are responsible to me. And should you, in so clear and simple a case, refuse to give me a satisfactory explanation, I shall conclude that it was and is your intention to insult me, and I shall place our correspondence in the hands of a friend, who will wait on you on my behalf—or, should you prefer it, he will confer with some friend of yours."

waited three days, Sir Thomas writes again to Mr. | chester Conference.

Cobden to say that the only course left open to him, in justification of his character, is to publish the correspondence, which he accordingly does.

Mr. Cobden, in a subsequent letter to Sir Thomas, dated December 18th, explains that he had delayed his answer to the letter containing the challenge, because he had not a copy of the evidence at hand (in Manchester), nor could he get a copy for two days. After referring to the blue book in question, in order to refresh his memory as to what Sir Thomas had really said, he reiterates from recollection, the story regarding the Bishop, not of Madagascar, but Japan, and sums up by saying, that the sole ground of complaint appears to be that "Mr. Bright alleged that the authority of the Bishop was the only proof brought forward of the warlike disposition of the French.'

THE ALLEGED SEDUCTION CASE.

The report of the proceedings which occurred at the trial of Major Bartleman, of the 44th Bengal Native Infantry, has been published in the Bombay papers. This officer was charged with scandalous and infamous conduct in having, under the cloak of an almost paternal authority, with which he had been entrusted by her father, endeavoured to seduce the affections of the wife of Lieutenant Shelton, of the 33rd Native Infantry. Mrs. Shelton was the daughter of Dr. Laughton, formerly a teacher at Simla, and had been married some years. The union had been an unhappy one. The husband had fallen into intemperate habits, and the quarrels in the family were frequent and notorious. In January last the unhappy couple were the guests of Major Bartleman, to whom, before this, they had been but slightly known; and, while there, the conduct of the husband to his wife and host was occasionally such as to induce him to volunteer a full written apology to the latter for what had occurred. In the following month, her husband being then at Singapore, on sick leave, Mrs. Shelton wrote to her father, complaining of her husband's ill-usage, and expressing a wish for separation.

In reply, Dr. Laughton wrote, under cover to Major Bartleman, exhorting his daughter to a reconciliation, and entreating her to use her best endeavours to soothe the mind and regain the affections of her husband. To Major Bartleman, who was his senior, and had been twice a widower, and might therefore have been supposed capable of being entrusted with such a charge, he wrote thanking him for the kindness he had shown his daughter, and committing her

in case of extremity to his protection.

Mr. Shelton returned from Singapore early in July, but does not appear to have expressed any dissatisfaction with the conduct of his wife. On the 23rd of August Major Bartleman drove Mrs. Shelton in his buggy from Barrackpore to Calcutta, by invitation of her husband. During their absence Mr. Shelton found concealed in his wife's pillow a letter addressed to her by Major Bartleman, such as a devoted husband might have written to his wifesuch as none but an accepted lover would have written to his mistress. Next day Mr. Shelton and his wife met Major Bartleman; high words passed between the two gentlemen, but the major preceded them on horseback to their home, and there awaited their arrival. The husband forbade his entrance the wife accepted his arm. When inside he was repeatedly ordered to the door: he persisted in remaining, as he wished to have some explanations with Mrs. Shelton. Driven to fury at thus being defied and insulted in his own house, Mr. Shelton rushed to his bedroom and brought out a pistol, which he snapped at Major Bartleman. That officer seized him, wrested the pistol from his hand, pushed him down, and beat him with a whip; the table was upset in the scuffle, aid was called for in vain, and a fearful scene, apparently in the presence of the lady, ensued. The major having quitted the house at length, he soon after returned and placed Mr. Shelton under arrest.

A circumstance very material to the character of the intimacy between the parties came out on the examination; that on the 22nd of August, the day before the letter was written, the discovery of which first awakened suspicion in the mind of the husband, and led to the explosion, Major Bartleman had put himself in the hands of his law adviser, who had engaged counsel to defend the action he expected to be brought against him in the civil court. Mrs. Shelton appears, in defiance of the known wish of her husband, to have encouraged the visits both of Major Bartleman and a Mr. Downing, and to have taken legal advice as to whether she might be deprived of her children. Here the matter for the present stands; the decision of the court-martial is in the hands of the commander-in-chief.

NATIONAL CHARTER ASSOCIATION.

OFFICES, 14, SOUTHAMPTON STREET, STRAND.

The Provisional Committee of this body met as above on Wednesday evening last, Mr. James Grassby in the chair. An unusual amount of correspondence was read, consisting chiefly of votes of confidence This letter was written on the 14th. Having in the late executive, and disagreeing with the Man-

Messrs. Blake and Kelley, appointed by the Emmett's Brigade; R. H. Bloomfield, by the Whittington and Cat locality; and Mr. S. Reynolds, by the Crown and Anchor locality, to inspect the votes received for the executive committee, were present, and gave in the following as the result of their scrutiny:-

"We report that we have found the votes to be kept correct; that fifty-three localities and one hundred personal votes have been received. The poll stands thus:—

$605 \mid 12$ John Fussell 611
74 13 Edward Miles 515
$59 \mid 14 \; \mathbf{R. \; Le \; Blond \; \ldots \; } \; 456$
05 15 W. J. Linton 402
14 16 T. M. Wheeler 350
21 17 John Shaw 326
58 18 J. B. Leno 94
11 19 A. E. Delaforce 89
09 20 J. J. Ferdinando 59
07 21 J. Finlen 44
36

"We certify that the above is a true, faithful, and correct statement.

"STEPHEN REYNOLDS.

" JACOB BLAKE.

"ROBERT HENRY BLOOMFIELD.

"JOHN KELLEY."

"General Post-office, December, 1850.

The committee then adjourned to Wednesday evening, January 1, 1851.

SUNDAY POSTAL DELIVERY.

The regulations referred to in the following notice came into operation on the 15th instant:—

" For the purpose of enabling the public to decline the receipt of letters on the Sunday, the following regulations will come into general operation on and from the 15th instant, and they are to be made known at the various post-offices to all persons seeking information on the sub-

"1. Any person can have his letters retained in the Post-office on Sunday until the next day, by giving to the postmaster a written order, duly signed, to that effect. "2. Such order must include newspapers, as no dis-

tinction between letters and newspapers can be allowed. "3. On the same principle no distinction can be made between ordinary letters and letters of importance, notwithstanding any directions which the latter may bear for their immediate delivery.

"4. No letters or newspapers, the non-delivery of which by the letter-carrier on Sunday has been ordered, can be obtained from the post-office window on that day.

"5. Private box-holders will still have the option of applying for their letters at the office while it is open for delivery on Sunday, or of abstaining from so doing, as they may think proper; but no person can be permitted to engage a private box for Sunday only.

"6. To prevent the confusion and inconvenience which would arise from the frequent changing of these orders, no order can be attended to unless given for three months at the least, nor can any be withdrawn without a week's previous notice."

MURDERS, SUICIDES, AND MURDEROUS ASSAULTS.

The list of suicides this week is larger than usual. The most notable case is that of Mr. George Spence, Q.C., of Hyde-park-square, who committed suicide on Tuesday week. He had been, it appears, in a desponding way for some time, owing to an impression that he had a disease of the bladder. Sometimes he complained of spasms and palpitation of the heart. During last month he gradually became worse, slept badly, and frequently said that he should never get over his complaint. On Tuesday morning week he inflicted several wounds on his neck and other parts of his body, the loss of blood from which was so great as to cause his death on the Thursday following. An inquest was held on the body on Monday, when the jury returned the following verdict:-

"That the death of the said George Spence was caused hy exhaustion, arising from loss of blood from wounds inflicted by himself while in an unsound state of mind."

A man named William Lambert, who resided at 39, Holywell-street, Westminster, took a dose of poison, and before the same had time to operate he cut his throat from ear to ear, nearly severing the head from the neck, and died on Tucsday at the Westminster Hospital.

John Smith, aged sixty, for many years sexton of Aldgate Church, on Saturday forenoon shot himself through the head with a pistol in a vault attached to the

James English, beadle of St. John's, Notting-hill, was found on Thursday morning lying on Notting-hill-terrace, in a stupor. He was carried to a surgeon's and died in five minutes. On his person were found two small bottles, containing respectively laudanum and essential oil of almonds. A post-mortem examination showed that those drugs were the means of death. At an inquest those drugs were the means of death. At an inquest held on Saturday, Mr. Barnes, a guardian, explained that English had appropriated two checks, value £12, the property of the parish. A letter in the handwriting of the beadle, addressed to the chairman of the board of guardians, and expressive of remoise and shame for his conduct, was read; it expressed the resolution of the writer to die by his own hands rather than become a convicted felon. A verdict of "Temporary Insanity" was returned. returned.

Gaspard Costa, a foreigner, with the lower part of his face covered with hair, was brought up at Southwark police-office on Wednesday, charged with threatening to murder an unfortunate girl, Julia Lester, with a long and sharp-pointed weapon, resembling a dagger, at a house in Alie-street, Bermondsey New-road, on Tuesday evening. On her asking him for some money, he said he should give her nothing of the kind, and she then said that she should leave the place, and was in the act of walking across the room towards the door, when the prisoner seized her by the arm, and while he held her with one hand, he hastily with the other drew forth from his pocket a knife, which he opened with a sudden jerk, and exhibited a long sharp-pointed shining blade, and at the same time ejaculated that, if she did not stop with him all night, or attempted to quit the room, he would run her through the body with the weapon. She was dread-fully alarmed, and screamed out, as well as stamped on the floor, to apprize the people of the house of the situation in which she was placed, and, in her struggles, she got to the door, by which time the landlady of the house had ascended from the parlour, and she (Julia Lester) by an effort managed to unlock and unbolt the door, and also made a snatch at the weapon, which the prisoner still held in a menacing attitude, and seized it from his grasp, and ran down stairs and out of the house into the street. She then met a policeman, to whom she related what had occurred, and returned with him to the house, and gave the prisoner, who was still there, into custody for threatening her life. (The weapon was here produced, and appeared to be one of those long Spanish knives, with a horn handle, the blade of it shaped like a dagger, and sharp at the point; it opened with a jerk, and had a spring to prevent its closing or shutting down again without the wish of the owner.) The prisoner denied the statement altogether. He had gone into a public-house with the girl, and while talking with her the poniard dropped on the floor. She picked it up, and, having refused to return it, a little scuffle did arise in trying to get it from her, but there was no threat used. The girl still persisted in her statement, however. Mr. A'Beckett said it would be much better if the foreigners who came over here left such weapons as the one produced behind them, as they were more like daggers than knives used for such a purpose as that which the prisoner asserted the one in question was intended. The complainant had positively sworn that the prisoner had used the threats mentioned, and he should therefore call upon him to find securities to keep the peace for three

George Hopwood, a chessboard manufacturer in Anne's-place, Hackney, and Edith Hopwood, his wife, were brought up at Worship-street Police-office, on Wednesday, charged with maliciously cutting and wounding a young married woman, named Jane Parnell, with intent to murder her. It appeared that the husband of Parnell was a sailor, and that while he was at sea she had been living with Hopwood. On her husband's return she went home to him, but he turned her into the street, and refused to have anything to do with her. At the same time Hopwood took back his own wife, with whom he was now living, and it was they, according to Jane Parnell's statement, who had made an attempt upon her life. One witness stated that on the evening of the 2nd instant, while standing at her own door in Ramsay street, she saw a man and woman struggling with another woman under a dead wall on the opposite side of the street; the man had a dark mask on his face, and the woman had also a mask, but hers had been torn off, and was hanging down her neck. The woman attacked was flung to the ground, and the man was stooping over her, and appeared to be grasping her mouth, but she contrived to raise herself up by the woman's dress, and her assailants then both ran away as fast as they could, but during their flight past the gaslamp the woman cast a hurried glance back, and which showed her features to be those of Mrs. Hopwood. The injured woman staggered across the road to the witness's house, and she then saw that it was Mrs. Parnell, whom she had just before left. Her chin was cut in several places, and several wounds in her throat, from which the blood was flowing down the front of her dress. It was stated in defence that the whole was a trumped-up case on the part of the prosecutrix, arising from revenge and jealousy. Mr. Arnold said it was certainly one of the most extraordinary cases that had ever come before him; and, the depositions having been taken by Mr. Vine, the chief clerk, the prisoners were fully committed for trial at the next sessions of the Central Criminal Court.

An old man named Edward M'Manus, who lived in a lane off Stanley-street, Belfast, was murdered by his son, on Sunday morning. The old man was of a quiet, harmless disposition, but the son appears to have been of a very quarrelsome nature. He had come home from his work at a mill on Saturday afternoon, and abused his wife and sister; and, owing to his violent conduct then, they resolved not to let him come in when he returned. This led to an altercation on his coming to the door at an early hour on Sunday morning, in the course of which he stabbed his father. The wound was so serious that the old man died the same evening. The son has been commttted for trial.

As a gentleman, named Tanley, was passing along the south side of the ornamental water in St. James's park, on Sunday afternoon, he saw a female lying in one of the plantations, apparently asleep, but on going up to her he found that she was senseless and foaming at the mouth. He immediately obtained assistance and conveyed her to the Queen-square Lodge and gave her in charge of Lott, one of the gate-keepers. On recovering herself a little she said that her name was Coe, and that she lived at No. 7, Grosvenor-crescent; that while walking with an acquaintance of hers, a laundress, by the waterside, they had a slight quarrel, upon which her companion knocked her down, kicked her in the back, and then stabbed her with a penknife in the arm; after

some fluid, which she compelled her to drink. This rendered her insensible, and whilst in this state she was robbed of 4s. 10d., and her wedding-ring. She was taken to the Westminster Hospital, where she now lies in a dangerous condition.

A maiden lady named Kellaway, about sixty-eight years of age, who has been living at Sherborne for some time, committed suicide on Sunday morning, by jumping out of window, between thirty and forty feet from the

DEATH FROM STARVATION.

George Meaden, an aged beggar, died of starvation at his lodgings, St. John's-buildings, St. Anne-street, last week. He had been at one time a shoemaker, but want of employment had reduced him to mendicancy. His landlady having missed seeing him for some days, and, becoming alarmed, she went to his room, and found him lying on the floor in an exhausted and almost insensible state. She went immediately to his wife, from whom he had been separated, who came and administered some warm coffee which appeared slightly to revive him. He was then left for the night, and at nine the next morning Dr. Payne, of Tachbrook-street, Belgrave-road, was sent for, who pronounced him quite dead. The room where the poor man died was of the most miserable description. A piece of rag, which had once been a mattress, but was now more like a heap of dirt, was in one corner, and the man, with scarcely any covering, upon it. He was in appearance a complete skeleton, evidently arising from a total want of food. An inquest was held on the body on Saturday:-

"The coroner having had the facts placed before him, directed the body to be taken to the workhouse, and a post-mortem examination to be made by Dr. Payne, which was done, and he stated that he found no mark of external violence. On opening the body the whole of the viscera were bleached and bloodless, and in the stomach were two quarts of liquid like water. The intestines were perfectly empty, the liver white, the heart flabby, and all the great vessels bloodless; indeed, he did not think there were two ounces of blood in the whole body. There was considerable effusion of water on the chest. All these appearances clearly indicated a great deprivation of food-that he had died from star-

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased, George Meaden, died of starvation.

The child of a poor man, named John James, who lives in a wretched room in Charles-street, Boltonstreet, Portman-square, upset a pot of boiling water on itself on Thursday week, and was so severely scalded that it died next day. At the inquest held on the body, the father gave a sad picture of his own condition. He had no regular work it appears for two years. Three years ago his wife died leaving him with the charge of five young children, two of whom died shortly afterward. He went out in search of work and food at six in the morning, and did not return till midnight. Sometimes he carned a shilling, sometimes not more than a sixpence. In his absence the children were left to take care of themselves. The consequence was that one of them had been scalded to death. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

A BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.

In the Court of Common Pleas an action for breach of promise of marriage was brought, on Tuesday, by Mr. Frederic Strange, an ivory-merchant in Hattongarden, against Mrs. Lyde, formerly Miss Mary Ann Pope, the daughter of a respectable tailor and woollen-draper in the same locality. The defendant pleaded that she did not promise; that the plaintiff was not ready and willing to marry; that a reasonable time had not elapsed before he brought the action; that the plaintiff had not requested her to marry him; that she had not refused to do so; and that the contract was broken off with the leave and licence of the plaintiff. Mr. Knowles, Q.C., and Mr. Woolmer were counsel for the plaintiff; and Mr. Sergeant Byles and Mr. Lush for the defendant.

Mr. Knowles, in stating the case, said the court would admit breach of promise of marriage was a very serious injury, and although actions of this kind, where a lady was the defendant, were generally met with ridicule, he could not for the life of him understand why the same attention should not be given to them as to actions brought by ladies, the loss in most cases being the same, and the injury to the plaintiff's feelings certainly not being less. In the present case the parties had been acquainted for a considerable time. So long ago as 1845 an attachment existed between them, and it was understood that they were engaged; but Mr. Pope alleged that his daughter, who was in her twentieth year, was too young to marry. Still the parties saw each other frequently, and about a year ago matters returned to the old footing; and from that time the parties treated each other as lovers. Mr. Pope had a country-house at Enfield Chase, and at Christmas last he had a party there, to which Mr. Strange was invited; and on that occasion he offered himself to the young lady as her future husband, and was accepted. On New this she produced from her pocket a bottle containing | Year's-day Mr. Strange's brother gave a party in | tiff-his brother, a surgeon in Hatton-garden, and

return, and in the evening Mr. Strange and Miss Pope went together to the theatre, the young lady being entrusted by her parents to the guardianship of her intended husband. The following letters from Miss Pope to Mr. Strange were given as evidence of the state of her affections. It will be seen from one passage in the letter, "I like not saying much in a letter in case of a breach of promise," that the lady was never very much in earnest:-

"My dear Sir,—As you expressed a wish to hear from me, I have much pleasure in informing you, if it will afford you any gratification to know, I reached here safely this afternoon, without encountering my dear papa, who had not made his appearance in Hattongarden when I left, at twelve o'clock. When I arrived at the Shoreditch station I found I was just too late for the Enfield train; so, by way of making the hour pass as pleasantly as I could, I regaled myself with threepennyworth of Punch, with which I sat down by the fire and much enjoyed, thinking, at the same time, it was pre-ferable to a scene in H. G. I understand from mamma my absence was very much lamented last night, and from the description of the party I do not think I have any cause to regret yielding to your persuasions. I hope you did not again measure your length in the road last night; it is quite necessary you should be roughshod here, for it was a case of slide with me all the way from the railway. I hope you were agreeable at the Old Bailey to-day, not but what I am sure if I were in your situation I should be ten times more troublesome. I heard in the omnibus to-day the woman was acquitted that murdered her child, and that the judge gave a beautiful address. Do you not wish you had been there? I shall tire you with my scribble, so will conclude. Hoping that this will find you better than when I left you, and accept my kind regards, and believe me,
"Yours affectionately, MARY ANN POPE."

"My dear Sir,—I was much pleased at receiving yours this afternoon. It was what I hardly expected after the parting, but I do not know what possessed me. I felt cross. I thought you noticed it. They upbraided me after you left for not seeing you safely off the premises, but suppose it was my innate modesty that deterred me. I mentioned the all-important subject to papa on Sunday morning. He did not raise any objection, but will tell you more about it when I see you. I like not saying too much in a letter in case of a breach of promise. Mamma thinks it will look rather particular absenting myself from church; for, if I understand you rightly, it is what you wish, as Mr. and Mrs. Edwards will be here, and, unless you particularly wish me not, I should prefer going, as it does not appear to me like Sunday unless I am at church once in the day. I must hurry this, as it is nearly post time—seven o'clock p.m. Anticipating the pleasure of seeing you on Sunday, believe me to be,
"Yours in sincerity, MARY ANN POPE.
"Chase-green, January 17, 1850."

Unfortunately for Mr. Strange, that Sunday visit never took place. A few days afterwards she wrote to tell him that it would be as well if he could postpone his visit till Tuesday. Her reason for this change of mind is thus given :-

" Papa will be in town on that day, and should you feel disposed we shall be able to accommodate you; and on Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Edwards and a friend will be here, and it will be out of our power so to do."

This expected "friend," we suspect, was the gentleman who succeeded in supplanting Mr. Strange in the affections of Miss Pope; for we are told that, on the Monday evening, the very night before the visit of the accepted lover was to take place, a large party was given at Enfield Chase, at which a Mr. Lyde, a young merchant from Glasgow, who had formerly been a suitor of Miss Pope, made his appearance. Whether he had been invited by the parents to this party, from which Mr. Strange was strangely absent, with a view to revive the old flame, and break up the new flame does not appear. At all events, he made good use of his time; for, as we learn from the evidence of Mary Joyce, who officiated as cook at Enfield Chase, after Mr. Strange called, on the fatal Tuesday, Miss Pope went into the kitchen and said "What shall I do? Do not think I am very wicked for keeping company with two lovers at the same time." On Wednesday Mr. Lyde again spent the evening with Miss Pope, and on the following day she addressed the following letter to Mr. Strange:-

"My dear Sir,—You doubtless expected a reply to yours ere this, but since I saw you circumstances have transpired which has placed me in a most painful position towards you, and obliges me to terminate all further communications with you. I will be candid with you, and tell you the cause—the return of one who I for ever had a sincere attachment to, and avowedly assert that no other inducement could ever have supplanted you in my affections. The event has caused me many, many hours of reproach and unhappiness; but with my present feelings I feel bound to relinquish you, and know I am acting rightly in coming to this determination, for I never could have been happy. Don't think harshly of me, for I feel my situation most acutely, and will give you a further explanation if you wish it. As nothing has been said between you and papa, I do hope it will not make any difference in our friendship. I hope you will not refuse accepting a purse I have made for you, as a small acknowledgment of the kindness I have received from you, and believe me to be, still your friend, "MARY ANN POPE.

"Chase-green, Jan. 26, 1850."

Only two witnesses were examined for the plain-

Mr. Pope's cook. The former had never heard his brother say that he and Miss Pope were engaged. The cook stated that she "had seen Mr. Strange and Miss Pope kiss each other several times during the day," when he was there at a party, last Christmas.

Mr. Sergeant Byles, who addressed the jury for the defence, said that actions of this kind should always be viewed with great suspicion :-

"Just consider the situation of a young woman. The bachelor was a free agent—he surveyed the sex rank and file—he had his choice of youth and beauty. But take the case of a lady. All her happiness depended on the choice of a partner for life, and yet she could make no overtures; and the moment she entered into an engagement there was an insuperable bar to any other choice. Moreover, the eligible period for marriage in a man was not so short as in a woman, whose only time was during the brief period of youth and beauty. Before a man, therefore, paid particular attention to a woman, it was his duty to have made up his mind; but, to say of a woman that she should make up her mind at the first advances, and that, if courtship, intimacy, even encouragement, followed, she should be liable to an action if she afterwards rejected the suitor, would be acting with great cruelty towards her. There were two sorts of lovers — the generous, chivalrous, disinterested lover, who loved a woman for her own sake; and there was the sordid, mercenary lover, who loved her only for her fortune. The first was a very unlikely man to bring an action of this kind-not so the other. He shot with a double-barrelled gun. His first barrel was matrimony, which would bring down the woman and her fortune; the other was law, which, if the first failed, might at least bring down money."

He then went over the evidence at considerable length, and endeavoured to show that the lady had never promised to marry Mr. Strange; and that, consequently, there was no ground for the present action. Instead of giving him a promise, it appeared from the letters that she had distinctly refused to give him a written promise. After commenting upon the evidence, he concluded by urging the jury to return a verdict for the defendant.

The Lord Chief Justice did not seem to be very

favourable to the plaintiff:—

"After they had disposed of the preliminary question, whether there was a promise or not, there arose a broad and well-defined distinction in the cases, and for this reason, that a man lost much less than a woman under such circumstances, the woman being limited in her choice, and much more injured than the man by being slighted in having the promise broken. When, therefore, they had arrived at the fact of whether in this case a promise had been broken or not, the cases of a man and woman's promise would be distinguishable; but up to that point the evidence in either case must, and ought to be such as would satisfy men of ordinary experience. In cases of this kind, however, the evidence must be looked at with reference to the position in life of the parties. The jury must be aware that in many cases it would be impossible to give distinct evidence of promise. Probably many thousands of marriages occurred as to which no actual promise had been made at all. In such cases the promise must be inferred or not from the conduct of the parties towards each other; and if the man were found treating the woman, or the woman the man, as they would treat each other under particular circumstances and a particular engagement, then it might be fairly inferred that the promise existed which would account for such conduct."

And then supposing the conduct of the lady had been such as to lead to the inference that she intended to marry the plaintiff, the next question was what damage had he sustained by any breach of that promise:-

"There is no evidence that the lady ever had a sixpence of her own, or that she ever would have had anything if she had married without her father's consent. Then what has he lost by losing the lady? No doubt he was greatly attached to her, but then she was greatly attached to somebody else. It is said he was made a fool of, but that is an element which never weighs much in the consideration of these matters. It does not appear that he had made any preparations for marriage, and there being no pecuniary damage, it is for you to say upon the whole with what damages he will be as well or better off than he would have been with a wife who did not love him."

The jury, after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict for the plaintiff—Damages, one farthing. Mr. Sergeant Byles applied for a certificate to deprive the plaintiff of costs, which was refused.

A FELONIOUS ASSAULT.

At the York Assizes, on Tuesday, John Robinson, a respectable looking man, aged twenty-nine, was indicted for having, on the 30th of October last, at Ecclesfield, committed a felonious assault on Eliza Newton, a young lady whom he had known for a year and a half, and to whom he had proposed, and been rejected, on account of his not having means to support a wife, his salary, as station-master on the railway, being only 20s. a-week. The assault took place at the door of her mother's house, on a very stormy night, as they were returning from a wedding party to which they had both been. When he commenced taking liberties with her she tried to push him from her. A struggle ensued, during which he succeeded in throwing her down, and he effected his purpose. The moment she sustained the injury she screamed out, "Oh, God, Robinson." She knew no more till he raised her up. When he raised her up she gasped for breath, and screamed out "Mother!" two or three times, as loud as she could. The prisoner said, "Pacify

yourself, Miss Newton." She lost the slipper off her right foot in the struggle, and the prisoner put it on her foot. Her mother came to the door. The prisoner then stepped in advance, and put out his hand to her mother, and said to her, "Mrs. Newton, good night." Witness immediately said, "Oh, mother, mother, why did you not come sooner?" The prisoner then pushed past her and disappeared. She immediately told her mother what had happened, and her mother fainted on the carpet. Her mother went to the station next day and taxed him with what he had done. He affirmed that he had done no more than any other young gentleman would have done with the same opportunity. Previous to the mother's calling on him he had sent the following letter to Miss

"My dear Miss Newton,—On examining my pockets this morning I found the enclosed, though how they got there, thanks to the brandy and water, I have not the slightest notion. I think they must be yours; if not, perhaps you can find an owner for them. I hope you are not the worse to-day. For my part, I am very seedy. Did not get up till I p.m., and have no very distinct recollection of how I got home.

"My landlady tells me this morning that I swore I would never go to another wedding, not even to my own.

"With best regards to Mrs. Webster, believe me, very truly yours." I ROBINSON.

"J. ROBINSON.

yours, "Wadsley, Thursday."

The counsel for the prisoner contended that the whole of the facts given in evidence showed consent on the part of the prosecutrix. There was no evidence that she had screamed out, though close to her mother's door, where the prisoner knew her mother was sitting up for her. The prisoner's face was unmarked. There was not the slightest injury upon him; and all those injuries spoken of by the prosecutrix were compatible with consent on her part, combined with a little coy resistance.

The jury, at a late hour, delivered their verdict. They found Robinson guilty, but recommended him to mercy on account of his previous good character, and believing that he acted under the excitement of liquor. The judge took time to consider the sentence.

DESPERATE AFFRAY WITH BURGLARS.

An affray of a very serious character took place near Farnborough, in Kent, on Wednesday evening, between seven and eight o'clock, in the attempt by two policemen to apprehend four suspected housebreakers. It appears that on the evening in question, two policemen of the R division, in whose district Farnborough is situated, being on duty near the town, had grounds for suspecting that some expert thieves from London were lurking about, and intended to commit a burglary in the neighbourhood. The two policemen proceeded in quest of the offenders, and on approaching the Crown public-house, in Green-street Green, within a short distance of the Farnborough Station, they observed a horse and cart with four men in it, whom they suspected to be the parties whom they were on the look-out for, standing at the door, having just pulled up. The policemen immediately went forward, and while one of them seized the horse's head, the other policeman called upon the men in the vehicle to alight, when they all jumped out, and he seized one of them, saying that they must accompany him to the station-house. The policeman, however, who had seized the man as described was immediately attacked by his companions, who were armed with life-preservers, and when the other policeman went forward to his assistance, with his staff in his hand, one of the fellows drew forth a pistol, and, presenting the muzzle to his head, with an oath swore he would blow out his brains if he interfered in the rescue of his associate. A struggle then took place, during which the four men used their life-preservers, and succeeded in effecting their escape from the two policemen, who were very much maltreated on the occasion. The horse and cart, however, fell into their hands, and on examining the vehicle, a bag containing a great number of picklock keys, large and small, some of them of the most ingenious construction, and adapted for opening almost every description of lock, together with numerous centre-bits, dark lantern, and matches, in fact, every requisite for house-breaking, was found at the bottom of it, stowed away underneath the seat. In the course of the same night the police of the district succeeded in the apprehension of one of the men, who is now in custody. His companions, it is expected, will also be secured, as their persons are well known. The horse, which they must have driven from London, is one of extraordinary speed, and capable, it is stated, of going a great distance in an incredibly short space of time. The animal as well as the vehicle is now in the hands of the police.

THE SMITHFIELD NUISANCE.

An aggravated instance of the evils arising from the holding a cattle-market in the centre of the metropolis occurred on Monday. A bullock, which was about to be removed from Smithfield-market, suddenly broke away and proceeded into West-street at a furious speed, and thence into Saffron-hill. Here, at the corner of Churchstreet, it broke some panes of glass in the shop window of a clothes-salesman, and, a short distance further on in the same street, smashed several panes of a publichouse front. On its way up the hill the beast came in collision with a cab, and slightly injured the horse with its horns. After passing along Ray-street, Little Warnerstreet, into Coppice-row, the animal came into collision with a cab, the horse in which was knocked down. It then went up Bagnigge-wells-road, into Margaret-street, round Wilmington-square, down Yardley-street, into Lower Rosoman-street, having in the course of its passage upset several trucks. At the corner of Lower Rosoman-street and Bowling-green-lane, a cabman whipped the beast across its back, upon which it dashed at a woman of the name of Hughes, lifted her into the air several feet, and let her fall near the walls of the burialground adjoining. The enfuriated animal endeavoured man, who acquired some distinction at Cambridge, and again to toss her, but she was fortunately assisted by the who is a Fellow of Trinity College in that University.

barman of the John of Jerusalem public-house, at the corner, who tried to rescue her. The beast was about to gore him, but luckily its attention was drawn to two stalls, which it cleared away, scattering the stores of each, consisting of shell fish and fruit, in all directions. Having played this prank, it pursued its course by the House of Detention to Clerkenwell-green. From the Green it returned into Lower Rosoman-street, and got into the open space by the House of Detention, where there is no thoroughfare, and lay down in a corner, adjoining the yard of Mr. Johnson, the builder. After being there a short time, evidently exhausted, a man in the employment of Mr. Johnson, put a tub of water before the beast. While drinking it the man incautiously approached the animal, who instantly gored him in the abdomen. The poor fellow fell back and was conveyed in a cab to St. Bartholomew's Hospital. The animal again started off in the midst of the crowd collected, many of whom were knocked down in trying to make their escape, and ran into Rosoman-street, where it knocked down another female, who was taken up much injured. It subsequently got into Upper-street, Islington, where it took possession of the pavement, pursued by an immense crowd. When opposite the shop of Messrs. Tolland and Co., dyers, it forced its head through a valuable square of plate-glass, and broke the mahogany frame-work, to the terror of a young woman who was sitting at work, and who made her rapid exit from the shop. It was eventually lodged in the yard of Laycock's dairy, Liver-pool-road, by two policemen. Mrs. Hughes was taken into the John of Jerusalem, from whence she was conveyed to her lodgings, where she was attended by a medical gentleman, who said that she had received serious internal injuries.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen and Prince Albert left Windsor Castle, at five minutes past ten o'clock on Thursday morning for Kew, to witness the confirmation of her Royal Highness the Princess Mary of Cambridge. The august party travelled by a special train on the London and South-Western Railway to Richmond, and from thence proceeded in royal carriages to the residence of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge. The Queen and the Princess Mary, Prince Albert, the Duchess of Kent, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Hereditary Grand Duchess of Mecklenburgh-Strelitz, and the Duke of Cambridge, proceeded to Kew Church, where the confirmation of her Royal Highness the Princess Mary was ministered by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by the Bishop of London. At the conclusion of the service the party returned to the residence of her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge, at Kew, where a dejeuner was served to the illustrious circle. The Queen and Prince Albert afterwards took leave of the Duchess of Cambridge, and went to the Richmond Station, attended by their suite, returning to Windsor by a special train on the South-Western Railway.

The Queen gave the second of a series of dramatic representations in Windsor Castle on Thursday evening, the performance taking place in a temporary theatre erected in the Rubens Room. The Prince of Wales, Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, the Princess Alice, and the Princess Helena were present. A select party had also been invited, comprising several of the neighbouring gentry. The performances consisted of Sheridan's Critic, and an afterpiece called The Practical Man.

The Sunday Times calls attention to the fact that the Prince of Wales has not been attending at the Chapel Royal on Sunday for several weeks past, and calls for an explanation.

It is rumoured in the legal circles that Baron Parke will be called to the House of Peers, by the title of Baron Ampthill, of Ampthill Park, in the county of Bedford.

The Duke of Wellington, as Chancellor of the University of Oxford, arrived at Windsor Castle on Tuesday

week, being before the appointed hour for the presentation of the address. The City functionaries had been ushered into the presence of her Majesty-a portion of the Oxford deputation had assembled in one of the reception-rooms—the illustrious octogenarian was seated by himself, arrayed in his robes of office, and all were waiting the arrival of Dr. Plumptre, the Master of the University College, who holds the office of Vice-Chancellor for the present year. About half-past twelve o'clock, Dr. Plumptre arrived in great haste, and mentioning something about the unexpected detention of the train, offered his most humble apology for keeping his grace waiting. "The duke," with characteristic brevity, replied, "No apology is necessary to me, sir; the Queen appointed twelve o'clock." The Queen had appointed twelve o'clock, but the citizens and scholars, less punctual than her Majesty, did not arrive in time to com-mence the ceremony of presentation at that hour. It was half-past twelve before the first address was presented, and the ceremony lasted just three quarters of an hour. - Windsor and Eton Express.

The London correspondent of the Liverpool Albion states that Lord Brougham has lost his sight, partly caused by a painful bodily infirmity with which the noble

lord was afflicted. The decree of doctor of law has been conferred by Trinity College University on Lord Viscount Gough. His lordship has been lately on a visit to Mitchelstown Castle, with a view, it is said, to the purchase of that beautiful scat.

Cardinal Wiseman has received autograph letters of congratulation from the Emperor of Austria, the King of Bavaria, and the President of the French Republic.

A correspondent of the Globe says :- "It was reported in clerical circles on Tuesday that the Bishop of London had appointed his examining chaplain, the Reverend Wm G. Humphry, to the important benefice vacant by

He has not, however, that we are aware of, ever had a cure of souls; and except in the capacity of examining chaplain, which he has filled more than three years, he is entirely unknown in the diocese of London. The reverend gentleman labours under the suspicion of being inclined towards Tractarian opinions, but he has been so little before the public that the justice or injustice of this charge is a matter difficult to decide."

A gentleman, writing from Florence, says:—"I was surprised to see in Galignani a letter contradicting Lord Harewood's assertion, that the use of the Bible was prohibited by the Roman Catholic Church. Pio Nono has actually put the Bible in the index amongst the prohibited books. I saw the order myself; and here the confessors now ask their penitents if they have read and have the Bible! and, if so, they make them give the Bibles up before thy will grant absolution!! Only yesterday a man was summoned to the tribunale here, on the charge of a Bible having been found in his carpet-bag at the Custom House. He was asked if he did not know that it was prohibited? He answered boldly that he was a Protestant, and that his religion enjoined him to read his Bible. They would not return it to him however, and he was told to call again. I have no doubt he will be punished or persecuted."

The Dublin Evening Post says, "We have heard that the sons of two legal dignitaries have gone over to the Church of Rome. The departure of one is certain—we are as yet unaware whether the other has taken the final step. It is said confidently that an Irish earl and his lady have passed the Rubicon. We have heard of some others; but, as we can hardly bring ourselves to believe the statement, we shall not even make the most distant allusion to the parties."

An Irish paper says that "Archdeacon Manning, a High Churchman, has, on his departure from the Anglican Camp, capitulated to the Patriarch of Constantinople-in short, that he is about to become a member of the Greek Church! This Church is acknowledged to be Catholic by the Pope—although schismatical."

Colonel Muir has resolved to give his casting vote to

Mr. Sheriff Alison, as Lord Rector of Glasgow University.

Lord Northland has finally determined to resign his seat for the borough of Dungannon. An address to the electors has been issued, in which he thanks them for having reëlected him in August last, when his resignation was tendered, but announces his resolution to retire at the commencement of the next session. It is stated that his brother, the Honourable Stuart Knox, will appear

Four seats in the House of Commons are now vacant; little interest, however, appears to be awakened by the pending elections. Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Carden has been invited to contest St. Albans with Mr. Jacob Bell, the wealthy chemist of Oxford-street. At Ponte-fract, the Honourable Beilby R. Lawley, son of Lord Wenlock, is alone in the field. Mr. Bromley, the member for South Notts, having resigned from illness, Lord Newark and Mr. W. H. Barrow are spoken as candi-dates. Aylesbury is solicited by Mr. Sergeant Byles and Mr. F. Calvert, Q.C.

Respecting the rumours of a matrimonial alliance which the King of Denmark has been said to contemplate, the Börsenhalle states, that the princess mentioned is the sister of the Prince of Hesse, heir apparent to the Danish throne, and, by a former alliance, son-in-law to the Emperor of Russia.

The superb church built by the King of Bavaria at Munich, and dedicated to St. Boniface, has just been inaugurated by the Archbishop of Munich and Freysing. His Majesty was present at the first ceremony of baptism performed there, and held the child, which was that of a

workman, at the font. The Legitimists pretend that Count Molé has de-

cidedly come over to them, and that there are not in the Orleanist party of the National Assembly more than forty or fifty who are not at least half converted. M. Thiers, they admit, will not listen to any of these propositions, but they assert that General Changarnier is less difficult. They say that when Louis Napoleon was a candidate for the Presidency, he told one of their leaders that his mission was to reëstablish order, and that if he should fail in this, with the powers of the Republic, he would go to the Count de Chambord, and say to him, "Sire, you only can save France from anarchy. Come and take possession of your throne and reckon upon me as one of your most devoted subjects."

The Nepaulese Ambassador arrived at Bombay on the 6th on his way from Suez. Tidings of the death of his kinswoman the Queen of Nepaul have thrown him and

his suite into deep mourning.
In two churches in New York the clergymen "have done nothing but christen children with the name of Jenny Lind for the past two weeks," One threatens to resign, unless the custom is abated.

MM. Clary and Lemulier have presented a proposition to the National Assembly to have the price of meat fixed by the municipal authorities. In connection with this subject the Patrie of Tuesday says :- "A fact has this day taken place which may become the prelude to one of me most useful ameliorations, by contributing, in a great measure, to give to the people food at low prices. During the day the Prefects of the Seine and of Police, the President of the Municipal Council, and different chefs de division assembled at the Hôtel de Ville. The serious and delicate question which formed the subject of their deliberation was the monopoly of the trade in meat secured by the privileges accorded to the butchers of Paris. Not a voice was raised in favour of the maintenance of this monopoly, the abolition of which was, in a measure, decided upon."

The French Minister of Commerce and the Minister of Finance have nominated a committee to enquire into the depreciation of gold and the causes which have produced

so much perturbation in the exchanges, with the view of putting a stop to the uneasiness felt on this subject.

The responsible editor of the Democratic Jurasienne had been condemned by the Court of Assizes to six months' imprisonment and 200f. fine, for having published a blasphemous article attacking the divinity of Christ. When the article first appeared, the Bishop of St. Claude solemnly condemned it, and a religious ceremony in expiation of it was celebrated at Salins, the

town in which it was published.

The Vote Universel was seized the other day for the publication of an article entitled "La Loi d'Usure," and of a feuilleton called "Les Contrats Sociaux, au XIX. Siècle. Les Petit Enfans." The responsible editor is to be prosecuted under the double charge of attacks on property, and of exciting hatred between the different classes of citizens.

A lamentable accident occurred on the French Northern Railway at Pontoise, on Sunday night. It appears that the hurricane was raging in that part of the country with such violence as actually to force the engine of the Calais train off the rails, and, in consequence, a collision took place with the train which was on its way to Paris. Fortunately both trains were going slowly; but, nevertheless, many carriages were broken, and several persons severely injured. Happily no lives were lost.

The Wanderer, of Vienna, states that Bavaria, Hanover, and Saxony, have declared themselves in favour of the establishment of a popular Chamber, in connection with the Executive Government of the Germanic Confe-

A young actress at Berlin, Mademoiselle Tech, was a few days ago found dead in her bed; and, a post mortem examination of her body having been made, a large quantity of arsenic was discovered in her stomach. Not a paper of any kind was found in her apartment, and all her numerous theatrical costumes had disappeared. As it was known that she had been intimate with a young man named Hennequin, also an actor, the police sought after him, and discovered that he was living under an assumed name at an hotel. On entering his room they found him in bed, suffering dreadful pains, caused by a dose of arsenic. He had, however, not taken enough to cause death, and was sent to the hospital.

A letter from Rome, of the 3rd instant, in the Risorgimento of Turin, announces that the Austrian troops were, on the following day, to resume all the positions they had formerly occupied at Perugia and other places of Umbria and of the Marches. The persons accused of having burnt several confessionals in the latter days of the Roman revolution have been sentenced to fifteen years' hard labour. Ciceruacchio, who has absconded, is one of the condemned. The affair of the burning of several cardinals' carriages is not yet concluded.

The first electric telegraph in Spain is to be laid down on the Aranpiz Railway, now open. Part of the apparatus is said to be on the spot, and the rest is on the

The Petersburg Gazette of the 1st instant publishes his Majesty the Czar's ukase abolishing the line of customs between the kingdom of Poland and the bulk of the Rus-

The Vienna correspondent of the Times speaks of some interesting circumstances relative to the conspiracy recently discovered at Constantinople. By a singular chance the Sultan himself found certain suspicious documents in the room of one of his adjutants, the Bimbaschi Mustapha Effendi, who was arrested, with twelve other persons of high standing, in the seraglio. The conspiracy was directed against the Sultan and Reschid Pacha's Cabinet. Abdul Assis, the Sultan's brother, if not actually a sharer in the conspiracy, certainly connived at the revolutionary movements which have so fortunately been brought to light. The Sultan's physician, an Austrian, was sent for by his imperial master, who after dismissing his first chamberlain, conversed with the doctor for a whole hour. The same evening the latter left Constantinople for Trieste with his wife and family. The disciple of Æsculapius, whose monthly salary was 9000 piastres, was in the habit of receiving very costly presents from his munificent employer.

A tremendous fire broke out in Constantinople on the 4th instant, in the extensive glass and porcelain government manufactory, which caused damage to the amount of £150,000.

The latest accounts from Singapore, which come down to November 7, state that a memorial to Lord Palmerston had been adopted by the Chamber of Commerce with reference to the failure of Rajah Brooke's mission to Siam. The conclusion of the Chamber is that, looking at the similar failure experienced by the Envoy from the United States, it would be vain to attempt at present to establish more intimate relations, except by a resort to hostile measures, which they unequivocally deprecate.

The latest accounts from the Cape of Good Hope state that almost the whole of the colonists have recorded their approval of the conduct of the seceding members. A private letter mentions an attempt to get up a public expression in favour of the Government, and against the seceding members of council. The thing was such an utter failure, that probably the local press took no notice of it whatever, and hence no account of it ever reached this country.

On the anniversary of the birth of the Queen of Portugal's cousin, Don Fernando, Captain d'Assis e Silva made arrangements to give a party on board his ship, the Donna Maria II., of 32 guns, at Macao, on the 29th of October. A number of civilians from Macao, and the officers of the United States sloop Marion were invited. At half-past two o'clock, p.m., the ship blew up with a fearful explosion, entirely destroying the vessel, and all on board, except the captain's son and some twelve or thirteen men, who were taken out of the water by the boats of the United States sloop of war. The number on board at the time of the catastrophe could not have been far short of 300 souls.

An experienced naval architect of New York is now

constructing a yacht schooner, of about 150 tons, which will be present on the Thames during the Exhibition of next year. He has carte blanche from the gentlemen to whom she will belong; and is so confident of rendering her the model of perfection which they wish for, that he contracts to build her without charge, if she do not prove to be faster than any other which may be brought forward in competition.

Three of the largest Western steamboats have been sunk on their passage from Cincinnati to New Orleans. A steamer was burned at the mouth of the Potomac, on the 28th ultimo, and eight persons, including the captain and the mate, perished in the flames.

By a telegraphic despatch received at Boston on the 4th instant it appears that a lunatic asylum was destroyed by fire at Augusta, state of Maine, and several of the wretched inmates had fallen victims to the flames, it being impossible to rescue them. It is supposed that upwards of twenty thus perished.

A destructive tornado took place on the Mississippi River and the adjacent country on the 30th of November, causing more damage than has occurred on the Great Western Valley from a similar cause for many years. In the town of Cape Girardeau, Mobile, just below St. Louis, seventy or eighty buildings were destroyed, comprizing some of the largest warehouses in the place. A Catholic convent and the Baptist and Catholic churches were levelled to the ground. Two large electric telegraph masts were snapped off like pipe stems. The loss of life is not yet ascertained, but it is supposed to be very large, as numbers must have been buried beneath the ruins of the fallen buildings. Many were injured and had narrow escapes with their lives.

We understand that much uneasiness and dissatisfaction has arisen amongst many of the policy holders in the Equitable Insurance Office, arising out of the fact, that a plan has been resorted to by the directors, the effect of which, it is alleged, is to appropriate immensely large bonuses to a few early policies at the expense of the modern assurers. The effect we have heard of the new arrangement has been to reduce the business of the office by two-thirds; and grave doubts were thrown out at a recent meeting by parties interested, as to the authority of the bye-law under which the appropriation had been made to a very large amount, some £2,000,000. Reporters, we are told, are not admitted to the meetings. When so large a capital is involved, it is likely, we think, to injure the reputation of the office,—certain it is that, the law laid down by Sir Edward Sugden was disputed by several speakers of learning and ability—and that much dissatisfaction is prevailing.

St. Stephen's, Walbrook, that magnificent and enduring monument of the genius of Sir Christopher Wren, will in a few days be reopened for public worship, having undergone various improvements and alterations, with a view to restore the church to that state in which the great architect originally left it.

A meeting of the parishioners, convened by the East Pancras Parochial Association, was held at the vestry-rooms, on Monday evening, for the purpose of taking measures for the prevention of unnecessary Sunday trading, and to take into consideration the propriety of coöperating with the promoters of the bill introduced last session into Parliament by Mr. Charles Pearson with that object. Very few persons were present. Several respectable ratepayers, carrying on the different trades which are generally called into action on Sundays, addressed the meeting in support of the measure. The chief arguments used were the necessity of rest on the seventh day; but apart from any religious restriction, and disclaiming and repelling any attempt to make the measure one to compel Sabbatical observances, which one or two persons were desirous to do, the majority declared they would resist such an attempt to the uttermost, and would rather forego the present proposal than accept it under such a condition. Some of the speakers wished the custom of paying wages on Friday to be adopted, in order that the whole of Saturday's market might be open to the working classes, but the general feeling, although approving the proposition, was to confine the measure to its specific object—to prevent unnecessary Sunday trading. It was alleged on all hands that the great majority of shopkeepers were desirous of keeping close shut on Sundays, but that it had been proved experimentally that it was impossible to effect the object by voluntary agreement; for when such agreements were made some of the subscribers would always break through them, secretly at first, but soon openly; and general weekly custom was thus withdrawn from the shops which were closed to those which gave accommodation to buyers on the Sabbath. A committee of thirty ratepayers was appointed to cooperate with all the tradesmen of the metropolis, and to draw up a petition to Parliament, and to use such means as should seem best to secure the passing of the bill as speedily as pos-

A special meeting of the Society for Irish Church Missions was held at Exeter-hall, on Tuesday. The Reverend J. Gregg, of Dublin, and Dr. M'Neile, of Liverpool, were the chief speakers; the latter was received and heard throughout with most enthusiastic applause.

A case was tried in the Court of Queen's Bench, London, on Saturday, to recover the value of certain packages sent from Liverpool to London by the London and North-Western Railway on the 27th of July last, and which was delivered to a person who had assumed the name of the person to whom they had belonged. The damages were laid at £1000, but it was understood that the real amount sought to be recovered was under £900. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff, thus finding that the company had wrongly delivered the goods.

The late regulation, requiring that all letters collected from houses and small hamlets situated at a distance from any receiving-office should be pre-paid by stamps, being found inconvenient to the public, the Postmaster

General has issued instructions that postmen shall, if required, take the postage of such letters in money.

A commercial traveller for a London publishing house states that a check has been given to the printing of copies of the Book of Common Prayer, from the anticipation generally entertained that, at the instance of the episcopal authorities and other dignitaries of the Church of England, some modification of an Evangelical tendency will be introduced into the Liturgy.

A public meeting was held in the Town Hall, Derby, last evening week, for the purpose of forming a branch society in connection with the National Public School Association. James Haywood, Esq., the late Mayor, took the chair. The meeting was a very crowded and enthusiastic one. The Reverend H.W. Crosskey moved the first resolution, affirming the principles of the National Association, and proposing a local society, which was seconded by W. Biggs, Esq., late Mayor of Leicester, and received by the meeting with every demonstration of approval. The Reverend J. J. Owen (Baptist) approach the meeting but treated the second sec tist) opposed the motion, but treated the plan as though it were a Government scheme to mould the minds of the people, and entirely overlooked the principle of local management. The Reverend J. Gawthorn (Independent) followed on the same side, and tried to prove that the proposed plan would diminish both the quantity and quality of education! The Reverend J. A. Baynes (Baptist), of Nottingham, in reply, endeavoured to show the consistency of the scheme with the most thorough nonconformity. After a lengthened and animated discussion, the original resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority, amidst long-continued cheering. A committee was then appointed, with the Reverend H. W. Crosskey as local secretary; and, after a vote of thanks to the chairman and others who had taken part in the proceedings, the meeting separated at a late

A meeting of gentlemen taking an active interest in the formation of a free public library in Liverpool was held in the Town-hall on Tuesday, for the purpose of organizing measures to help forward the project. The committee of the Liverpool Library have offered to the embryo institution a donation of 1000 volumes.

The committee of the Sheffield Freehold Land Society have completed the purchase, for the sum of £4100, of an estate of thirty one acres, forming a portion of the large domains of Offley Shore, Esq., which have been brought to the hammer under an order from the Court of Chancery. The land is distant about a mile and a half from the centre of the town.

In consequence of a distress-warrant having been issued against the Reverend Dr. Wellesley, Principal of New Inn Hall, Oxford, by the city magistrates, for a poor-rate for the parish of St. Peter le-Bailey, amounting to £3 19s., and 7s. expenses, the inspector of the Oxford police, on Saturday last, carried the same into effect by seizing half a dozen silver forks from the lodging of the Principal. An action will be brought against the parish officers for an illegal scizure, when the question as to the liability of the colleges and halls to pay poor rates will be tried upon

The principalship and the three principal chairs in Owen's College, Manchester, are filled-viz., principal and professor of logic and mental philosophy, together with general grammar and English language and literature, A. J. Scott, Esq.; professor of the languages and literature of Greece and Rome, and of ancient and modern history, J. G. Greenwood, Esq., of University College, London; professor of mathematics and natural philosophy, Alexander Sandeman, Esq., of Queen's College, Cambridge. The professorial salary of each of these gentlemen, exclusive of fees, is £350; the principal receiving a further salary, in addition to his emoluments as professor, of £200. There remains to be filled the following three chairs:-4. History, and moral and political philosophy; 5. Natural history, including botany and geology; and 6. Chemistry. Besides the professorial chairs, the three last have salaries of £150 attached, exclusive of fees.

For some time a new sewer has been constructing, which opens in Middle Scotland-yard, and extends some distance into the river Thames, near Northumberland wharf. At the usual hour on Monday morning the various men went to their work, and continued at their several departments without neeting with any for-midable impediment, until about eleven o'clock, when all of a sudden the water from the river washed away the mainstay at the end of the sewer, and almost instantaneously the subterranean passage became filled with water. Two men were drowned. One boy was driven by the force of the water to the mouth of the shaft leading into the sewer. He was taken out almost exhausted and conveyed to the hospital, but no fatal injury is apprehended. Three or four other persons, it is stated, on hearing the mighty rush of water into the sewer, and who were standing near a ladder, succeeded in making a retreat. Great blame is attached to the parties having charge of the works for not taking sufficient precautions to ensure the safety of the men.

A fatal accident took place, on Monday afternoon, at

the terminus of the Great Northern Railway, at King'scross, where a large body of miners and other workmen have been for some time past engaged in excavating a tunnel which is to pass from the eastern side of the Maiden lane-bridge, under the Regent's Canal, into the permanent s ation. One group of miners, headed by a man named Abel Wynne, were at work in the tunnel about forty yards from its mouth, and were engaged in making ready for what is technically termed the "cill," a portion of timber used in supporting tunnels before the brickwork is introduced. He had just exclaimed, "Come, my men, we must pitch into this work and get the 'cill' in," and had made one or two strokes with his pick in conjunction with a man named Samuel Edwards, when a large amount of earth gave way and fell upon them and | November 8th. other workmen. An alarm was instantly raised, and

after some delay the men were dug out, when it was found that Wynne was killed. The other men were but slightly injured.

A fire broke out in the Rose and Crown tavern, Salisbury-lane, Bermondsey-wall, on Wednesday morning, which destroyed property to the amount of £1000. Another fire broke out on the same day in the premises of Mr. J. Leaning, fancy bread and biscuit-baker, in Highstreet, Peckham, by which considerable damage was

The town of Abingdon was visited by a severe thunderstorm on Sunday morning, accompanied by hail, snow, and rain. The electric fluid struck a barn on Wick Farm, in the occupation of Mr. Badcock. The building and the farming stock, which consisted of upwards of 150 quarters of barley, the produce of twenty-four acres of beans, ten acres of wheat, and a variety of agricultural implements and utensils, were destroyed. The damage is estimated at £1000, but this amount is fully covered by the insurance. On Saturday morning the south of Ireland suffered from a similar visitation. In the neighbourhood of Cooraclare a woman was killed, and at Newgrove-cottage, near Ennis, a young man was killed by the lightning.

The Helena Sloman steam-ship, which left Southampton on the first of November, was totally lost on her way to New York. There were 180 souls on board. She was discovered by the American packet Devoushire, Captain Hovey, after beating about in distress eight days. In the attempt to rescue the persons on board the steamer four of the crew of the Devonshire and five of the Helena Sloman, passengers, were lost: 175 persons were taken on board in safety.

The inquest on the twelve bodies of the persons killed by the boiler explosion at the mill of Messrs. Firth, at Halifax, terminated on Friday night, after three days' enquiry. The jury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Mr. Samuel Firth, one of the partners, and Joseph Helliwell, the engineman. The evidence favoured the conclusion that the boiler was a defective one, and ought to have been discontinued from use.

Three men were killed by choke damp at Borrow-stouners, in Scotland, last week. They were all married men, and have left widows, and two of them large families.

Three convicts, named John Bradrick, John Thompson, and Charles Webster, escaped from the Dartmoor prisons, early on Thursday morning.

As Mr. Adolphe Dubois, a dentist, residing in Princesstreet, was passing through Norton street about half-past nine o'clock on Wednesday night, he noticed three men in a doorway, as if they were there to get out of the rain. Just as he was passing the men one of them ran down the steps and rushed against him, at the same time throwing a rope or gag over his head. The gag was instantly forced round his neck, and tightened so as nearly to choke him. He endeavoured to give an alarm, but the rope was twisted tighter, the man at his back using something like a lever to effect this compression. He contrived, however, to call out, upon which the other two men ran down the steps and held his hands. By the time he had nearly lost consciousness he felt the pressure removed, and he then saw the three men running off different ways. He called out "Murder! Police!" and he then noticed that his outside coat was torn, and that his watch and chain had been taken from him. In a minute or two afterwards, a swarthy-looking man, known among cabmen as the "Black Diamond," was brought to him, and he instantly identified him as the man who had used the gag or rope to him. This man had been apprehended by Mr. John Tarring, an architect, who was passing at the time, and who ran after the ruffians, on hearing Dubois call for the police. The man, on being apprehended, flung the watch which he had stolen through some railings, where it was picked up afterwards. He was brought up at Marlbo-rough-street Police-office on Thursday, and committed on

Information was received at the various metropolitan and city police stations on Friday afternoon that Hackett, who has made himself so notorious of late by his daring escapes, had been seen in High-street, Borough, walking leisurely along the pavement with a sword-cane in his hand. He was we'l-dressed, and there is no doubt as to his identity, because the party who conveyed the information was formerly a fellow-prisoner with Hackett in Maidstone gaol. This person followed him for some distance in Southwark, watching for a favourable opportunity to secure the man and the reward, when Hackett, seeing he was followed, turned down a narrow alley, and made his escape.

Joshua Boghurst, a mill-sawyer, appeared at Lambeth Police Office on Monday to answer a charge of having left his employment without giving sufficient notice. Mr. Wood, the proprietor of a saw mill at Nine Elms. stated that Boghurst came to him on Thursday and agreed to work eieven hours a-day for 24s, a-week. After working four hours he told his employer that he must give up working, or the society to which he belonged would scratch him out. The reason he assigned was, that the other men in Mr. Wood's employment did not belong to the society. Mr. Wood said that, believing the man was the victim of the society, he should beg the magistrate not to punish him, and would undertake to provide him with constant employment, provided he would give up the society, as Mr. Wood's object was that of putting on end to the latter. Boghurst having promised compliance with this suggestion, Mr. Norton ordered the summons to stand over for a fortnight, to see how he went on.

At the Middlesex Sessions, held at the Court-house. Clerkenwell, on Wednesday, the grand jury returned a true bill of indictment against the Reverend II. Cole and the Reverend E. Over, for an assault committed upon Mr. Edward Miall at a public meeting held at Islington.

chaise, by a servant girl, about fifteen years of age, were sent into the Walworth-road, about twelve o'clock on yesterday morning week, and neither of them have since been heard of. The child does not speak, and walks very feebly, though a fine-looking child. A reward of £5 has been offered to any one who will give such information to any of the police as may lead to the recovery of the child.

Three men skilfully effected an entrance through the window of the Masons' Arms Inn, Caerleon, one morning last week, kept by Mrs. Howells, and, probably knowing where the money was concealed, actually carried out of the house a cumbersome old-fashioned chest of drawers, containing, among other valuables, five sovereigns.

Mr. Fern, a butcher, carrying on business in the Horse Fair, accompanied by a friend in the same business, left Birmingham in a gig, with the intention of attending Warwick fair, between four and five o'clock on Monday morning. On arriving at the reservoir, about six miles from Birmingham, the gig was surrounded by six ruf-fians. Two laid hold of the horse's head, while the others proceeded to drag Mr. Fern from the vehicle. His companion was suffered to remain in his seat; but the fellows having succeeded in capturing Mr. Fern, the reins were cut, and the horse and gig, with its only remaining inmate, were started at a furious rate in the direction of Solihull. For a short time Mr. Fern maintained a resolute contest with his assailants, but ultimately he was laid insensible on the ground, and the thieves carried off upwards of £123 in cash. Two men, having the appearance of navvies, have been apprehended on suspicion, but none of the money has been recovered.

Adolphe de Werdinski, who is said to be "a Polish count," and carries on some kind of business in Holborn. was charged at the Middlesex Sessions, on Wednesday, with assaulting a young girl under very extraordinary circumstances. The girl, whose name is Mary Ann Richards, first became acquainted with the defendant in the year 1844, at which time he was living in the Borough, and she was then ten years of age. He adopted her as his own child, and she went to reside with him. He changed his residence a number of times, and from the time she first went to live with him, up to the period at which these proceedings were taken, a criminal intercourse had existed between them. On various occasions he had beaten her with great severity, once stripping off every article of dress, even her shoes and stockings, and flogging her with a whip; and another instance of cruelty brought against him was his having struck her across the hand with the flat part of a knife, the marks of which were still visible. On the 13th of November, because she did not remove some things properly, he took up a poker and beat her with it about the arms and back, holding her whilst he did so by the hair of her head, and threatened to "do for her" with a knife he afterwards took up. When examined at the station-house by the female searcher many bruises were found about her person. The count denied that he had ever had improper intercourse with the girl. He admitted that he had repeatedly had to chastise her for what he designated "crimes," but said he did so from motives of affection, having adopted her as his own child upon the solemn assertion of her mother that he was her father. Owing to some informality Werdinski was discharged. The girl left the court with the witnesses, one of whom, an elderly female, promised to take care of her for the present at least.

A Stockport paper tells a strange tale of a sale which is alleged to have recently taken place at the New Inn, Horwich End, in the county of Derby, between George C., agent to a gentleman in the neighbourhood, and Elisha G., cattle dealer, by the said G. offering to sell the other his wife for the sum of £5 ls., which was the more readily agreed to in consequence of the purchaser being a widower, and very desirous to obtain so fair a partner for so trifling a sum. After some consultation it was arranged between them that the purchaser should go to claim his purchase on the following Monday, which he did accordingly, and on entering the house he made known to Mrs. G. the purport of his visit. The unfortunate wife gave vent to a flood of tears at being thus shamefully disposed of.

A number of boats went out into Dundrum Bay to fish, as usual, early on Saturday morning, which was fine. In a very short time a violent storm arose, accompanied with a great swell in the sea; when the last boat, in approaching the shore, was upset, and six poor fellows were drowned.

The Derry Sentinel gives an account of a shocking case of abduction which has recently taken place in that county:-" Alexander Hutchinson, formerly a servant to Mr. Samuel Glen, late of Blakes, with an armed party, amounting to forty persons, forcibly entered the dwellinghouse of Mr. Leslie M'Lane, and succeeded in carrying off Miss Mary Glen, who had been on a visit at Mr. M'Lane's. The inmates of the house remonstrated in vain. The girl screamed for mercy, and besought them with tears to desist from their wicked purpose, but the only answer was a levelled pistol—submission or death. She was finally carried off, and a guard left on Mr. M'Lanc's house, to prevent an alerm being given. When day dawned Mr. M'Lane repaired to Sir H. H. Bruce, Bart., and deposed to the above facts. Captain Crofton, who was at Downhill on a visit, promptly sent for a police force, and scoured the country at their head, and succeeded in discovering Miss Glen in the house of a Sally Doherty, who keeps a public house in Magilligan, and restored her to the arms of her friends and liberty. He also arrested two of the party, but Hutchinson, the principal, is still at large. He extorted from her a promise of marriage, his object being to get possession of her property, amounting to £800. Miss Glen is a Protestant, of A little boy, two years old, drawn in a wicker basket are all Roman Catholics."

European Democracy, and its official acts.

This page is accorded to an authentic Exposition of the Opinions and Acts of the Democracy of Europe: as such we do not impose any restraint on the utterance of opinion, and therefore, limit our own responsibility to the authenticity of the statement.

THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

1. The Origin and Elements of the Party.

It is impossible to give even the most elementary view of the present state of parties in Germany without casting a glance over the history of that country since the war of deliverance of 1813 and 1815. German parties, German movements, and, above all, a National feeling, inspiring the whole people, date from that war, which united all Germans into one great National Party in energetic defence against the aggressive policy of Napoleon. The Government and the people worked in harmony together; the latter under the influence of promises of liberty held out and partially fulfilled in the day of danger, but subsequently unscrupulously betrayed.

The only German Government which introduced the ideas of the French revolution into the reformed state was Prussia. Already, in 1808, the great statesmen Stein, Schön, and Hardenberg, began to introduce Democratical institutions into the framework of the state. Municipal Government (Städte-Ordnung), free industry, or the abolition of internal monopolies and trading or manufacturing privileges (Gewerbe Freiheit), and universal military service date from this period. In 1811, Hardenberg assembled at Berlin a sort of representative popular body as the commencement of constitutional government.

During the war 1813, 1814, and 1815, and even for some few years after, in fact until the Ministerial conferences at Karlsbad in 1819, Germany enjoyed liberty of the press. In Prussia, upon the return of Napoleon from Elba, Frederic-William III., in order to rouse the people to one more great effort against him, issued, on the 22nd May, 1815, a "Cabinets-Ordre," holding out the distinct promise of constitutional government. For some time every Prussian looked forward with confidence to its fulfilment. But the struggle over, and Napoleon finally subdued, the liberal policy and the influence of Hardenberg and his associates rapidly lost ground; and from 1818 the reactionary party, under the leadership of the Prince heir, now King of Prussia, directed the course of government and legislation, seeking a return to old mediæval and feudal conditions in the government of both state and church.

A part of the people resented this policy. An agitation in the press and in the universities was instituted, in which the names of Joseph Goerres, E. M. Arndt, Ludwig Jahn, Heinrich Luden, Fries, and Welcker were prominent. In 1819, Kotzbue, a Russian spy, was stabbed at Mannheim, by Karl Sand, a German student; severe measures were instantly adopted, conspiracies of students and patriotic officers were discovered and severely punished, and the movement was for the time entirely crushed.

Nevertheless, the perfidious policy of the Governments resulted in the formation of the first general organized German opposition, and in the constitution of the "Party of the Black, Red, and Golden Flag," with the "Unity and Liberty of Germany" for its watchword. The party was inaugurated at the "Festival of Hambach," in 1831, which was a great open air meeting convoked from all parts of Germany, after the downfal of Poland, and held under the old ruined Castle of Hambach, a few miles from the left bank of the Rhine, in Rhenish Bavaria. It was attended by the leading Liberals of all the German states. Its object and its result were the formation of the German National Constitutional Party of which we have spoken. It was followed by an unsuccessful attempt at insurrection at Frankfort in 1832. Almost every member of the Opposition in each of the smaller constitutional states of Germany belonged to it. Its most eminent names are those of Gagern, Welcker, Todt, Soiron, Von Vincke, Count Schwerin, and Simson.

Against the spirit of popular liberty and of national unity and independence thus organized, the German princes united in the conspiracy of Vienna, under the presidency of Metternich (Geheime Wiener Conferenceschlüsse, vom August, 1834). The written

terms of their agreement bound them to support each other against the common enemy, the Constitutional party, by the suppression of all real popular rights afforded by the laws of the smaller constitutional states, Baden, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Nassau, Saxony, Brunswick, &c. The despots kept their secret until 1845, when Welcker, a member of the Badish Opposition, discovered a copy of the document in question among the papers of his deceased friend, Klueber, and published it at Strasburg.

Let our readers here pause to remark the analogy between the state of things which we have been describing and the events of the present day; the essential difference, they will remark, consisting in the fact that the Democratic is taking the place of the so-called Constitutional party. Confidence too often betrayed renders compromise impossible; thanks to the perfidy of all German Governments, in that country, as elsewhere through Europe, all parties are being merged into the two great hostile camps of Reaction and Democracy. Concealment is not likely, in these days, to be so long successful; we shall not, probably, have to wait for some future Welcker to reveal to us the secret stipulations of Olmütz and Dresden.

In the time of which we have been speaking compromise was still possible, or deemed so. The "Teutonic Constitutional" party, irritated and revolted by the perfidy of the German Governments, spoke, indeed, of Revolution in warning terms—Welcker in Baden, Todt in Saxony; but they still looked to the possibility of a compromise, which it was their policy to extort from the Governments by the fear of Revolution, and they acquired the title of the Party of the Bargain, or of Conciliation (Vereinbarungspartei).

Meanwhile the combined influence of German philosophy-Kant, Fichte, and the new Hegelians were Republicans-and of the ideas generated and diffused by the French Revolution had served to call into existence the elements of a new party. "Republican, Democratic, and Social Radicals" began to appear among the learned men, amongst the students, and among the working classes of the great towns of Germany. From Switzerland, from Paris, and from London travelling German workmen brought home ideas of political and social emancipation. working classes began to look forward to the complete emancipation of their class, the new political school of thinkers sought to hasten the triumph of Radical principles in the press, in the state, and in the religious communities.

In 1845-6 a Radical religious movement was aroused by an attempt in Prussia to prevent the free course of religious enquiry. The King censured ministers of religion for their Kantian philosophy and Rationalism, and German Rationalists began to organize themselves in defence and reply. Gustav Adolph Wislicenus instituted in Halle a religious society on the basis of rejecting all dogmas and all forms of worship (Freie Gemeinde), whose members became known as Humanitarians. And the adoration of the "holy coat" at Treves, in which the Protestant King of Prussia took part, was followed by the establishment, under Johannes Ronge, of the "German Catholic communities" (Deutsch Katholische Gemeinden), which originating, like the great reformation under Luther, rather as a schism within the Roman Catholic Church than as a heresy, ultimately abandoned it altogether, organizing themselves on a democratic basis, without the imposition or the necessary recognition of any peculiar religious creed.

The "German Catholies" succeeded in instituting, in 1846, several thousand of these communities in all parts of Germany. The "free communities" have made most progress since the revolution of 1848.

The two parties are equally democratic in their tendencies and in their constitution; they comprise a great part of the leading thinkers and writers of German democracy. There, as elsewhere in Europe, the religious and the political movement go hand in hand. Papacy and despotism ally themselves on the one hand, with the recruits which personal or class interests, or a want of faith in the law of progress of humanity bring to them; and, on the other, we have the masses of the peoples with their great and true instincts, turning ever to the light, the great majority of educated youth, the boldest thinkers, and all minds deeply imbued with that religious sentiment, what-

ever form it may take, which endows its possessors with a firm faith in the aspirations and progress of humanity, and with a spirit of devotion to the accomplishment of its destinies.

In Germany philosophical analysis and theory go hand in hand with the popular progress of ideas. Analogies and forms are suggested, and a phraseology arises, which are the peculiar growth of that country. Thus Radical Democracy and the Democratic Religious Idea have been comprehended in one word "Humanismus." The principal teachers of this new philosophy are Ludwig Feuerbach, known as the author of a work entitled Essence of Christianity (Wesen des Christenthums) whose philosophy, expressed in the phrase "theology is anthropology," consists in referring all religious dogmas to the mental or social conditions of the period which originated them; and Arnold Ruge, author of works entitled The Religion of our Time (Die Religion unsrer Zeit), Democracy and Socialism (Die Democratie und der Socialismus), and Philosophy and Revolution (Die Philosophie und die Revolution).

Having thus endeavoured to trace out, by a most hasty glance, the origin and elements of the Democratic party and school in Germany, we come naturally to the consideration of the revolution of 1848, and of the present state of things, which we shall take up on a future occasion.

THE POLISH REFUGEES.

[Two parties appearing among the Polish Refugees in this country, we have to request that any friends heretofore subscribing through the Leader will in future send their subscriptions direct to the addresses furnished. Last week we inserted an address from one committee: we now, as an act of impartiality, do the same by the other, that both cases may be before the public.]

APPEAL FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE POLISH REFUGEES AT TURNMILL-STREET.

41, Turnmill-street, Clerkenwell.

The position these refugees occupied with Kossuth, Bem, Dembinski, and other patriots, constitute a claim for help on behalf of the unfortunate comrades of these brave men. The committee beg to inform your readers that they have fifty-seven men entirely dependent on their exertions for support. The committee are perfectly aware of the responsibility they have undertaken, but they were elected into office by a public meeting at the Fraternal Home in November last, at the wish of the refugees, they voting on the occasion. They have at the present time four men on the sick list, one of whom has been ill for these three months past, living in a separate lodging, his case demanding such a course. The men will be extremely gratified if any of your readers can inform them of some employment, as they are anxious to be placed above the position of receiving support without labour. Any communication sent to J. Brown will be promptly attend to. They do again reiterate the statement that police were fetched to Cockspur-street, and can name the parties who sent for them from the old committee.

The committee invite all persons who can, to visit the Fraternal Home, and see the miserable position of the men, who are sleeping on straw beds with little covering, sometimes three in a bed, and every other possible misery that can be conceived, all sharing alike, from the general to the private, the threepence and fourpence per day—never more. The committee, in appealing for support, also beg to say they will be glad of some old clothes, shoes, and shirts, many of the men being compelled to keep in the house for want of covering, and they beg that the subscriptions be sent to J. Brown, Secretary, at the above place, where a list is kept open for the public and the refugees to examine. Any information required the secretary will gladly furnish.

In the bonds of true fraternity, we subscribe ourselves, yours, W. Lum, Chairman.

J. Brown, Secretary.

The Independence Belge states that the Democratic Republic is going on favourably. "Seventy or eighty representatives," it says, "have each contributed 80f. [the real amount is 100f. each]. The treasury of Universal Democracy possesses at present several hundred thousand france, but they are not deposited at the Bank of France, though close to it,"

Associative Progress.

THE PROMOTION OF CO-OPERATION.

Those who have made the experiment of collecting information of the progress of working class bodies know with what difficulty the proper information is extracted, not from unwillingness to tell it, but from hesitation. The unusualness of reporting produces disinclination to attempt it; and, again, there is the doubt so many persons feel as to whether what they know will be

interesting to others.

An instance may be given from the north. Most persons in the metropolis are under the impression that only a few cooperative associations exist in the country, that the metropolis affords a few recent instances, and that confidence in them is pretty much confined to London. If, however, the reader should happen to stay a short time in Rochdale, he would be surprised to find that whole groups of these experiments exist around that town. There are places where they have been in operation for some time—for years in some cases with great social and moral advantages, as well as established pecuniary success. Yet none of these associations think of reporting their existence. Each one thinks its efforts of no importance to the public at a distance, and thus the whole are silent, when the voices of the group would reëcho in neighbouring counties, and reverberate even in London. Even intelligent persons in the midst of them, fully acquainted with all the facts, cannot be induced to report them. The organization now perfecting at the Working Men's Association affords a legitimate centre where all such knowledge may be attracted. It would be a useful thing to collect authentic statistical facts of all existing coöperative associations in Great Britain. Perhaps no man could tabulate these more advantageously than M. Jules Le Chevalier. The wrapper of the Monthly Parts of the Christian Socialist would be a convenient and a profitable place to keep the record.

When, at length, you succeed in convincing those from whom you seek industrial information, they will relate it, not by giving a simple relation of simple facts, but with comments and, perhaps, encumbering theories. It implies a high degree of cultivation, or considerable reflective experience, to see the value of naked facts. In many cases you succeed in eliciting facts by desiring working men to tell you all they know—not interrupting them when they tell you also what they feel and think. You may then enumerate the parts which you wish reported, and ask that so much be written down as told, which will commonly be in striking, homely, and telling language. But it will be well not to trust to this being done; for few men-perhaps only practised writers-have the skill of talking with the pen. The safe course is to listen to the narrative you solicit, and make the report yourself. The writer of this lately tried the experiment of standing over a working friend of whom he sought information, directing him to write down from dictation what he himself had said. When his own words were repeated to him, his astonishment was so great, that he could not believe that he had talked an excellent newspaper report.

New facts are continually springing up, which ought to be collected into a central bureau, and thence radiate in a revised and authenticated form through the press. The Christian Socialists have the credit of attempting organized activity, when those from whom it was to be expected stand by, we suppose, to see that done which it became their duty and their honour to do. This new party, therefore, have the means of promoting coopera-tion in a way not yet attempted. They might appoint an intelligent officer, who should put himself in communication with all the cooperators of the country, and out of their letters and reports prepare useful, brief, wellexpressed paragraphs, and send them weekly to all editors of newspapers, who, could they come to trust the accuracy of the paragraphs, and find them written in a serviceable manner, would make it a point to insert them. Throughout the press there is a growing disposition to create departments of "Associative Progress." Several papers have produced this feature since its institution in this paper. Many others would do it, but they do not know where to look for information. Those departments are sure to arise widely in a few years, but they might be initiated now. The suggestion is offered to those who can best carry it out. Every town and village has its cooperative fact or facts now unnoted, and, of course, unreported. The progress is incalculable which might be made in a few years if well-devised and energetic endeavours were made to stimulate editorial attention in this direction. Columns now devoted to police reports of broken heads and wanton burglaries might be filled with instructive facts of social progress, which would soon lead to such a change in the condition of the people that strife and crime would fall so low as to be hardly worth reporting.

CHRISTIAN COOPERATION.—The Reverend T. G. Lee, of Manchester, delivered on Tuesday evening, in the Mechanics' Institution of that town, a lecture on this subject to a numerous audience, chiefly composed of working men. That there must be something wrong in our social system, he said, was obvious from the frequent misunderstandings which arose between persons and classes. The operatives of this country had never yet had due respect for themselves, nor had they received due consideration from others. They—the only indispensable class-had often viewed with envy the fortunes they had reared for others, while they had neglected to creet fortunes for themselves. There was nothing in the creet fortunes for themselves. There was nothing in the nature of things to make it necessary that one man should, by the toil of others equally worthy with himself, amass a princely fortune; while the producers of that fortune were left in the most abject poverty. Were the men who had thus contrived to climb to affluence to blame more than others? By no means

The operatives had worked; their labour had been productive; and, inasmuch as they had no notion of turning their own industry to good account, others, more wise, at once came forward to husband it for themselves. But human labour was the great seed of wealth; and though the working men had lost many splendid harvests they had still the seed in their own hands, and if they began to cultivate their own fields of action, and only use the same diligence in their own service as they had been obliged to use in that of others, none of them need be poor two years longer. The cardinal difficulty which they had to overcome was the want of confidence in each other;—overcome this, and the work was half done. The divided state of the working classes had been the strength of their opponents' cause. If the operatives had, during the last twenty years, been looking to some common good, the millions of money spent in drink and other useless indulgences would have been far otherwise devoted. At the lowest computation the operatives of Manchester and Salford had expended on things worse than useless, during the period under notice, £15,000,000 sterling. And what had they to show in return for this appalling outlay? - miserable hovels, ragged and uneducated children, half-famished and broken-hearted wives, magnificent gaols, an imposing magistracy, a burdensome police, despotic poor-law guardians, and an oppressed people. These things were the manufacture of the working men themselves. But if the operatives of Manchester were to begin, under a solemn determination, to improve their own condition nothing could defeat them. There were at least 41,000 persons in connection with manufacturing industry within the municipal limits of Manchester; supposing each of these were to pay one penny per week towards forming a capital for commencing a cooperative mill, there would, in one year, be accumulated a sum of £8880. But he (the lecturer) thought there might be found in Manchester and Salford ten thousand persons who could each command two pounds within one month, and thus raise a capital of £20,000, with which to take or buy a mill, and thus compete with others who were enriching themselves while the operatives were kept poor. But the working men must keep their eye also upon the land. If a fund was established for the purchasing of land, employment for those whose age or state of health might be such as to render labour in the mills inexpedient, might be at once afforded. Some of the advantages which would attend a rightly-directed movement of associative labour were summed up by the lecturer as consisting in the reduction of the amount of poverty in the land-in consequence of the more equal distribution of wealth; the promotion of education—from the non-requirement of the labour of young children; the placing of women in their proper sphere—the domestic; the promotion of national peace and honesty; and the opportunities afforded for the growth of intelligence and religion.

THE SILK TRADE BOARD AT MACCLESFIELD. -During the last twelve months the weavers and manufacturers of Macclesfield have been trying an important experiment—that of endeavouring to reconcile the interests of both, and to regulate the price of labour without having recourse to strikes. The experiment originated at the time of a general "turnout," about a year ago. At this time a suggestion was made to the effect that, if any committee could be formed of an equal number of masters and men, to whom all disputes relating to prices should be referred, the evils of protracted disputes would be obviated. The suggestion was at once adopted. The masters met, and appointed twelve of their number to represent them at the "Silk Trade Board," as it was called, and the men did likewise. The board met, and drew up a list of prices, to which the whole of the masters consented; and since that time the board have held monthly meetings for the purpose of fixing the wages to be paid for new fabrics, and to transact other business. While trade remained tolerably brisk everything went on harmoniously enough; but during the last few weeks an almost unprecedented slackness of trade has put the experiment to a most severe test. The weavers cry out against the masters for sending work into the country while town weavers are walking about in idleness. The masters, on the other hand, say they are perfectly justified in sending their work where they can get it done cheapest. While trade was brisk no complaint was heard of work being sent away from the town, because all were fully employed; and, as the list of prices adhered to by the board is made imperative on the masters for all work done in the town, the town weavers are not permitted to compete for labour with their country fellow-operatives. Hence the fluctuations in trade are scarcely felt by the country weavers; the whole evil of want of employment falling on those who live in the town. One of the results of this state of things is that numbers of weavers are leaving the town for the country, in order to obtain the means of living, which is now denied them. It is evident from these facts that the board must find out some other method of attaining its object. Some of the manufacturers are beginning to cry out against all interference with wages on the part of the board, and the weavers, many of them, ask for a power to regulate the prices paid in the country as well as in the town, which would require a legislative enactment applicable to all trades, and to the whole country—an enactment authorizing the establishment of district trade boards for regulating wages.—II.

THE REDEMPTION SOCIETY.—It is very desirable that all the Communal Building funds be in before Christmas, and we hope all our friends will endeavour to raise the sum. Moneys received for the week ending Dec. 16th,

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Just emerging from a very severe and tedious illness, the Editor finds that the incidents of a slow convalescence render the work of his own pen uncertain; for this reason the Social Reform letter, in continuation of the Poor Law subject, is necessarily postponed till next week. Many correspondents whose letters, addressed personally, may have escaped an answer, perhaps even been wholly set aside, will accept the excuse afforded by intense pain and long prostration.

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

Communications should always be legibly written, and on one side of the paper only. If long, it encreases the difficulty of finding space for them.

[The following appeared in our Second Edition of last week.

POSTSCRIPT.

SATURDAY, Dec. 14.

The case of Mr. George Sloane, charged with cruelty to his servant girl, was again brought forward at Guildhall yesterday, and the examination of witnesses continued. Dr. Heale, physician to the Royal Free Hospital, Gray's-inn-road, who had attended the girl, Jane Wilbred, said he could find no symptoms of any disease to account for her attenuated condition. He believed that it was wholly owing to protracted deprivation of food. He had had her weighed on Thursday, and he found that she did not weigh more than fifty-nine and a half pounds, whereas a person of her height, in good health, ought to weigh from 110 to 120lb. One witness, a laundress, said she had seen Mrs. Sloane beat the girl in the most cruel manner, and then drag her out of the room by the hair of the head. Mr. Pontifex, clerk to the West London, having made some remark to the magistrate,—

Alderman Humphery, addressing Mr. Pontifex, said he thought it was very extraordinary that the union of which he was clerk did not take up the prosecution for the poor girl, who was a daughter of the parish.

Mr. Pontifex said that the guardians were willing to prosecute, but were deterred by the expense that would be involved, as the disbursements would not be allowed from the common funds without an order from the Poor-Law Commissioners.

The chief clerk informed the court that a similar difficulty nearly caused the abandonment of the charge against Mr. Kenealy, the Commissioners having declined to allow the expenses.

Mr. Pontifex said he would be prepared to conduct the prosecution in its future stages.

Mr. Parker, master of the West London Union, remembered Mrs. Sloane coming to the establishment for a servant, and his calling in some of the bigger girls into the parlour for her to choose from:-

"She selected Jane Wilbred, she said, because she was the healthiest-looking of the whole lot, and that, also, she would prefer her to any of the rest, as she had no friends to come to bother her. Mrs. Sloane said she would rather the girl had no friends, as she wished to bring her up to her own ways. Mrs. Sloane asked me what our terms were, and I told her one shilling per week to begin with. She said, 'Very well, she would like to have the girl as early as possible, in a week's time.' I sent to the relieving officer and obtained from him money, and I purchased for her two suits of everything in the way of wearing apparel with but one excep-tion. She had only one pair of stays. On Thursday, the 19th of July, 1849, I took the girl to Mrs. Sloane's. Before I left the house I made the girl Jane Wilbred promise to write to me, and let me know how she got on in her new place. Mrs. Sloane said she would see that the girl did not neglect it, and, further, she promised that the girl should have a holiday at the end of the first month, to come and see me. She did not come, neither did she write to me. She was an industrious girl, and in excellent healthvery cleanly in all her domestic habits, and also in her person. She was not all inclined to be lazy, but rose every morning at six o'clock. I never experienced any difficulty in getting her up to her work. She used to serve me as parlour-maid, and nurse to the children. I did not see her again until last Thursday week, when I read the application made by Dr. Marsden and Mr. Phillimore, in the morning papers, and, recollecting the name of Jane Wilbred, I at once proceeded to the hospital and saw her. I did not know her at first, she was so reduced. (Sensation.) She burst out crying directly she saw me, and could not be pacified until the nurse threatened to send me away again if she did not keep quiet. She held up her poor bony arms, and begged and implored of me to take her home again."

The unfortunate girl was again brought into court, when the evidence she gave on the former day was read over to her, and she confirmed what she then said in every particular. She is described as not looking any better than when she formerly appeared in court. Her colour is "not in the least degree changed from the sickly hue of a person lingering in the last stage of existence." It was stated by Mr. Alderman Humphery that a warrant will be issued against Mrs. Sloane, to be put in force as soon as she is fit to leave her bed. Mr. Clarkson, on behalf of Mr. Sloane, said he refrained from cross-examining

the unfortunate girl at present, on account of the weak state she was in. He would reserve what he had to say for a higher and more important tribunal. Mr. Alderman Humphery stated that as soon as all the necessary evidence had been adduced he would commit the defendants to the Old Bailey.

A meeting to protest against the Papal aggression was held yesterday, at Birkenhead, in the market square, adjoining the Town-hall. The magistrates had made suitable arrangements to repress any attempt at riot or disturbance. Special constables selected out of the ratepayers to the number of one thousand were sworn in for the occasion; they were divided into eight sections, each section being under the command of a captain, and all under the superintendence of W. Pike, Esq., barrister-at-law. A spacious platform was erected in the rear of the Town-hall, in front of which the special constables who composed the majority of the ratepayers were stationed; the Birkenhead police, onder the command of Mr. Superintendent Horg, and the constables of the Hundred of Wurral, under Mr. Palmer, high constable. In addition to this force, about three hundred of the Liverpool police were also present. All passed off quietly; indeed, the Roman Catholics had been cautioned by the priest not to attend the meeting, and placards to that effect were posted both in Liverpool and Birkenhead. When the meeting opened there were about three thousand persons present, but the number gradually encreased till the termination, when there were about seven thousand persons present. An address to the Queen was carried expressing the utmost indignation at the violent attempt of the Pope to invade the royal prerogative.

Dr. Hugh M'Neile, canon of Chester, and incumbent of St. Paul's, Liverpool, in a sermon last Sunday, referred to the confessional as an organ used for man's judgment for his fellow man. He described in glowing terms the evils of the confessional, and wound up by demanding, in the name of justice and religion, the punishment of all priests who wielded so powerful an organ of spiritual tyranny. There might be many modes of punishment suggested, but the only one effectual for the purpose was death. In the evening, the reverend gentleman having been tasked for the utterance of such a sentiment, ascended the reading-desk and said:-

" My Christian Friends,—I generally address you from another place, but must make an exception on this occasion. I desire to withdraw the atrocious sentiment which I uttered in the morning. I have withdrawn it before God, and now withdraw it before man. Those who heard me in the moining will understand my meaning: those who were not here will please not to trouble themselves about it."

A rumour has for some time past prevailed--which we have, however refrained from noticing till now-that Edmond Rodney Pollexfen Bastard, Esq., of Kitley, has gone over to Rome. We believe now that the report is unquestionably true. This is one of the most recent instances of the progress of development which the Puseyites can show. Mr. Bastard has for some time past been devoted to his religious duties. He was at the head of our Church union, and rumour assigned to him the chief proprietorship in a local newspaper, and which was understood to have been purchased to advance the cause of Tractarianism. Mr. Bastard lately broke up his establishment at Kitley, discharged all his servants, and left his home for foreign parts. Since he left his home, we hear from other authority, that he has written a letter to the Reverend Prebendary Oxenham, announcing that he has joined the Church of Rome-or as the Romanists say, "became reconciled to the Church." Mr. Bastard intends, we hear, to winter in Madeira-but his destination is to Rome, and it is said that he will be absent for three years.—Plymouth Journal.

The following is the text of the royal edict for the reduction of the Prussian army:

"Whereas, by conventions entered into with the imperial Austrian Government the reasons no longer exist which on the 6th of November occasioned the order for calling out my whole army, I authorize the state administration to discontinue the carrying out of the measures for a war establishment, and gradually to reduce the army to its former strength."

The Deutsche Reichs Zeitung makes the following important announcement :--

"In to-day's State Gazette an order has appeared for the gradual reduction of the army. A similar order with reference to the reduction of the Austrian army will appear officially in the Vienna Zeitung of the same date. The practical execution of this order with respect to Prussia will be confined to the second conscription."

When the Picdmontese Government wished to have its treaty of peace with Austria sanctioned by the Chambers, one of the present Ministers declared that it contained no secret clauses. From a letter in the Daily News, written by an eyewitness, it appears that this was a deliberate lie. There is a secret clause, by which the Piedmontese authorities are bound to deliver up political delinquents, Hungarian refugees, &c., to Austria.

The trial of the parties belonging to the secret Republican Society, called the Nemesis, with the view of connecting all France in societies for a Red Republican revolution was brought to a close on Thursday. Twonamely, De Valory and Henney-are condemned to two years' imprisonment, 500f. fine, and interdiction of civil rights for five years; Corbet to fifteen months' imprisonment, 100 francs fine, and five years' interdiction of civil rights; Gouffe, Beretta, Broquet, Beraud, Sellenet, Jayet, and Valtier to six months' imprisonment, 100f. fine, and two years' interdiction; Gosset and Chancel, on account of extenuating circumstances, to six months' imprisonment. The prisoners left the court shouting "Vive la Republique."



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1850.

Public Affairs.

There is nothing so revolutionary, because there is nothing so unnatural and convulsive, as the strain to keep things fixed when all the world is by the very law of its creation in eternal progress.—Dr. Arnold.

TRUTH OF THE ANTI-POPISH TURMOIL. DEATH to the Romish priest that uses the practices of his Church! So cries the Protestant priest protesting against "religious tyranny"! That the Reverend Hugh M'Neile afterwards withdrew the sanguinary sentiment in terms most emphatic is creditable to his heart and intellect, and his letter to the Times considerably modifies the effect of the first announcement, but that he uttered it at all shows the extremity to which the rampant bigotry of the day is driving men of good understanding and heart. It is but the naked expression of the bitter enmity everywhere heaving the surface. When a land is thus shaken, something must totter, something must be sacrificed; but we do not think it is religion or freedom of opinion which is in danger.

People dread the revival of Popish tyranny-"bonfires in Smithfield"—if the "aggression" be not denounced; others dread lest the sectarian spirit should once more issue forth from its temple of Exeter-hall, its hands no longer tied behind its back, its hunger sharpened with the spiritual taste of blood upon its lips, and stalk across the land. We fear neither tyranny nor bigotry. There are now too many witnesses against both. This contest between the two Apostolical Churches has not before been waged in sight of a public with its eyes so widely opened; and when once the furor has abated, the public cannot fail to see the fact that the spirit of sanguinary persecution is found as much in the zealots of one Church as of the other. Nay, if you talk of "dishonesty," it is not a reproach for Protestantism to make against the

There never was a more dishonest agitation than this which our Prime Minister has stimulated, if not awakened. But the agitation cannot enter Parliament to demand its "measures" without calling forth witnesses to its bad faith. If none other speak, surely the brave-spirited Lyndhurst will make himself be led into the scene of his past achievements, and will testify to the fact in the name of all that survives amongst us of high and chivalrous; the Bishop of Norwich will be there to David's will corroborate his brother prelate. In his most upright and wise reply to his clergy, Dr. Hinds has shown that, in conceding freedom of the Roman Catholic religion, the Legislature of the country conceded the organization essentially necessary to the Roman religion. But Lord Lyndhurst will remember that, in the debate on the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1847, he proposed the repeal of a statute of Elizabeth's reign for the express purpose of facilitating the appointment of Bishops by the Pope. After explaining the effect of the new act in repealing a number of old penalties against the Roman Catholics which encumbered the statute-book, he went on thus:-

" He should refer to another act, respecting the repeal of which but little doubt could be entertained-he meant the 13th of Elizabeth, respecting the importing of bulls and rescripts from the sec of Rome. If any person should import any bull, document, or writing, of any description, or for any purpose, from the Pope of Rome, he would be, by this act of Parliament, guilty of the offence of high treason, and liable to be executed, with all the consequences thereupon ensuing. Every one knew the circumstances which caused the passing of this act. Pope Pius V. excommunicated Elizabeth, and released her subjects from their allegiance. The bull was fixed on the gates of the palace of Bishop of London by a person named Felton, and also posted in public places in France; a circumstance which excited the indignation of the monarch of that country. No such pranks could possibly be played in the present day. He (the Lord Chancellor) proposed the repeal of this statute of Elizabeth, and for the reason he should state, which he trusted was not an idle one. At all events, it is one which operated powerfully in his mind. Roman Catholic bishops and priests were allowed by the law of the land to practise all their observances; but they could not carry on

Church Establishment, nor conduct its discipline without having communication with the Pope of Rome. No bishop could be created except by a bull from the Pope of Rome; no pastor could be appointed except by the same authority. Many of the subordinate duties and services of the Church of Rome required his sanction. The moment, therefore, you allowed the practice of the Roman Catholic religion in this country, you impliedly allowed this communication with the Pope of Rome, while by allowing this act to remain on the Statute-book, you adopted the previous statement, that any person doing what the law permits—what the law, in fact, enjoins, was to be considered guilty of high treason. He (the Lord Chancellor) said what the law enjoined, for if Roman Catholics were allowed to practise and maintain the duties and discipline of their Church, as the law properly allowed them, still they could not do so without having communication with the Pope. These were the the grounds on which he (the Lord Chancellor) proposed a repeal of this statute. And he did so the more decidedly and distinctly for another reason namely, that no such statute existed in Scotland, nor had any such law been passed by the Parliament of Ireland, although three-fourths of the population of that country consisted of Roman Catholics, while the Roman Catholic population of this country consisted only of some hundred thousand. On these grounds he proposed the repeal of those enactments. He was aware that several of his friends, on having their attention drawn to the subject, were at first somewhat staggered with the proposal; but the more they considered and examined it, the more they were satisfied of its expediency and absolute necessity. If, however, it was considered that such limits as would allow Roman Catholics to do what the law permitted them to, the measure might be so modified in committee."

Nothing can be more explicit: the Lord Chancellor positively anticipates the transmission of a bull from the Pope to appoint Bishops in this country; he calls for the repeal of the old statute, the 13th of Elizabeth, which prohibited the admission of such a bull; and he called for the repeal because that prohibition was inconsistent with the "injunction" of the Relief Act, and in order to bring about the very measure that has provoked this ferment. That is to say, Ministers, Peers, Members, and electors are wild with indignation because the Pope has done that which Parliament passed an act to enable him to do. In the eyes of other countries this conduct is not less than national dishonesty.

Especially may it be asked whether Lord John Russell opposed that part of the Relief Act which repealed the statute of Elizabeth?

A burst of reckless, dishonest bigotry has stained the land, and something, we say, it will shake. What?

It has widely and effectively unsettled opinion stirred up the very depths of thought-made Dissenter consort with Churchman—displayed Protestantism hungering for the crime of persecution which is charged upon the Catholic-betrayed an Establishment divided against itself, and governed by one who cannot command. See the open differences of opinion among the very Bishops who did not withhold their signatures from the anti-Papal address to the Queen—Carlisle hinting a rebuke to the same national blunder which Norwich coolly exposes; London trimming betwixt testify to reason and justice; the Bishop of St. | Tractarian and Iconoclast; while St. David's testifies to the fact which Lyndhurst anticipated; and Exeter keenly exposes the illogical wanderings of the episcopal address—vainly pruned and modified by its authors to entice the valued but unpurchaseable signatures of High Church Philpotts and accom-plished Thirlwall. Is there unity in the Establishment? Is the Rubric which shielded Bennett until he voluntarily resigned—is that to be revised? The Primate declares it impossible, because of the excitement. Bennett has been driven forth—will others follow him, and how many? Will Gorham and his supporters go out after Baptist Noel? Will the orthodox tolerate the Platonizing clergy, who have all but established a sort of esoteric doctrine differing from the vulgar worship? Or will the church strive to continue for another term a mass of really heterogeneous sects, banded together by the reciprocal desire not to provoke disruption, because that would be dispossession—and the Established Church is rich. If either one of the four sects which hide their faces under one hood be right, all the other three must be wrong: spurious members of the Apostolical succession; but each one of the four dreads to provoke the united forces of the three; and all tacitly conspire to tolerate each other, that they may share the substance—sitting down in one fold that they may feed upon the fatness thereof. And this is the Establishment which, for once forgetting itself and its quietest policy, consents to take the lead in a great national ferment about an ecclesiastical delusion.

When the hot dream is over, and men look at the duties of their office—they could not carry on their each other, what will be in their thoughts? Wil

they not contrast these endless squabbles between the innumerable sects—each the "only genuine," each to itself the only infallible—with the peace that should reign in the truly Catholic Churchuniversal and eternal?

"THE GREAT DAY" IN SMITHFIELD.

THE "great day" at Smithfield was a dull day, and the Times, fighting for the outposts of Free Trade, ascribes it to the fact that there were so many beasts; the warm weather, which makes meat difficult to keep; and the fat, which people will not eat. "Some of the fault must rest in the graziers themselves," who bring in so many beasts as to beat down prices.

How is it, we may ask, that all this is not regulated by "the higgling of the market"? How is it that graziers, regardless of squeamish stomachs, have so long persisted in feeding for fat; until science, not commerce, has detected the beauties of "symmetry"? How is it that they have overstocked the market? Because there is no "concert" to regulate graziers and breeders. The higgling of the market affords no guide till the mischief be done: the higgling of this great market-day, indeed, will teach a bitter lesson to many who have gone back with beasts instead of gold to pay their rent; and they may con the lesson for a year; but it taught them not before; and they will mistake again. It will enlighten their minds, however, next rent day, upon the reduction humbug. They have need of reductions, working as they do; but ten or twenty per cent. is not enough; and they know it. For a very strong feeling of discontent is spreading among them—kept under by a very remarkable fear.

Take a broader view of this non-consumption of meat on the great day—the market-day for the most meat consuming of our national holidays. Protestantism is uncommonly warm, just now, and surely that ought to have encouraged a jolly consumption of beef. And are there not thousands, even of those whose thoughts wander towards beef rather than doctrines, who would relish joints less dainty than the sirloin? Thousands!—they are millions. Millions are in want of meat. Are there, then, no agriculturists to supply it? Why, we see here meat redundant, and know that there are hundreds of thousands of labourers slackly employed. Is there not land enough? Why, we know that much land is but half occupied, and much of it starved for want of labour. We are a great nation,—but we have land, labour, capital, and consumption in posse; yet we cannot bring them all together! There are the elements of "supply," and the elements of #demand," and yet we cannot wed them! We go on trusting to the "higgling of the market," which cannot even check the nauseous overgrowth of fat; but we do it "on principle," for the sake of consistency in political economy.

Our consistency sent home many a farmer with more discontent than cash. And they are beginning to talk—in an undertone, for fear of their bugaboo. Take the first you meet—not a Buckinghamshire man, for he is so close to the headquarters of "Protection" that he is naturally poor and angry. Say it is a Shropshire man. Your Shropshire man is not speculative, and considers his own farming rather "high;" he has no jealousy against landlordism in the abstract, and yet Shropshire begins to talk uncommonly like John Bright on some points. Shropshire admits that there are farmers who are in fault—that some have too little capital; though he, Shropshire, is quite able to manage all the land he has. He perceives that to have too little capital for your land, and too much land for your capital, are convertible terms. But, as he said to us this very week, "When gentlemen talk about capital I can't understand what they mean by telling a farmer to lay out £200 in draining: is not that taking away his capital?" No, we answered; the gentlemen will tell you that it is a very proper way to invest your money. "What, when I can be turned out of my land for offending a gamekeeper, or the agent—and, let me tell you, it is a much worse thing to offend the agent than the gentleman. Besides, why should I spend my money in something to leave to the gentleman and his heirs for ever? No; if he will spend his money in improvements, I will pay him a per contage for it, and gladly, and that is justice; and if he will encrease my agricultural capabilities [resources or appliances?], I will pay him a per centage for that. But let me use my money in

We are reporting an actual conversation, not inventing a tale "founded on fact."

Shropshire perceives that the tenant farmers might obtain better terms if they were to act together. "But our members don't represent us or act for us. Our member is related to the Earl of Powis, and has great influence in the county. Besides, it is not easy to find a gentleman who will be so unpolite as to oppose him. And you know, sir,"—with a something between a wink and a blush—"when a man is a little in arrears with his rent, it is not likely he will vote so as to displease his landlord." But Shropshire perceives that it might not be a bad plan, in such cases, to select some borough member already in Parliament, and, repudiating the putative member, invite the other to act for the yeomanry of the county—supplying him with information. "If a few counties did that, really it might have a moral effect." Then what right-

Here the farmer becomes rather obscure, talking round about, feeling his way, and trying to say his say, by answering the questions he awaits rather than by spontaneous declaration.

What right has the landlord to his land if he will not cultivate it, or let it be cultivated to its fullest

As we proceed in this branch of the question, Shropshire grows grave, reserved, hesitating,—he is entering the domains of his bugaboo; but, suddenly, he bursts again into his native ingenuousness. "If you raise that question would it not be dangerous?—The Labourers?—Are not they only too ready to rise upon that hint and make a disturbance?"

Perhaps they are? But what are you afraid of? Do justice to your labourers. If you tenantfarmers had better tenure, would not you be able to employ more labour, and better employ it? Could not you make the labourers happier? Is not their interest yours? Will you not be stronger with the labourers at your back? If the tenantfarmers of the country were acting together, and with the labourers, could you not obtain better terms? Faint heart never won. "Be just, and fear not."

"A good motto,—a good motto! But, still, a disturbance!"

Can things go on as they are? Shropshire falls into a brown study.

And well he may. He has begun to think—he has long ago begun to feel. He is thinking of that land question as a screw-and it will be a screw. He does not yet see his way; he still feels Conservative; but when a man sees his money going, his neighbours sinking, his prospects darkening, the fear of his bugaboo gives way to a more instant fear; and then the Farmer will begin to talk with the Labourer about the Land.

A GLANCE AT BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC.

THE great word in German politics now, it seems, is Dualismus, Dualism. This is the solution of the German question; this is the grand result of all that gathering of armies and making of enthusiastic speeches that was to throw Europe into convulsions. The adage has been verified—Parturiunt montes, nascetur ridiculus (Dualis)mus. "It is all settled now," say the Prussian diplomatists, rubbing their hands; "we are to have a Dualismus. By the Olmütz treaty, the two minor questions those of Hesse and Holstein-have been roughly tinkered up; and, in the all-important question of the future organization of Germany, Frederick-William has consented to accept a Dualismus. The future system of Germany is to be that of a double constellation; Prussia in the north, and Austria in the south, are to act as coequals in the supremacy; and the other states, even if some of the smaller of them shall not be mediatized, are to be compelled, by the necessities of the case, to range themselves, according to their geographical position, their traditions, or their interests, on the one side or on the other of this balanced antagonism of forces. The details of this scheme of a Dualismus are to be elaborated in the Dresden Conferences, which are to be opened in a few days; but, as Austria and Prussia have laid their heads together, there is little doubt that the essential notion of the thing will be fully carried out." Such are the sayings and expectations of the German diplomatists, who pin their faith to the arrangements of the Olmutz meeting. Meanwhile there are hostile growls from two quarters. The German Democrats and Refarming, or don't tell me that I have too little formers, especially those of Prussia, declare that the whole thing is but a device of coalition in the

cause of old Absolutism; that the Hesse and Holstein businesses have been vilely botched; that the aspirations of Prussia, and even the King of Prussia's blustering claim for a more influential position in Germany, have been given up to a petty sense of expediency; and that the hope of a suitable organization of the great Germanic section of the European Continent is now farther off than ever. The Governments of the minor German states, on the other hand, and especially those of Wurtemberg and Bavaria, see in the proposed Dualismus an extinction of their own faculties of independent

A wretched settlement of the German controversy this Dualismus certainly is. A true organization of Germany, and such an organization as Democracy, with all its blundering as to the means, would really wish to propose, would be an organization prepared according to a full view of the entire condition of the various German Peoples. in their relations to each other, and in their relation collectively to the rest of the world. Such an organization, were the preliminary enquiry into facts and tendencies dared to its utmost, would probably be a Federal German Republic. In lieu of which, a set of monarchical diplomatists set up this paltry Dualismus, this metaphysical cat's-cradle, this balance of the reluctant semi-liberalism of the Prussian King and his Government against the more confirmed immobility of Austrian statesmen. Besides, the word Dualismus is itself a lie. There is no real Dualism in the case. Russia is at the back of the whole movement; and though two powers are apparent in the foreground, the issue will show a tremendous unity of regulation and design. Such is the state of affairs at present; but assuredly, if there is such a thing as a foreseen direction of human tendencies at all, the Democracy of Germany will rise one day; brush away this cobweb of a Dualismus with all Dualismus-making Czars, Kaisers, Cæsars, and other rubbish at the same time; and arrive at something nearer the proper form of solution in the shape of a Federal German Republic.

How different the state of affairs on the other side of the Atlantic, as revealed in President Fillmore's message! The contrast between the two hemispheres as far as political activity is concerned, is the same as that between Herries of Birrenswork and Joshua Geddes the Quaker, in Scott's novel of Redgauntlet. We, on this side of the Atlantic, are doing the despotic, the metaphysical, and the chivalrous—Russia, with its one man lording it like a god over millions, and constituting himself the champion of absolute government and the destroyer of Representation wherever he can thrust in a diplomat or an army; Germany, with its Olmütz Treaties and its Dualismuses; France, with its Bonapartisms, its Orleanisms, and its Legitimacies; and England, with its resistances to the aggression of a man with three hats on, living at Rome. On the other side of the Atlantic, again, all is positive, real, plain, and popular. A man of middle age, formerly a draper's assistant, and now President of a vast empire—raised to that office, too, not by revolution or daring adventure on his own part, but by a recognized and legitimate process, which will throw up many more draper's assistants to the same height without exciting any remark or marvel—delivers a message to Congress, in which he goes over the chief topics under discussion throughout the field of his Presidency. The style is hald, simple, and commercial; the man speaks as the chief magistrate of a country all the citizens of which are his equals; there is a deference throughout to the popular constituency he addresses, showing itself not only in the absence of all such egotisms as filled the King of Prussia's speech, but in a general tone which seems to say "I, once a draper's assistant, now serving the state in another capacity, give you these as my private opinions on a few topics; it is for you, gentlemen, to decide as you please." And, then, the topics themselves—not diplomatic squabbles and Dualismuses, but railways, possible canals between the Atlantic and the Pacific, the state of agriculture, the tariff, and such like! Here is a People with a business-like politics. The things that their Government is occupied about are the actual and stirring interests in the life of the People governed. True, America, too, has its abstract discussions and generalities—its questions of annexation, and its agitations about slavery and a Dissolution of the Union. But these generalities are real too; they are not metaphysical cats'-cradles done by diplomatists for their own amusement; they are the forthcomings of genuine passions and sentiments

existing throughout the community; they represent and are based on social facts and necessities.

They say America is an unheroic country; and, with another context, we might say so too. But, certainly, in the business of social management, we of this hemisphere might well agree to exchange some of our heroism for some of their sense. Shall we ever, on this hemisphere, work out our own deliverance from Czarisms, Dualisms, and Balances of Powers? Or is the Atlantic to sever systems, as it severs Continents? Is the end of all our Democratic agitations on this side of the Atlantic to be that our whole hemisphere, England and France included, shall become ere long definitively Cossack; and that all in human nature that is Republican shall have to seek a refuge in the hemisphere of the Yankees? Even in that case, we should have one ground of hope—that fact of the uniform progress of civilization westward round the globe, of which historical philosophers tell us. Republican America, itself recently the most advanced form of human society, has now extended itself to the Pacific; from California and Oregon the way is open across the Pacific to China. What, then, if Yankee enterprise should one day dash in amongst the Celestials, and working its way through immemorially despotic Asia, come to the deliverance of us poor denizens of Western Europe, by attacking Czarism in its prodigious rearward? And so round and round the globe for ever—the progress of the species, like the symbol of Eternity, being but a serpent with its tail in its mouth! To such vain jesting does the aspect of political solutions like this German Dualismus at this moment incline us.

THE GRIZZLY BEARS.

OUR admirable friends, the Grizzly Bears, have been operated on for cataract with perfect success, and can now look out upon the world and make philosophic observations while licking their paws. They have been the victims of benevolent Science; unwilling victims, who would have growled, struggled, and bitten their benefactors at the first approach of the needle, no arguments being plausible enough to make them submit. Fully aware of this ursine insensibility to argument the benefactors used chloroform. Grizzly roared and struggled, and would not accept that sedative to his nerves; but six stout men hauled him to the bars of his cage, and there the beneficent sponge was applied; he lay moveless, senseless; the needle was dexterously thrust into his eye; and the next day he issues from his den with his eyes wide open, and licks his paws with evident relish.

Are there not uncaged animals equally in want of chloroform and the needle? There is a Grizzly Bear, whose home is on the Seven Hills, and whose feeble roars are heard at the Flaminian Gate; he, poor fellow, is troubled with a very serious cataract, which not only keeps him from seeing, but makes darkness so visible that he mistakes it for the light, the whole light, and nothing but the light. If one could but chloroform him!

There is another Grizzly Bear whose home is in our City of the Fogs, also troubled with cataract in one eye; the other eye is open and sees dimly, which makes this philosopher growl contemptuously at the Bear with both eyes blocked up, and still more savagely at the Bears with both eyes open to the light. He maintains that "Unity" is the great thing, and that to see with one eye, only one side of the world is the true and fitting vision for Bears who wish to be saved. He insists upon light; insists upon all Bears using their one eye; but too much light is blinding, and two eyes are misleading. If one could but chloroform him!

There are other Bears also in our City of the Fogs. Bears not born with cataracts, but troubled with imperfect vision owing to the abundant use of my Grandmother's Ointment, recommended by the Faculty for the preservation of the eyes; to them all colour is hurtful except grey; but they are thrown into fits by red. The grey tone of antiquity and twilight is so pleasing to their sore eyes that they are excessively irritated by the presence of every other. Our fathers, and our forefathers, they sagaciously remark, must have known what was the right colour, or they never would have flourished as they did. Let us, therefore, stand by the experience of our ancestors; and, oh! don't mention chloroform!

It is perfectly clear to all who have the use of both eyes in a healthy condition that these Bears would profit as much by the beneficence of Science as our interesting growlers in the Zoologicalgardens; but it is quite clear that they, too, would resist quite as fiercely any attempt of the kind. | interpreting the Bible, find that it means so and so, |

How they do struggle, and roar, and bite if you but mention it to them! What! modern science, the Destroyer of Antiquity—the Infidel—the Radical—Science which has no tithes, no lawn sleeves, no shovel hats, and yet pretends to contravene what has been believed (more or less) for nineteen centuries—shall that godless upstart be allowed to thrust its needle into our eyes? Not if we can help it. "Come, if you dare!"

Without six men to haul the roaring struggler to the bars, how is the sponge to be dashed on to his nose? Chloroform him we must, that's quite clear; for he prefers his cataract to sight; and will not suffer our approach so long as he has teeth.

And yet, Brothers, be of good cheer, the time must come! Science which has conquered Nature and subdued the Brute, making him submit to its beneficence, will surely contrive the means for conquering Man also, and will remove the cataracts from his poor eyes as it has removed them from the eyes of the Grizzly Bears.



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

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

RELIGION VERSUS SECTARIANISM.

Dec. 10, 1850.

SIR,—There is a terrible commotion just now about "Papal encroachments." An immense amount of nonsense and many violent things are said about the Pope and Popery. Amidst so much that is one-sided and furious it is refreshing to see a paper like the Leader retaining possession of its senses, and taking a calm and impartial view of the subject.

I think that we Protestants in many respects cut a very sorry figure in this agitation. Why are we so horrified? Why do we tremble so at the idea of Popery gaining the ascendancy? If it be such an irrational, such a foolish system, why not be content to show that it is so, and then let mankind form their own conclusions? Why call hard names? they make no converts, strengthen no cause. Why appeal to the past? it is a sorry spectacle for all creeds to look back upon, and the least seen and said about it the better for all. In good sooth, in any age of the world, wherever a people has been immersed in ignorance, that people's religion, by whatever name it has been called, has exhibited a tyrannical and persecuting spirit; has branded difference of opinion

as heresy, and free enquiry as dangerous. This agitation suggests a question which is pregnant (more so than professors of religion are aware) with important consequences. It is the duty of ministers of the Gospel to labour for man's weal, to improve by all practical means his mental, his spiritual, and, let it be added, his material condition. Have they been labouring to this end? If so, how happens it they have accomplished so little. The great bulk of the people are unmoved by the efforts of these tens of thousands of Gospel ministers—those who are under their sway are but a small fraction of mankind. One powerful reason why this is the case may be found in the fact that instead of endeavouring to make men real Christians, just in deed, truthful in word, they have devoted their energies to the spread of mere Sectarianism, and have measured their success and usefulness by the amount of Sectarian bigotry they could engender.

It is sickening to every man who longs to witness this world's efforts directed to the encrease of human happiness and the promulgation of truth, of love, and knowledge, to see men putting out their formulæ and creeds, and setting themselves up as Popes in everything but the name; saying really or virtually to mankind, "Believe this, and you will be safe—this is what the B ble means—if you think otherwise you are on very unsafe ground, and your salvation is jeopardized." Men and churches, with the coolest assurance, take to themselves the right of

and forthwith manufacture creeds for the world at large, and for generations yet unborn.

It is pitiful, too, to observe the immense, the allabsorbing importance men attach to mere doctrinal points. Pulpits teem with denunciations of this dogma, and eulogies of that, as if believing or disbelieving them were the most vital thing in the world. The amount of evil produced by this teaching is enormous. Seeing so much made of mere belief, men come to substitute it for religion itself, and thousands of professing Christians fancy themselves to be all that the Bible requires, because orthodox in doctrine.

For a season various sects have merged minor differences to combat the common foe-Popery; yet let this danger be over, and then as heretofore we shall find their weekly, and monthly organs, "British Bulldogs," and "Zion Trumpets," with the numerous heads of sects, fighting tooth and nail for the triumph of doctrines they cannot render intelligible, and men cannot comprehend; frequently forgetting that men have souls, in their zeal to do battle for formularies and creeds.

If religion would become a great fact—if it would obtain hold of the national mind-Sectarian differences must become of less importance and divine truths of more. Men may believe any or all the doctrines in the world, and not be a whit the better for doing so. Let such commands as this be enforced and practised," Dojustly, lovemercy, and walk humbly with thy God," and we should have less fanaticism, but more pure religion, while creeds and doctrines might be safely left to be arranged between man and his Maker. If religion is to progress its professors must labour more to make men good and wise, instead of unthinking zealots. Yours, &c., A Yorkshire Churchman.

SOCIAL REFORM.

Dec. 10, 1850.

SIR,-Allow me to make a few observations on some positions in Mr. Forster's letters on Social Reform, which seem to me erroneous. In Mr. Forster's fourth letter he appears to attribute the excess of population over production to deficient agriculture, when the fact surely is that this evil arises from the limited extent of the earth's surface. While land does not encrease, and population is continually encreasing, there always must be an excess of population over production, unless some means be found to keep down the former. No improvement in agriculture can make up this deficiency, for this improvement can only be carried to a certain extent. Fertilizing agency, employed beyond a certain point, causes not an encrease, but a decrease, of food; the result is rank and unfruitful-plenty of straw and but little

Again, the obvious objection that the employment found by the State will interfere with the private employer is not at all satisfactorily answered by Mr. Forster in his fifth letter. The persons to be employed, be it remembered, are the surplus population. If their labour be thrown into the market already fully supplied with labour, it must lower the rate of wages, and, by encreased production, bring down the price of the article produced. Added to which, additional capital being introduced into the same sphere, interest will also be lowered. Hence the result will be a reduction of wages, profit, and interest to the several parties concerned. This supposes the capital employed to the best advantage, which is not likely to be the case, as the Government does not employ its own money, but that derived from the taxpayers, and has not, therefore, so great a motive to lay out this capital to advantage as the private capitalist who employs his own money. Either, therefore, wages, profits, and interest will be lowered, or capital will be wasted on unprofitable labour. Mr. Forster says that, if the paupers produce nothing, the ratepayer will suffer no greater loss than now, when the pauper is unproductive. This, surely, is not true, for there will be the additional loss of the money taken from the ratepayer for carrying out an unproductive experiment, whether a farm or a factory.

All such attempts to interfere with the usual course of things are productive of no real good to society at large: it is a species of tinkering; if you mend a hole in one place, you make another elsewhere. A remarkable instance of this kind of oversight occurs in a letter in the Daily News, on the employment of the paupers of the Cork Union in making their own clothing:-"Formerly," says the writer, "these fabrics were manufactured in England and Scotland, and purchased for houses here, where they were retailed; so that the manufacture of them at present by the paupers cannot be said to interfere with the profits of the local trader"! What! not when the Cork retailers cease to sell the articles now manufactured in the union? And are not the profits of the English and Scotch manufacturers and the wages of their workmen interfered with by the paupers making their own clothing? Unless I have misunderstood the writer, a more extraordinary violation of logic cannot be imagined.

I cannot conclude without expressing my conviction that the popular doctrine of the day about the duty

of society and Government to individuals is, as generally expressed, fraught with the most fallacious and dangerous consequences. Instead of teaching reliance upon society and Government, far wiser and more benevolent would it be to insist upon the duty and necessity of self-reliance and self-help. By the former doctrine we encourage idleness, improvidence, pauperism, and crime; by the latter, industry, energy, and prudence. To the almsgiving and compulsory relief of the past and the present may, I believe, be traced the greater portion of the pauperism that has now encreased to so fearful an amount.

F. B. BARTON.

THE TESTIMONY OF MR. LUCAS OF THE NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

Sir, -One who knows the clergy well, "Publicola," of the Dispatch, and whose private name is a guarantee for the fidelity of his statement, says "Experience has shown that neither the Catholic spirit, the scientific truth, the generous morale, nor the historical honesty of education are safe, unless all priesthood be kept at arm's length." The perversion of Owen's College at Manchester is a striking instance of this, recent and near. Sharing the apprehension here described, I was anxious that the sense in which secular education is understood by the National Public School Association should be explained by some one entitled to speak with authority on the subject. If the word secular was interpreted in what I should consider its legitimate sense, it would mean that perfectly neutral instruction, which the Freethinker or the Atheist could conscientiously accept. That this was intended I had presumptive evidence in the fact of the Lancashire Public School Association having had from its origin the cordial and able cooperation of my friend Dr. Watts. This presumption is now converted into agreeable certainty by the letter of Mr. Lucas, who writes those welcome words in No. 35 of the Leader, which sets the question at rest. He declares emphatically that "the object of the National Public School Association is to provide a national system of free secular instruction, of which all Englishmen may avail themselves for the benefit of their children, without distinction of class, sect, or

I have waited four weeks to see if this explanation would be questioned by any competent to do it, and as neither Mr. Cobden nor any other person whose influence might disturb such a declaration, has impugned it, I am perfectly satisfied of the generous and liberal spirit by which the Association is animated, and myself and friends will consider it written down both in our duty and gratitude to render whatever aid may be in our power for the success of an agitation important beyond measure, and liberal be-

yond precedent.

Secular education, in the sense in which it is at length defined, will, no doubt, meet with wider acceptance than some who have been fearful of that term suppose. The middle class commonly select such schools where they can. When lately in Leeds I was taken to a secular school, where Mr. Edward Baines, of the Leeds Mercury, has for years sent one or more of his sons, and is, therefore, probably himself sensible of the intellectual and moral advantages of it. In London such schools are popular. The other day I heard a clergyman object to secular education thus: " How can teaching children that two and two make four lead to morals or religion?" But if justice to those who cannot in conscience accept the clerical addition, is to be interrupted by such reasons as these, may we not, on the other hand, put the converse case thus: "Granting that moral and religious efficacy come not by teaching that two and two make four, will it come by teaching that three make one?" G. J. HOLYOAKE. Yours respectfully,

POLITICAL ECONOMY.

Dec. 17, 1850. Sir,-The last edition of Mr. John Mill on "Political Economy," has not unfrequently been referred to as containing a passage indicative of a change of opinion on the principle of association as contradistinguished from that of competition, but in recommending the working classes to form companies without any moral basis, he merely advises them to do that which other classes have done almost from time immemorial for the purpose of gaining greater advantages over the rest of mankind, without inducing any higher motives.

Political economy asserts that every individual is the best judge of his own interests, and in prosecuting them he indirectly promotes the good of society. The Christian principle of love to God and man admonishes the individual to seek lofty inspirations and study the good of the whole, and he will find as a consequence that his own welfare is advanced in a far greater degree, morally, intellectually, and physically. This, however, is so well explained in the following extracts from "Baxter's Dying Thoughts," that I hope you will deem them worthy an insertion in your interesting columns:-

"And if I am any way useful to the world, it is unde-

served mercy that hath made me so, for which I must be thankful; but how long I shall be so is not my business to determine, but my Lord's. My many sweet and beautiful flowers arise and appear in their beauty and sweetness but for one summer's time, and they murmur not that they flourish for so short a space. The beasts, and birds, and fishes, which I feed on, do live till I have them die; and as God will be served and pleased by wonderful variety at once (of animals and vegetables, &c.), so will he by many successive generations. If one flower fall or die, it sufficeth that others shall, summer after summer, arise from the same root; and if any pears, apples, plums, &c., fall or serve me when they are ripe, it sufficeth that (not they, but) others, the next year, shall do the same. God will have other generations to succeed us. Let us thank him that we have had our time; and could we overcome the grand (too little observed) crime of selfishness, and could love others as ourselves, and God as God above all the world, it would comfort us at death, that others shall survive us, and the world shall continue, and God will still be God, and be glorified in his works; and love will say, I shall live in my successors, and I shall more than live in the life of the world, and yet most of all in the eternal life and glory of God.

"Were there now no more contraction by egoiety or propriety (property) among men, nor mine and thine did signify no more, nor the distance were greater than that of the several drops of water in the sea, or particles of light in the illuminated air; but I had all my part in such a perfect unity and communion with all others, and knew that all were as happy as I, so that there were no divisions by cross interests or minds, but all were one, certainly it would make my own comforts greater by far than they are now. Are not an hundred candles set together and united, as splendid a flame as if they were all set asunder? So one soul, one love, one joy, would be."

J. M. Morgan. Your obedient servant,

JUSTICE TO CATHOLICS.

London, Dec. 17, 1850.

SIR,-As one of your correspondents appears to have slightly misunderstood the object of my recent letter on "Justice to Catholics," or the feelings which dictated it, will you do me the favour to insert a few lines in support of my original position? Mr. Phillips Day says that he can look with satisfaction upon the present excitement, because he regards it as a fervent and unmistakeable evidence of a growing hatred of Priestcraft and Church Dominion in the hearts of Englishmen. Even if I could, indeed, look upon it in this light, I could scarcely join in any feeling of complete satisfaction, because I should still consider that the means used by the denouncers have been unjustifiable; but I firmly maintain that this movement has been almost exclusively the work of one set of priests against another. The trumpet-call that rang from the pulpits of the orthodox pierced the stout hearts of churchwardens and nerved them to valiant deeds; the contagion spread, and public meetings clustered round the "drum ecclesiastic," where energetic advocates of church-rates with a small sprinkling of Dissenters, horror-struck at the prospect of an Inquisition, availed themselves of so favourable an opportunity for a burst of native eloquence. Coarse invectives, unworthy suspicions, and wild intolerance, held a perfect Saturnalia as they poured from the lips of men who compromise the great questions of religion by holding to authority only when it suits their ends, and brand their boasted reason with the stigma of infidelity when it interferes with them. The Boanerges of Liverpool, Dr. M'Neile, in a moment of excitement let loose the feelings of his heart, and would impose a sentence of death upon the supporters of the Confessional. He has certainly gone a step further than his brethren, but only gives the culminating point to a mountain of intolerance. Is censure from such men as these to be regarded as a triumph of pure religion? or should we not rather look on their "indignation" as the fire of bigotry fanned by the bellows of a rival priesthood? Where are the men of the People? Where are the leaders in science and literature? Where are the men of calm judgment and unprejudiced views, whom the intelligent of the land have delighted to honour? Have they swelled this clamour? They are firm in the strength of their own convictions, and know that truth will prevail with far more credit to itself by gently winning its way with the force of argument, than by opposing with a blind and reckless fanaticism. They scorn to insult those whom they cannot convince. Nothing can eradicate superstitious error but a sound and liberal education; it is of very little use to knock down one set of superstitions and set up another, not quite so gaudy, in their room; to trample under foot the Cardinal's hat, and land the mitre of Canterbury to the skies. As long as formalism is encouraged, men will not cease to fight over its peculiarities, and entirely lose sight of that charity which was intended to be the keystone of the Christian world; but let the people be morally and physically cleansed, let purity and kindliness of heart be sown in the abundant soil around us, and Popery, with many other medieval mystifieations, will gently disappear in the vortex of public

opinion. Such is the only victory over Popery that can be looked for, or that ought to be desired.

A CAMBRIDGE GRADUATE.

Literature.

Critics are not the legislators, but the judges and police of literature. They do not make laws—they interpret and try to enforce them —*Edinburgh Review*.

This Christmas does not promise such gaieties in literature as we have been of late accustomed to: but there is Mary Barton's charming story—noticed elsewhere—and THACKERAY has not disappointed his expecting public. The Kickleburys on the Rhine, though not to be compared with Mrs. Perkins's Ball, is a gay and pleasant book, with fifteen of his Michael Angelesque illustrations. That of the German Peasant Maiden is worth the price of the whole book—a picture which produces first a shout of Homeric laughter at the irony of the title and the maiden, followed by a feeling of sadness springing up from such an example of overworked. underfed humanity: the German peasant girls have to toil under burdens which in England press only on the more stalwart shoulders of the men, hence their premature old age and ugliness. The writing of the Kickleburys is easy, satirical, and humorous, with some of THACKERAY'S peculiar touches, notably that of the fond assiduous husband attending on his exacting wife ("she is all intellect, sir,") and rebuffed by her with "Don't teaze, Horace," and when not wanted "the gentle creature subsided on the bench by his wife's feet, and was sick in silence." We have spoken elsewhere of THACKERAY's love of antithesis; can anything be more complete than this antithesis of sentiment and sickness, so true yet so unexpected?

We have glanced over some proof sheets of a work which will make a noise in the world— Letters on Man's Nature and Development, by HARRIET MARTINEAU and Mr. ATKINSONwhich for boldness of outspeaking on subjects usually glosed over, and for power of philosophic exposition, has few equals. The marvels of Mesmerism and Clairvoyance are stated with unflinching plainness, as facts admitting of no dispute. Materialism is unequivocally and even eloquently avowed; and Phrenology assumes quite a new aspect from the observations and discoveries here recorded. The printing of the book is not yet completed, so that we speak from an imperfect acquaintance; but the sheets we have read excite in us the most eager curiosity for the remainder.

The pedantic and lively LERMINIER (only in Frenchmen can you meet with the combination) has just published a volume De la Littérature Révolutionnaire, in which he vents his gall against contemporaries who have espoused the cause of the People. VICTOR HUGO, LAMARTINE, and LAMENNAIS sit for their portraits, and their figures do not look heroic on his easel. We must do him the justice to say that, amidst much that is perverse and erroneous, he draws some real though unflattering features. But it is worthy of note that in this very factum against the writers he vituperates for their change of opinion, he furnishes an unconscious testimony in favour of the cause he opposes. He proves that Chateaubriand, Victor Hugo, LAMARTINE, and LAMENNAIS started in their career with a devotion to Royalty and the Party of Order little less than chivalric; and that in the course of that career they deserted their ranks to pass into those of Democracy. CHATEAU-BRIAND was a Royalist by sentiment and a Democrat by conviction. LAMENNAIS began as the most illustrious ornament of the Church, and has lived to become its illustrious opponent. All this is very distressing, doubtless, and must proceed from corrupt motives, for who forsakes the Party of Order except from disappointed ambition? The Cause of the People only seduces men of restless vanity-so LERMINIER and his school believe. But is there not something significant in this conversion of the most remarkable men of France? Is that cause despicable which owns for chiefs the most illustrious of the nation? Just consider for a moment that the greatest thinker, the greatest poets, the greatest litterateur, the greatest priest, and one, at least, of the greatest historians of modern France-AUGUSTE COMTE, LAMARTINE, HUGO, BERAN-GER, GEORGE SAND, CHATEAUBRIAND, LAMEN-NAIS, and MICHELET—names of the very highest rank, and representatives in Europe of the intellectual eminence of France-are all on the side of the People; and does that mean nothing? There are considerable names on the other side, but none to rank with these except Guizor. "Shakspeare was of us, Milton was for us.

Burns, Shelley, were with us-they watch from their graves."

So sings Browning in a noble poem; and when we think of the captains in our army we cannot wonder if generous intellects, even when bred up in the opposing camp, should midway in their march discover they are fighting under the wrong standards and pass over to ours.

But courage, O LERMINIER! If LAMARTINE has deserted you, if LAMMENAIS has renounced vou, if Victor Hugo has become a Tribune, the Vicomte D'ARLINCOURT remains faithful! Hernani is a renegade the Solitaire is incorruptible. Read his Italie Rouge—it is worthy of that moderate, sensible "party of Order," which is espoused by all true-hearted men and all "souls of a certain elevation." The excellent and ridiculous Vicomte was in England a few years ago, and will long be remembered in our clubs for the merciless hoaxing which the wags practised on him, and which he so gravely accepted. He seems to have given his imbecility an airing in Italy, and boasts of the "masses of materials" he has assembledthe milliers de récits he has listened to. "I listened, I saw, I wrote," exclaims this CESAR of the salon; but the statement is questionable in one respect. "I listened"—very likely! No one will doubt the capacity or the size of his ears; but "I saw" is another matter. It is not so easy to see, good Vicomte! To see requires brains as well as eyes. Stick to listening, c'est votre fait, Monseigneur. It appears the King of Naples (with whom the Vicomte was charmed at the first glance) listened to his rhodomontade. "Le roi m'écoutait avec la méditation du sage et le sourire du penseur" —why not the smile of contempt? But, in truth, L'Italie Rouge is a delightful book for those who hate Republicans and the Republic, and the "Party

Talking of this wise and moderate party let us not forget to mention the eagerness with which the Neapolitan Police is adding to the *Index Librorum* Prohibitorum, which will soon contain all the greatest achievements of the human mind, and may be decidedly useful as a catalogue. papers recently copied from the Araldo a list of books prohibited in Naples. We are able to be more specific. Among the works forbidden are Humboldt's Cosmos, Shakspeare, Goldsmith, Heeren's Historical Treatises, Ovid, Lucian, Lucretius, Sophocles, Suctonius, Paul de Kock, Victor Hugo, E. Girardin. G. Sand, Lamartine, Valéry's L'Italie, Goethe, Schiller, Thiers, A. Dumas, Molière, all the German philosophers, and what do you think next? hold your sides—prepare for belief with the faith of a St. Augustine—explain it if you can, but never doubt the fact that our list winds up with the dangerous, anarchical, poisonous Stephani Thesaurus! To prohibit a dictionary may fairly be said to have reached the "lowest deep" of unreasoning absurdity. Goethe tells a story of some meditative Prince, who assured him that had he the Prince—been the Deity, and could have forseen that SCHILLER'S Robbers would have been written he would have left the world uncreated!

of Order" should make much of it.

"C'est dommage Garot, que tu n'es point entré Aux conseils de celui que preche ton curé!"

In that case Schiller's Robbers and Henry STEPHENS'S Dictionary would certainly not have been suffered to "disorganize society."

Do you know anything of, or care a jot about IDA VON DUERINGSFELD? Because if so you may be glad to hear that she has published a new novel, Antonio Foscarini, which is said to be entertaining, and to contain a good picture of Venetian life in the fifteenth century. That and PRUTZ's Taschenbuch der neuesten Geschichte are the only new publications in Germany we have to mention.

MARY BARTON'S CHRISTMAS BOOK.

The Moorland Cottage. By the Author of "Mary Barton." With Illustrations by Birkett Foster. Chapman and Hall. Chapman and Hall. CLOSE observation, delicate perception of character, steady reliance on truth, never faltering into conventionalism, a style clear, straightforward, and felicitous, will win for this Christmas Book a charmed and numerous public. It is not like "Mary Barton," a tale of social wrong; it has not the harrowing interest of that book, but it is a great advance in art, and by its gentle teachings harmonizes fitly with the kindly and serious spirit which lives among the loud mirth of Christmas.

The inmates of Moorland Cottage are a parson's widow in her weeds and grief-Mrs. Browne-a type of the most numerous class of women, felicitously indieated by a few quiet touches -her two children, and an old faithful servant :-

"They were as secluded in their green hollow as the households in the German forest-tales. Once a week they emerged and crossed the common, catching on its summit the first sounds of the sweet-toned bells, calling them to church. Mrs. Browne walked first, holding Edward's hand. Old Nanny followed with Maggie; but they were all one party, and all talked together in a subdued and quiet tone, as beseemed the day. They had not much to say, their lives were so unbroken; for, excepting on Sundays, the widow and her children never went to Combehurst. Most people would have thought the little town a quiet, dreamy place; but to those two children it seemed the world; and after they had crossed the bridge, they each clasped more tightly the hands which they held, and looked slyly up from beneath their drooped eyelids when spoken to by any of their mother's friends. Mrs. Browne was regularly asked by some one to stay to dinner after morning church, and as regularly declined, rather to the timid children's relief; although in the week-days they sometimes spoke together in a low voice of the pleasure it would be to them if mama would go and dine at Mr. Buxton's, where the little girl in white and that great tall boy lived. Instead of staying there, or anywhere else on Sundays, Mrs. Browne thought it her duty to go and cry over her husband's grave. The custom had arisen out of true sorrow for his loss, for a kinder husband and more worthy man had never lived; but the simplicity of her sorrow had been destroyed by the observation of others on the mode of its manifestation. They made way for her to cross the grass towards his grave; and she, fancying that it was expected of her, fell into the habit I have mentioned. Her children, holding each a hand, felt awed and uncomfortable, and were sensitively conscious how often they were pointed out, as a mourning group, to observation.

"'I wish it would always rain on Sundays,' said Ed-

ward, one day to Maggie, in a garden conference.

"'Why?' asked she.

"Because then we bustle out of church, and get home as fast as we can, to save mama's crape; and we have not to go and cry over papa.'
"' I don't cry,' said Maggie. 'Do you?'
"Edward looked round before he answered, to see if

they were quite alone, and then said:
"'No; I was sorry a long time about papa, but one can't go on being sorry for ever. Perhaps grown-up peo-

"'' Mama can,' said little Maggie. 'Sometimes I am very sorry too; when I am by myself, or playing with you, or when I am wakened up by the moonlight in our room. Do you ever waken and fancy you heard papa calling you? I do sometimes; and then I am very sorry to think we shall never hear him calling us again.

"' Ah, it's different with me, you know. He used to

call me to lessons.'
"'Sometimes he called me when he was displeased with me. But I always dream that he was calling us in his own kind voice, as he used to do when he wanted us to walk with him, or to show us something pretty.'

"Edward was silent, playing with something on the ground. At last, he looked round again, and, having convinced himself that they could not be overheard, he

whispered—

" Maggie, - sometimes I don't think I'm sorry that papa is dead-when I'm naughty, you know; he would have been so angry with me if he had been here; and I think,—only sometimes, you know,—I'm rather glad he is not."

How admirable that is about the continuance of the respectability of grief! and what an acute yet comprehensive observation lies in the carrying out of the respectability on the part of Mrs. Browne, so anxious about her crape! She weeps for "appearances"; but good crape is also an "appearance," and must take precedence even of grief!

Mrs. Browne is a thoroughly commonplace woman. She adores her imperious selfish boy, and snubs her quiet unselfish unattractive daughter. Master Edward is the tyrant of the household; little Maggie the slave; and when the rich Mr. Buxton comes to invite them all to his house, Mrs. Browne, secretly delighted at a decent excuse for accepting the invitation, consents, "for the children's sake," and sighed as if she were making a sacrifice. Edward's clothes are carefully looked after, a new suit is ordered for him; as for little Maggie, an old gown of her mother's is cut up, washed, and made by the faithful Nancy into something so decent that she has a lecture given her about not spoiling it. Poor Maggie! the old frock was nothing; she was not old enough to be very sensitive on that point; but imagine how delightful her prospect was when her mother thus severely discoursed to her respecting manners and etiquette.

" Maggie! you must sit as upright as ever you can; make your back flat, child, and don't poke. If I cough, you must draw up. I shall cough whenever I see you do anything wrong, and I shall be looking at you all day; so remember. You hold yourself very well, Edward. If Mr. Buxton asks you, you may have a glass of wine, because you're a boy. But mind and say, 'Your good bealth air's before you drive it.' health, sir,' before you drink it.'

" 'I'd rather not have the wine if I'm to say that,"

said Edward, bluntly. "'Oh, nonsense! my dear. You'd wish to be like a

gentleman, I'm sure.'
"Edward muttered something which was inaudible. His mother went on-

" Of course you'll never think of being helped more

than twice. Twice of meat, twice of pudding, is the genteel thing. You may take less, but never more.

" 'Oh, mama! how beautiful Combehurst spire is, with that dark cloud behind it!' exclaimed Maggie, as they came in sight of the town.

"' You've no business with Combehurst spire when I'm speaking to you. I'm talking myself out of breath to teach you how to behave, and there you go looking after clouds, and such like rubbish. I'm ashamed of you.' "

Nevertheless, the day is very pleasant. Mr. Buxton is a happy, careless, confiding, "good sort of man," with an angelic wife, a bold, frank, gentlemanly boy, and a pretty little niece Erminia. Edward contrives to produce an unfavourable impression. Maggielittle brown mouse, as Frank calls her—wins golden opinions.

You see at once something of the course the story is to take. Frank falls in love with Maggie, who has won the heart of his mother, and of his father also. Mrs. Buxton has her frequently at the house, and teaches her, not merely the wisdom of books but the wisdom of noble living; so that although she is snubbed and "put upon" by mother and brother, Maggie is not without the gentler influences which nurture fine dispositions. How true is this:-

"Mrs. Browne had no great wish to keep Maggie at home, though she liked to grumble at her going. Still she felt that it was best, in every way, to keep on good terms with such valuable friends; and she appreciated, in some small degree, the advantage which her intimacy at the house was to Maggie. But yet she could not restrain a few complaints, nor withhold from her, on her return, a recapitulation of all the things which might have been done if she had only been at home, and the number of times that she had been wanted; but when she found that Maggie quietly gave up her next Wednesday's visit as soon as she was made aware of any necessity for her presence at home, her mother left off grumbling, and took little or no notice of her absence."

Edward goes to school and leaves it what is called a "smart fellow." All his admiration is for cleverness, by which he means cunning; and although his mother wishes him to go into the Church as his father had before him, this knowing young man resolves on being an attorney, and hopes to become Mr. Buxton's agent. Mr. Buxton encourages the idea, and gives him some property to sell by way of a beginning:

"One summer's day, as hot as day could be, Maggie had been busy all morning; for the weather was so sultry that she would not allow either Nancy or her mother to exert themselves much. She had gone down with the old brown pitcher, coeval with herself, to the spring for water; and while it was trickling, and making a tinkling music, she sat down on the ground. The air was so still that she heard the distant wood-pigeons cooing; and round about her the bees were murmuring busily among the clustering heath. From some little touch of sympathy with these low sounds of pleasant harmony, she began to try and hum some of Erminia's airs. She never sang outloud, or put words to her songs; but her voice was very sweet, and it was a great pleasure to herself to let it go into music. Just as her jug was filled, she was startled by Frank's sudden appearance. She had thought he was at Cambridge, and, from some cause or other, her face, usually so faint in colour, became the most vivid scarlet. They were both too conscious to speak. Maggic stooped (murmuring some words of

surprise) to take up her pitcher.

"'Don't go yet, Maggie,' said he, putting his hand on hers to stop her; but, somehow, when that purpose was effected, he forgot to take it off again. 'I have come all the way to Cambridge to see you. I could not bear surpense any longer. I grew so impatient for certainty of some kind, that I went up to town last night, in order to feel myself on my way to you, even though I knew I could not be here a bit earlier to-day for doing so. Maggie,—dear Maggie! how you are trembling! Have I frightened you? Nancy told me you were here; but it was very thoughtless to come so suddenly upon you.'

"It was not the suddenness of his coming; it was the suddenness of her own heart, which leaped up with the feelings called out by his words. She went very white, and sat down on the ground as before. But she rose again immediately, and stood, with drooping, averted head. He had dropped her hand, but now sought to take it again.

" ' Maggie, darling, may I speak?' Her lips moved, he saw, but he could not hear. A pang of affright ran through him that, perhaps, she did not wish to listen. 'May I speak to you?' he asked again, quite timidly. She tried to make her voice sound, but it would not; so she looked round. Her soft grey eyes were eloquent in that one glance. And, happier than his words, passionate and tender as they were, could tell, he spoke till her trembling was changed into bright flashing blushes, and even a shy smile hovered about her lips, and dimpled her

"The water bubbled over the pitcher unhecded. At last she remembered all the work-a-day world. She lifted up the jug, and would have hurried home, but

Frank decidedly took it from her.
"' Henceforward,' said he, 'I have a right to carry your burdens.' So with one arm round her waist, and with the other carrying the water, they climbed the steep turfy slope. Near the top she wanted to take it again.

. Mama will not like it. Mama will think it so

strange."

"'Why, dearest, if I saw Nancy carrying it up this slope I would take it from her. It would be strange if a man did not carry it for any woman. But you must let me tell your mother of my right to help you. It is your dinner time, is it not? I may come in to dinner as one of the family, may not I, Maggie?'
"'No,' she said softly. For she longed to be alone;

and she dreaded being overwhelmed by the expression of her mother's feelings, weak and agitated as she felt her-

self. 'Not to-day.'

Mr. Buxton will not hear of the marriage. He is ambitious for his son, though not so for himself. He has long settled in his mind that Frank shall marry Erminia; or some person of consequence at any rate. And Maggie is a good girl, it is true, but not at all the sort of wife for Frank.

Here we began to feel alarmed lest our charming authoress had fallen into the old rut of conventionalism, and was about to make the good, easy, kindhearted Buxton turn out a stern and ferocious father, for the sake of prolonging the story, and introducing a little misery. But, no. Mrs. Gaskell has achieved by means of truth all that she could have achieved by means of falsehood,—not to mention the superiority of effect. Her Mr. Buxton is a true man, a real father. His opposition is thoroughly intelligible, and nobody likes him the less for it. We refer you to the book itself for information; we will only quote the following, because it introduces a charming love scene, though probably young ladies and gentlemen of a lofty mood will think it deficient in sentiment. It may be so; but it has the real accent of nature in it, and stirs the heart like the perfume from a bed of

"Mr. Buxton was reserved with Frank for the first time in his life; and Frank was depressed and annoyed at his father's obstinate repetition of the same sentence, in answer to all his arguments in favour of his engagement-arguments which were overwhelming to himself, and which it required an effort of patience on his part to go over and recapitulate, so obvious was the conclusion; and then, to have the same answer for ever, the same words, even,—

"'Frank! it is no use talking. I don't approve of the

engagement; and never shall.'

"He would snatch up his hat, and hurry off to Maggie to be soothed. His father knew where he was gone without being told; and was jealous of her influence over the son who had long been his first and paramount object in

"He needed not have been jealous. However angry and indignant Frank was when he went up to the moorland cottage, Maggie almost persuaded him, before half an hour had elapsed, that his father was but unreasonable from his extreme affection. Still she saw that such frequent differences would weaken the bond between father and son; and, accordingly, she urged Frank to accept an invitation into Scotland.
"'You told me,' said she, 'that Mr. Buxton will have

it, it is but a boy's attachment; and that when you have seen other people, you will change your mind; now do try how far you can stand the effects of absence.' She said this playfully, but he was in a humour to be vexed. "'What nonsense, Maggie! You don't care for all

this delay yourself; and you take up my father's bad reasons as if you believed them.'

"'I don't believe them; but still they may be true." "'How should you like it, Maggie, if I urged you to go about and see something of society, and try if you could not find some one you liked better? It is more

probable in your case than in mine; for you have never been from home, and I have been half over Europe.' "'You are very much afraid, are not you, Frank?' said she, her face bright with blushes, and her grey eyes smiling up at him. 'I have a great idea that if I could see that Harry Bish that Edward is always talking about, I should be charmed. He must wear such beautiful waistcoats! Don't you think I had better see him

before our engagement is quite, quite final? "But Frank would not smile. In fact, like all angry persons, he found fresh matter for offence in every sentence. She did not consider the engagement as quite final: thus he chose to understand her playful speech.

He would not answer. She spoke again:

"Dear Frank, you are not angry with me, are you? It is nonsense to think that we are to go about the world, picking and choosing men and women, as if they were fruit, and we were to gather the best; as if there was not something in our own hearts which, if we listen to it conscientiously, will tell us at once when we have met the one of all others. There now, am I sensible? I suppose I am, for your grim features are relaxing into a smile. That's right. But now listen to this. I think your father would come round sooner, if he were not irritated every day by the knowledge of your visits to me. If you went away, he would know that we should write to each other, yet he would forget the exact time when; but now he knows as well as I do where you are and when you are up here; and I fancy, from what Erminia says, it makes him angry the whole time you are away.'

"Frank was silent. At last he said: 'It is rather provoking to be obliged to acknowledge that there is some truth in what you say. But even if I would, I am not sure that I could go. My father does not speak to me about his affirs, as he used to do; so I was rather surprised yesterday to hear him say to Erminia (though I'm sure he meant the information for me), that he had engaged an agent.'

"' Then there will be the less occasion for you to be at home. He won't want your help in his accounts.

"'I've given him little enough of that. I have long wanted him to have somebody to look after his affairs. They are very complicated, and he is very careless. But I believe my signature will be wanted for some new leases; at least he told me so.'

"' That need not take you long,' said Maggie.

"' Not the mere signing. But I want to know something more about the property, and the proposed tenants. I believe this Mr. Henry that my father has engaged, is a very hard sort of man. He is what is called scrupulously honest and honourable; but I fear a little too much inclined to drive hard bargains for his client. Now I want to be convinced to the contrary, if I can, before I leave my father in his hands. So, you cruel judge, you won't transport me yet, will you?

"'No,' said Maggie, overjoyed at her own decision, and blushing her delight that her reason was convinced it was right for Frank to stay a little longer."

A new turn taken by the story brings in a more painful interest. Edward, whose extravagance has been occasionally indicated, and whose mother has been impoverished to feed that extravagance, now throws the whole circle into despair—he has cheated Mr. Buxton and forged his name! The police are after him. He flies home for refuge. He tells Maggie all; and quick upon that comes the visit of Mr. Buxton, who is excessively exasperated because he has found out that several persons have long been cheating him, and the revulsion of feeling from one of implicit confidence to that of irritated humiliation at having been deceived, makes him severer than could have been foreseen. He tells Maggie that now her brother has brought this disgrace upon the family, he trusts she will give up Frank; nay, he offers to assist Edward to escape—not to prosecute him—if she will write to Frank breaking off her engagement, but without giving any reason. She demands time to think of it.

Poor little Maggie, this is a terrible dilemma! On the one hand your brother to be transported, on the other your lover to be given up, and given up too without an explanation! How will you act, you dear little Brown Mouse? Your selfish brother and snubbing mother of course cannot understand that you should hesitate for a moment; but what does conscience whisper? No one doubts your readiness to sacrifice yourself, but are you willing to sacrifice Frank? Would not that be only another form of selfishness? Ask your good little honest heart.

To the dismay of all lovers of the Heroic and High Flights, we are constrained to add that Maggie, on severely interrogating her conscience, refuses! Nay, we will further add that we entirely applaud her for doing so. Take up the book itself for the exhibition of this struggle; meanwhile read this snatch out of the interview between Maggie and Mr. Buxton:-

"'I hope you have thought of what I said, and are

willing to do what I asked you.'
"'No!' said she. 'I have thought and thought. I did not think in a selfish spirit, though they say I did. I prayed first. I could not do that earnestly, and be selfish, I think. I cannot give up Frank. I know the disgrace; and if he, knowing all, thinks fit to give me up, I shall never say a word, but bow my head, and try and live out my appointed days quietly and cheerfully. But he is the judge, not you; nor have I any right to do what you ask me. She stopped, because the agitation took away her breath.

"He began in a cold manner: 'I am very sorry. The law must take its course. I would have saved my son from the pain of all this knowledge, and that which he will of course feel in the necessity of giving up his engagement. I would have refused to appear against your brother, shamefully ungrateful as he has been. Now, you cannot wonder that I act according to my agent's advice; and prosecute your brother as if he were a stranger.'

"He turned to go away. He was so cold and determined that for a moment Maggie was timid. But she

then laid her hand on his arm.

then laid ner nand on his arm.

"" Mr. Buxton,' said she, 'you will not do what you threaten. I know you better. Think! My father was your old friend. That claim is, perhaps, done away with by Edward's conduct. But I do not believe you can forget it always. If you did fulfil the menace you uttered just now, there would come times as you grew older, and life grew fainter and fainter before you,quiet times of thought, when you remembered the days of your youth, and the friends you then had and knew; you would recollect that one of them had left an only son, who had done wrong; who had sinned; sinned against you in his weakness; -and you would think then-you could not help it-how you had forgotten mercy in justice; and, as justice required he should be treated as a felon, you threw him among felons; where every glimmering of goodness was darkened for ever. Edward is, after all, more weak than wicked;—but he will become wicked if you put him in prison, and have him transported. God is merciful, -we cannot tell or think how merciful. Oh, sir, I am so sure you will be merciful, and give my brother—my poor sinning brother—a chance, that I will tell you all. I will throw myself upon your pity. Edward is even now at home,-miser-

able and desperate; -my mother is too much stunned to understand all our wretchedness,-for very wretched we are in our shame.'

" As she spoke, the wind arose and shivered in the wiry leaves of the fir-trees, and there was a moaning sound as of some Ariel imprisoned in the thick branches that, tangled over-head, made a shelter for them. Either the noise, or Mr. Buxton's fancy called up an echo to Maggie's voice—a pleading with her pleading—a sad tone of regret, distinct yet blending with her speech, and a falling, dying sound, as her voice died away in miserable suspense.

"It might be that, formed as she was by Mrs. Buxton's care and love, her accents and words were such as that lady, now at rest from all sorrow, would have used;somehow, at any rate, the thought flashed into Mr. Buxton's mind, that as Maggie spoke, his dead wife's voice was heard, imploring mercy in a clear distinct tone, though faint, as if separated from him by an infinite distance of space. At least, this is the account Mr. Buxton would have given of the manner in which the idea of his wife became present to him, and what she would have wished him to do a powerful motive in his conduct. Words of hers, long ago spoken, and merciful forgiving expressions, made use of in former days to soften him in some angry mood, were clearly remembered while Maggie spoke; and their influence was perceptible in the change of his tone, and the wavering of his manner henceforward.

" 'And yet you will not save Frank from being involved in your disgrace,' said he; but more as if weighing and deliberating on the case than he had ever spoken

before.
"'If Frank wishes it, I will quietly withdraw myself
"'If Frank wishes it, I will quietly withdraw myself out of his sight for ever; -I give you my promise, before God, to do so. I shall not utter one word of entreaty or complaint. I will try not to wonder or feel surprise; -I will bless him in every action of his future life;—but think how different would be the disgrace he would voluntarily incur, to my poor mother's shame, when she wakens up to know what her child has done! Her very torpor about it now is more painful than words can tell." "' What could Edward do?' asked Mr. Buxton.

'Mr. Henry won't hear of my passing over any frauds.' "'Oh, you relent!' said Maggie, taking his hand, and pressing it. 'What could he do? He could do the same, whatever it was, as you thought of his doing, if I had written that terrible letter.'

"'And you'll be willing to give it up, if Frank wishes,

when he knows all?' asked Mr. Buxton.

"She crossed her hands and drooped her head, but answered steadily: "" Whatever Frank wishes, when he knows all, I will gladly do. I will speak the truth. I do not believe that any shame surrounding me, and not in me, will alter Frank's love one tittle."

Brave little woman!

How Love triumphs over Obstacles, how Goodness meets with its reward, how Maggie and Frank are married in spite of all that threatens them, how the denouement is brought about, we do not intend disclosing. That would be to forestall your curiosity, which we hope to have whetted by this notice. Rush and get the book, and learn that and many other things we have omitted! But to the authoress we will whisper aside and quite in a confidential way that as critics, we do not admire the invention of her Deus ex machina at all, though we are not insensible to the graphic power in the description of the ship on fire. And as that is the only fault we have to find with this delightful story we ought to be very fierce and sarcastic indeed upon it—but can't. The Moorland Cottage has charmed us, and gratitude stifles cri-

THE DARK AGES.

Glimmerings in the Dark; or, Lights and Shadows of the Olden Time. By F. Somner Merryweather, author of "Bibliomania in the Middle Ages." Simpkin and Marshall.

This is an agreeable book, of slender pretensions, but fulfilling all it pretends to. We must not quarrel with the author for the absence of completeness and exhaustive erudition, when he openly disclaims all pretence to such qualities, but must rather compliment him for being less superficial than his modesty sets forth. He does not write to scholars and antiquarians, but to railway readers and those whose avocations shut them out from libraries and the delights of continuous research. Glimmerings from the Dark Ages are here; a child may read them; a learned man not rise uninstructed. On monastic communities and their influence on civilization he has many a good word to say; on news and locomotion he flatters our "fast" age by glimpses of a state of things quite bewildering to the modern railroad imagination—as for example when he tells us that so late as the seventeenth century the progress of news was so tardy that the abdication of James the Second was not known in the Orkneys until three months afterwards! Just think of the Times every morning, and then compare the speed of news when you learn that the mas acre of the Jews at the coronation of Richard I. was not known at Stamford, Norwich, or York, until several months had elapsed. The political bearing of our

encreased rate of locomotion is too obvious to be insisted on.

On witchcraft and magic the world is tolerably well-informed; yet Mr. Merry weather's chapters are not without novelty even thereon; the chapters on Rewards of Literature and the Affluence of Authors in those times form a good supplement to the Curiosities of Literature. The History of Relics might have been enlarged with advantage; we will quote

HISTORY OF THE CROSS.

"Helena, the mother of Constantine the Great, when nearly eighty years of age, undertook a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. It was the pious wish of her old age to rescue from oblivion, the cross upon which Jesus suffered on Mount Calvary. Helena was rich, and her zeal was such as seldom warmed the breast of one, who had seen the snows of eighty winters. A vision led to the discovery of the holy sepulchre, and the cross. The discovery was hailed with joy throughout the whole of Christendom. A church, called the New Jerusalem, was erected on the spot; the principal portion of this sacred relic was gorgeously enshrined, and left to adorn its altar; the remainder was sent by Helena to Constantine,

"For many years, the cross at Jerusalem became the object of numerous pilgrimages; multitudes left their homes, and traversed perilous lands, to touch the silver case enclosing this precious relic, and obtain absolution of their sins. Bishops and abbots became emulous to obtain, for their respective churches and convents, a fragment of the sacred wood. Wealth, that would have bought a dukedom, was given for a mere fragment, and the new Church at Jerusalem waxed rich by the princely sums for which they sold these eagerly coveted treasures. A piece of the holy wood was considered a charm against all sickness, a preservative from all evil, and a security from all perils, on land or sea. When some, more thoughtful than others, or less credulous than their brethren, began to wonder, in the course of years, how pieces of the cross became so numerous; seeing that almost every church of note contained a piece of holy wood, and monasteries had fragments in their reliquaries, and yet the cross at Jerusalem diminished not; their doubts and their reveries were set at rest by a grave authority of the Church. The cross, it was dexterously affirmed, was no ordinary relic; it was true, that this sacred wood abounded among Christians; it was true, that had all the fragments been collected together, there would have been sufficient timber to have built a ship of war. But, said an eminent saint, this is easily accounted for; to supply the wants of Christendom, and to reward the zeal of pilgrims this cross is allowed to grow and vegetate, so that the faithful may be fed, as Christ fed the multitude, with seven loaves and a few fishes. Thus, the holy cross, although every day divided into several parts, yet remained, as Paulinus testifies, without any diminution in size. It reposed in the church at Jerusalem, until the city was subdued in the beginning of the seventeenth century, by the fifty thousand golden spears of Khosru, King of Persia, when it was carried off in triumph, in company with the Bishop of the Church; but it was restored fourteen years after, to Heraclius, peace having been proclaimed between the two monarchs. The Emperor, being divested of his purple and his diadem, carried the cross on his shoulders, in grand procession, to its former place, on Mount Calvary. The anniversary of this event is still solemnized, in the Greek Church, in the festival called the Exaltation of the

The purchase of a wife is still not wholly gone out of fashion, but it is transacted with a little more regard for les bienséances than in the days of our Anglo-Saxon progenitors .—

"By the Anglo-Saxon laws, every woman was under the care of some man, who was termed her Mundbora or guardian; and no one could marry her without having first paid a sum of money as a compensation to her mundbora. The father, of course, was the guardian of his unmarried daughters; the brother, if the father died; and next to him the nearest male relative; if, however, the female was friendless and alone, she found in the king her legal guardian. There were no runaway matches, no clandestine and romantic nuptials, among the Saxon people; they did everything, even to their very love affairs in a plain matter-of-fact way; they estimated the value of the maid according to her rank in life, and the law fixed the sum which should be regarded as a legal tender to satisfy the avarice of her guardians. The first step in courtship, therefore, was to buy the consent of the mundbora; the lover was then admitted into the society of his mistress, and allowed to claim her in due course as his wife; if, however, her personal charms, or her disposition, proved on better acquaintance unsatisfactory to her suitor, and he failed to complete the bargain (we are using fair readers to the terms employed by the Saxon witan), he became immediately amenable to the law. For this breach of a promise of marriage he had to pay, not only the usual mund, or consideration fee to her guardian, but an additional compensation, besides a sum of money to those who had become sureties for the fulfilment of the agreement on his part. If a man ventured to marry without first having bought and paid for his wife, he was guilty of the crime of mund-breach, the consequences of which were both disastrous and vexatious. The husband in such a case possessed no legal authority over his spouse; he was a husband, in fact, without a wife; he had no right to her property; he could recover no compensation for any insult which another man should dare to offer her; she had not been paid for, the guardian had received no consideration; and all damages, or fines inflicted for such an insult, were payable to the woman's mundbora. If a man wished to take his wife into a foreign part, or into another work, weighty with knowledge, luminous with beau-

thane's land, he had to enter into a compact with her guardian, that no wrong should be done to her, but that she should receive every mark of attention and kindness. If a man bought a maid for her, no other could negotiate for her purchase; but if any fraud had been committed on her part, or on the part of her friends, she was returned home, and the man demanded back his money. By the Saxon law a maiden and a widow were of separate value; the latter could be purchased for one-half the sum which the guardian of a maid was entitled to demand; the man, therefore, who could not afford to purchase a maid, might, perhaps, be able to purchase a widow. The laws relating to the marriage of widows are curious, and seem to discountenance second nuptials. The widow was compelled by a law of Canute's, to continue husbandless for twelve months, at least; if she married within that time, she forfeited all her marriage gifts; and all the property which she acquired by her first marriage was claimed by her nearest kinsman; Henry the First confirmed this decorous law.

"So fully was the idea of purchasing a wife carried out, and so little were the affections regarded in the matter, that if a freeman seduced the wife of a freeman, he was to pay his full weregeld, to buy another wife for the injured husband, and to bring her to his home. Nor was it till the reign of Canute that the marriage laws received any modification; that king decreed that no guardian should compel a maiden to marry one whom she disliked, and that the money paid for her should be a voluntary gift, and not a compulsory payment."

There is a great variety of topics in this pleasant volume; but we cannot afford more space to them, for the volume itself is very slight, and our table is

PENDENNIS.

The History of Pendennis. By W. M. Thackeray. 2 vols. Bradbury and Evans.

"No age," says Carlyle, "is romantic to itself," and no age thinks its writers equal to those who have gone before-

'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view;

and we turn from the "superficial trash" of our age to the grander thews and sinews of those who wrote the "superficial trash" of their time. The history of Literature is full of such complaints. Old Nestor, speaking to the illustrious host before Troy could see nothing in Achilles, Ajax, Diomed, and the King of Men, equal to the heroes who had flourished in his youth. Tacitus, in the opening of his Dialogue on the Orators (if it be is) speaks of the sterile epoch when the name of orator could not be applied to any living man, "for our men are dissertators, gabblers, lawyers, everything, in short, but orators—horum autem temporum diserti causidici et advocati, et patroni et quidvis potius quam oratores vocantur.

That the men of our day should think slightingly of their contemporaries in comparison with the writers of former times, is no more than natural, and we are prepared for uplifted eyebrows when we gravely assert that England has at no time produced a writer of fiction with whom Thackeray may not stand in honourable comparison. Others have surpassed him in particular qualities, but taking the sum total of his powers, as the only fair means of comparison, we are prepared to maintain our position. But will he live as they have lived? That is another question, and one which no amount of present popularity can affect; for popularity, as Victor Hugo admirably says, is the vulgarization of fame-

" La popularité? C'est la gloire en gros sous."

He has the two great qualities which embalm a reputation-truth and style. But he is to be separated from the great writers of other days by one peculiarity of our own, and one that endangers the durability of his renown - we mean a want of respect for his art, a want of respect for his public. In the care with which former writers, however, pressed by poverty, planned and executed their works, we see something wholly different from that nonchalance and easy confidence in his own powers, which makes Thackeray (nor is he alone in this) sacrifice the artist to the improvisatore. How greatly his writings suffer from this it is impossible to calculate; our marvel is that they are so remarkable in spite of it. To gossip with the reader, to wander from the path into pleasant digressions and sketches of society, is a facile method of discharging his monthly task; and with knowledge so abundant and a style so graceful and winning, the success is great enough to foster the temptation. But that which is written for the hour is apt to perish with the hour; and he is capable of enduring works.

Pendennis has, perhaps, even more of this fault than Vanity Fair, and it flags occasionally in consequence. But it is, nevertheless, a great, a masterly

tiful thoughts, caustic, subtle, pathetic, varied with unrivalled pictures of human life and character, and incomparable in style. A loving spirit moves throughout the book, taking from its satire all the bitterness of misanthropy, making human nature loveable amidst all its infirmities. As everyone must have read or will read it, we need occupy no space by an exposition of its contents; a few remarks on his general characteristics, as therein exhibited, will suffice.

First let us mention the beauty of his style. For clearness, strength, idiomatic ease, delicacy, and variety, there is no one since Goldsmith to compare with him. It is not a style in the vulgar sense of the word; that is to say, it is not a trick. It is the flowing garment which robes his thoughts, and moves with every movement of his mind into different and appropriate shapes, simple in narrative, terse and glittering in epigram, playful in conversation or digression, rising into rhythmic periods when the mood is of more sustained seriousness, and becoming indescribably affecting in its simplicity when it utters pathetic or solemn thoughts. It is devoid of trick though not devoid of art. Somebody said of it that it was essentially the style of a gentleman. We wish gentlemen would write so.

Then as to knowledge. The endless charm of his writing for men and women who have experience cannot be divined by those who as yet know nothing (though their hairs be grey). It is the same with Horace. No schoolboy, no young poet cares a straw for Horace. Men who have lived like him better as they grow older. In Thackeray we see many resemblances to Horace: both have outlived their illusions, and yet look back with fondness on them, so that their laughter is rather sad than bitter. It seems as if most of the various scenes of the drama of life had been acted in Thackeray's breast, and he laughs as we laugh at our youthful follies, with a certain regret that those follies are past, and a respect for the ingenuousness which committed them. It is a great mistake to suppose Thackeray's experience to lie only on the surface, and that the life he depicts is merely the movement of society. Although he knows that better, and depicts it more truly than any one else, he is separated from the fashionable novelists by the power they have little claim to-the power of representing human life. Take Disraeli for example, and compare any sketch of fashionable life by him with one by Thackeray, and the difference is at once apparent. Disraeli sees society-not very clearly, but he seesit; Thackeray sees it, and sees through it, sees all the human feelings, all the motives, high and low, simple and complicated, which make it what it is. Observe Major Pendennis, Warrington, Laura, Blanche Amory, Old Costigan, or even one of the minor persons, and on examination you will find that he seizes characters where other writers seize only characteristics; he does not give you a peculiarity for the man, he places the man himself, that "bundle of motives," before you. To test how true this is, you have only to ask yourself "Can I describe one of his characters truly in a phrase?" Or you may test it thus: In Becky Sharp and in Blanche Amory he has drawn the same class of woman; did that ever strike you? did you ever think he was repeating himself? Is Blanche more like Becky than Iago is like Edmund? Yet the two women belong to one type, and so marvellously true to nature, so minutely and profoundly true, that we who know one who might have sat for the portraits (but did not) are puzzled to say which of the two is most like her. Blanche does not play the same important part in Pendennis that Becky does in Vanity Fair, but the Artist's power is equally apparent to a connoisseur. By knowledge then we mean not merely the familiarity with the modes of life from Gaunt House to the Back Kitchen, but familiarity also with the realities of life as they move in human breasts.

Another peculiarity he has, and one which makes critics remonstrant, viz., that of mercilessly pointing out the skeleton which is in every closet. He passes among illusions only to show them to be follies; he turns round upon you while the tears are standing in your eyes, only to laugh at your emotion; he stands at the feast only to declare its vanity; he recites a noble sentiment only to connect it with some ignoble motive. A mocking Mephistopheles, he will not suffer you to be deceived; he laughs at you, at everybody, at himself.

There is some truth in this; but, as respects Pendennis, it is overstated, and the cause, we take it, does not lie in his mocking spirit, but elsewhere. It lies—if we have read his nature aright—in a predominating tendency to antithesis. Other writers have this tendency; but in him it acquires peculiar force. He does not, as others do, manifest it in antitheses of diction. His writing, one may say, is remarka bly free from that. Nor does he proceed with the false systematic method of Victor Hugo, in whom the love of antithesis amounts to a disease (to be sure, Hugo excuses himself on the plea that God is greater in that department than himself, God being le plus grand faiseur d'antithèses !-- a modest and satisfactory exculpation!), but, nevertheless, the law of Thackeray's mind seems to be a conception of opposites, which makes him a perfect Janus Bifrons. No sooner does he think of poetic aspirations than his mind suddenly swerves to the other side to contemplate the foolish sentimentalism which apes those aspirations. If he were drawing Cæsar, he would lift up the laurel wreath to expose his baldness. His own Warrington is seen "drinking beer like a coalheaver, and yet you couldn't but perceive that he was a gentleman." Miss Fotheringay is a splendid actress and as ignorant as a horse. Foker is a blackguard in his tastes, but a gentleman in feeling. We might run through the volumes and point out this constant antithesis, but the reader must know very well how characteristic it is. Enough if we have indicated the reason for its constant presence.

That it does not arise from a mocking spirit, may easily be shown by reference to the examples, in which he shows a soul of goodness in things evil, as well as the spot of evil in things good. Look at Old Costigan, the Major, Strong, Altamont, and see how characters which in ordinary hands would be simply contemptible or hateful from their selfishness and scoundrelism, are preserved from corruption by the salt of human virtues, and your very scorn is modified, human sympathy appealed to, and Charity made to own a brother in the sinner. The same tendency of his mind which makes him see that a hero has the gout, makes him perceive that a scamp is not all vice. The antithesis in the one case may proceed from a mocking spirit: it cannot in the latter; unless we are to suppose him destitute of all reverence for human worth, and wishing to revile even goodness by locating it in vile places: a supposition contradicted, we venture to say, by the whole temper of his writings. Thackeray is a man who loves all worth, and reverences whatever is true, though his scorn of pretence is uncompromising enough. It seemed to us while reading this work, as if he had drawn himself in Worrington—a sad, thoughtful, kindly, yet sarcastic man, whose very scorn proceeds from love of what is high and noble; whose dislike of pretence is so great, that he is afraid of being suspected of pretence if he adopt a more serious manner.

Not a mocking spirit but a loving spirit has he; not a Mephisto but a Goethe sits at his elbow. Goethe, too, is often reproached for the same thing, and is pronounced "cold" because he was not onesided. Moreover, Thackeray's antitheses differ from those of Sue and Victor Hugo in arising out of the actual truth of nature, and not out of a systematic desire for contrast. You do not eatch him selecting his type of Chastity from among young ladies at the tapis franc; in depicting the paternal and maternal sentiment he does not seek a Triboulet or a Lucrèce Borgia; to show the venerableness of age he does not exhibit a brutal bandit; to show the power of love he does not choose a courtezan. He takes the Contradictions offered him daily by Nature—such as they are in us and in those around us; and the difference between him and other novelists is that he sees these Contradictions, they do not.

In Vanity Fair we felt the scoundrelism and pretence oppressive. In Pendennis this is no longer the case. It abounds of course, for Thackeray is above all things a satirist; but in Pendennis we note a very decided advance upon Vanity Fair with respect to a broader and more generous view of humanity, a larger admixture of goodness with what is evil, and a more loving mellowed tone throughout. It brought the tears into our eyes at several passages of manly pathos, and revealed to us capabilities for more serious writing than is to be found in Vanity Fair. Nevertheless, it is not so popular; partly because it is not so new, but mostly because it wants the leading interest of a story: Pen is not so strong a thread to hang pearls on as Becky. Yet Vanity Fair has no pretty largely.

such charming woman as Laura, no such noble fellow as Warrington. Old Bows, too, is very touching: his hopeless love for the Fotheringay, and then for Fanny, and the way he educates these two only to see others carry them off, are in the best manner of poor Balzac.

Miss Fotheringay has been pronounced a caricature—by those not very familiar with theatrical life. But it was a bold and a successful stroke thus to paint the truth and to show the public that success in acting implies no commensurate intelligence, or even sympathy with the passions depicted. There are exceptions, but, speaking generally, actors are certainly below par rather than above it in intellect. So much of acting is factitious, so much tradition, that a very mediocre person, with tolerable physique and mimetic powers, may "take the town by storm." You might as reasonably suppose the leading tragedians endowed with all the heroism of the parts they play, as capable of intellectual sympathy with them. If any one doubts this, let him listen to a greenroom conversation for half an hour!

We find that we have said little or nothing of the faults of Pendennis; but, although we could have indulged in that antithesis without much expenditure of ingenuity through some columns, yet in truth we thought little of the faults while reading, and care not to be critical just now; they seem to us all resolvable into natural defects which no criticism can cure, or into that carelessness which, at the outset, we declared to constitute his one inferiority to the great writers of other days. But this we will say, that we do not count it as a fault when we see him holding up an unflattering picture to society; nor do we think the truth immoral, "It must be bad, indeed," says Goethe, "if a book has a more demoralizing effect than life itself, which daily displays the most scandalous scenes in abundance, if not before our eyes, at least before our ears."

BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

The Girlhood of Shakspeare's Heroines; in a series of Fifteen Tales. By Mary Cowden Clarke, Author of the "Concordance to Shakspeare." Tale 1. Portia: the Heiress of Belmont. W.H. Smith and Son.

Mrs. Clarke's design in this fanciful work has been to trace the probable antecedents in the history of some of Shakspeare's women; to imagine the possible circumstances and influences of scene, event, and associate, surrounding the infant life of his heroines which might have conduced to originate and foster those germs of character we see in their maturity in his plays. There is something ingenious and poetic in the conception. It remains to be seen how the public will be interested in it. The first tale-Portia-is a good specimen of her powers for realizing her design, since it certainly does, without any farfetched incidents, give a possible history to Portia, and leads us up to the point where Shakspeare begins: but while admiring the construction of the story for its purpose, we cannot say that the story in itself interested us; and before pronouncing judgment we wait to hear what a jury of young ladies and gentlemen will say.

Knight's Cyclopædia of London: Part I. Knight's Cyclopædia of Industry of All Nations. Part I. C. Knight.

These are two scrial works issued to meet the wants of the public at the "great time coming," and in completeness, utility, and cheapness, may fairly be said to take an excellent position. The first is a digested abridgment of the six volumes formerly edited and published by Charles Knight on "London," with the addition of particulars useful to visitors to the various places, such as maps, modes of conveyance, admissions, &c. It will be complete in one volume. The first part contains the parks, botanical gardens, royal palaces, and Palace of Westminster. What we read of it we found very entertaining as well as instructive; and the volume cannot

fail of becoming an admirable guidebook to London. The second work is not so entertaining, but is more distinctly useful as a work of reference. It is a Dictionary of Trades on a large scale. All that man's industry can produce in the shape of Arts and Manufactures, together with all the commercial places where such things are produced, here finds an alphabetical chronicler, historian, and statist. The articles are brief, yet full. But we should counsel the omission of some of the weekly frontispieces: they are not always of sufficient interest to balance their inconvenience in a volume.

Table Talk. To which are added "Imaginary Conversations of Pope and Swift." By Leigh Hunt. Smith and Elder. Leigh Hunt table talks as felicitously as he does anything. This is the sort of volume you are glad to put in your pocket to charm railway ennui; glad to take up while your wife or sister is "putting on her things," or during the quarter of an hour which precedes dinner, at any odd leisure moment, in short, you may open it and be pleased; or you may do as we did, read it at a sitting. It is really table talk; grave, gay, critical, anecdotical, suggestive. There are several passages which might have been omitted with advantage as unworthy of a reprint; but it was a good idea to select from old and fugitive writings just those little bits worth preserving. In The Fairy Mythology; illustrative of the Romance and Super-stition of various Countries. By Thomas Keightley. A new Edition, revised and greatly enlarged. (Bohn's Antiquarian Library.) H. G. Bohn.

We are glad to see this new edition of so entertaining and so erudite a work, which has long been prized by lovers of Folk Lore, and will now make a pleasant Christmas Book for the young and imaginative. Not the least amusing portion of this new issue is the biographical preface, in which Mr. Keightley blows his own trumpet with amazing vigour. He quotes the verdict of "a most competent judge" to the effect that his work on Mythology is "the most elegant work, on a classic subject, in this or, perhaps, any other language." We should have been better pleased had the name of this most competent judge been given, and also to have known whether he said so in public or to the author, and whether he knew all the works in other languages on this subject. But, with respect to his other works, Mr. Keightley not having "competent judges" at hand, delivers judgment himself, with a modesty all will appreciate. "They are as yet unrivalled," he is kind enough to say, "and may long be unsurpassed. My History of England is generally allowed to be the one most free from party-spirit; that of India to be the best manual for the servants of the Company; while mine is actually the best History of Rome in any language [surely this is worth knowing!], and my Outlines of History is, one may say, unique." But, if any one should be prejudiced against this work by such self-glorification, he will be wrong; the book is a good book, and will keep its place.

The Guards and the Line. By Lieut.-Colonel Hort.

J. A. Darling. The object of this work is to show how the Guards are carpet knights, and have only drawing-room difficulties to overcome, while all the real labour of service falls upon the line. This object is carried out by a series of tableaux, in which the contrast is as forcible as need be. The idea is better than the execution. Alfred Crowquill's illustrations are neither humorous nor graphic.

Almanack for the Times, 1851. 4, Crescent, Blackfriars.

A very neat and even elegant almanack. At the foot of this handsome sheet we find a collection of facts, and aphorisms, and statistics respecting the Anti-State Church Movement, of great value. The almanack, mounted on canvass, with rollers, is cheap at one shilling, and without these appendages it may be had for twopence.

Wuthering Heights and Agnes Grey. By Acton and Ellis Bell. A new edition revised, with a Biographical Notice of the Authors, a selection from their literary Remains, and a Preface. By Currer Bell. Smith and Elder.

The Kickleburys on the Rhine. By M. A. Titmarsh.

Smith and Elder.

The Alpha; or the First Principles of the Human Mind. A Philosophical Inquiry into the nature of Truth. Chapman and Hall.

Knight's Pictorial Shakespeare. Part V. (All's Well that Ends

Tracts of the Anti-State Church Association, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4.

Anti-State Church Association. Address to the Wesleyan Methodists of Great Britain and Ire-Anti-State Church Association. land.

Address to the Members of the Church of England from the Anti-Anti-State Church Association. State Church Conference.

The Anti-State Church Movement: its Designs and Tendencies. A Dialogue. Anti-State Church Association. Description and Historical Sketches of Islays. By William Macdonald, A.M., M.D. George Gallie.

Macdonald, A.M., M.D. Magic Words. A Tale for Christmas Time. By Emilie Maceroni. Cundall and Addey.

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Catholicity, Spiritual and Intellectual. An Attempt at Vindicating the Harmony of Faith and Knowledge. A Series of Discourses. By Thomas Wilson, M.A. No. 3. John Chapman.

Household Words. No. 39.

A PROTESTANT BISHOP OF WESTMINSTER .- It is not generally known that there has been a Protestant Bishop of Westminster. In 1541, Henry VIII. changed the Dean into a Bishop, who squandered the revenues and impoverished the see, till in 1550 he was translated to Norwich, and the bishopric abolished. The diocese was our Notes and Extracts we shall draw upon this volume | the county of Middlesex, the name of the prelate Thirlby. -Leigh Hunt's Journal.

Portfolio.

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

THE BAD TIME PRESENT.

This is no time for sloth or coward fears; Life's battle summons us to bravely strike When Truth is champion'd and Oppression scourg'd. The age is leprosied with wrong: in vain Do thousands toil to earn their daily bread In bare sufficiency: they toil and starve Midst boundless wealth from their faint sinews wrung.

And yet we boast that England holds no slave. No slave!—What, are they free whom ruthless Want Goads through a weary round of bitter tasks, From haggard dawn to drowsy midnight chimes? Such freedom binds the soul to lifelong woe, And o'er each quickly-wasting sense sets up The tyranny of Pain. 'T is well that Law Should equal rights extend to rich and poor; But rights are mockeries unless they yield Fruition of the good they recognize. Man's nature grows upon the physical, Though vivified by breath divine. He needs Food, clothing, shelter, hours of sleepful rest, Sunshine, and wholesome air, and privacy, Wherein the sacred joys of Home may bide. These common blessings stinted, he is lost To higher good; thought withers in his soul; His feelings stagnate; his affections droop; God disappears amidst the blinding gloom Of his strong anguish; and he welcomes death As the sole refuge of his hopelessness.

Beneath the garnish'd surface of our State Such misery festers—a most hideous mass Of social rottenness. There, ghoul-like, feed Insatiate Evils, bred in human hearts Quick only with the motions of despair, And bound in darkness fouler than the grave's.

Shall we blaspheme our Maker, and pronounce This ghastly spectacle of ruin'd minds The work of His decree? No: not from Him, The Just, comes this injustice: not from Him, The Merciful, flows this soul-whelming woe. Look on the universe, and learn His will Where order smiles through beauty evermore, And mighty elements, in ceaseless play, Are modulated by a soul of love. Our human woes grow only in the soil Of human hearts, planted and cultured there With care perverse, that reaps an endless crop. O for a wiser husbandry, to clothe Life's barren spots and dismal wastes with joy, Using God's gifts, as they were meant, for ALL, In just proportion unto toil and need! Then fainting limbs might rest; and aching eyes, That strain and darken over ceaseless tasks, Might close in balmy sleep; and hearts that bleed Against the torturing edge of want might heal.

God's bounty is not stinted: it transcends
The utmost limit of our social need,
But waits acceptance in the modes prescribed
By laws that would transmute our ill to good,
And make good lasting as its source divine.
Society was meant for brotherhood,
All thought and action blending in one whole
Harmonious as the gracious Bow of Heaven,
Which spreads its beauty on the murky clouds
By unison of countless beams. But we
Make it a battle-field, where e'en the good
That's won is mutilated in the strife,
And tears stand thick upon the victor's wreath.

J. E. C.

SKETCHES FROM LIFE. IV.—THE NAVVIE.

By A SURGEON.

Many a time, as, rubbing our hands, we have passed briskly to our snug seat at once by the fire and the breakfast-table—many a time has the navvie's figure, seen in that passing glance through the window we crossed, smitten us with misgivings; for, when we reflected that there he had been, on the side of that mountain, labouring away solidly and stolidly, picking out the earth, stroke after stroke, beneath his feet, and making a sufficient shelf thereon slowly, patiently, surely—these three good hours that we had been but steaming

and stewing ourselves in bed, we could hardly bring ourselves to believe that we deserved our breakfast: and many a time we have resolved, like Emerson, "that the workmen on the railway should no longer shame us."

We have observed our friend for hours on that strange perch which distance reduced to a nonentity, drilling, picking, shovelling, and blasting; and we have wondered all the time how on earth it was he did not fall. We have been as attentive as himself, too, to the warning of "Fire!" and have winked both eyes and ears (to talk Irish) more, probably, than himself, while watching the smoke of the fusee, and waiting for the shock of the explosion. And then, on the assurance of "All right," we have run (in thought) with as much interest as he to inspect the expected havor of the blast. We know, the bigger the piece of rock that fell, the greater was his delight, and the greater was ours.

There is no time allowed the navvie for the gratification of curiosity, however: there he is again picking away in the same "unhasting, yet unresting," business-like fashion, while the earth and stones clatter down the slope, incessant as rain and continuous as rain, till suddenly, as "Yo-ho!" rings out from end to end of "the cutting," the whole swarm of them falls instantly into new arrangements. It is dinner-time, in fact; the waggon stands still; the hand-barrow, laid down on its side, seems sprawling for help; the pick, the shovel, the jumper are idle on the ground. Some of the navvies, with their upper clothes thrown loosely over their shoulders, you see running to their not distant lodgings; while others stroll forward to some eligible spot where their wives or sweethearts await them with their dinners. Dinner with them consists of bacon, and tea or cocoa; but many, in lieu of the bacon, have only cheese. The pic-nickers fall often into groups from which the laughter and the talk are hearty enough and loud enough, but hardly Attic. There is a numerous third class, however, who seem to have neither wives nor sweethearts, and who go not home to their lodgings. Members of this class we have seen picturesquely dotted along the middle of a cutting, at due intervals from each other, discussing their dinners on their feet-perhaps, too, in a steam of rain. The meal with them consisted simply of bread and cheese: and we assure the reader that only actual vision can convey the delightful manner in which the clasp-knife dealt now with the caseous cube and now with the cereal; and carried the sections of either unerringly to the

It is amazing to every overlooker that the navvie is not momently in receipt of a broken head; so perilous is his place both below and above. From long experience, however, he has learned dexterity; and you would be delighted to see him, when a break takes place, press himself closely against the side and escape, or throw himself boldly headlong with it, thereby, though half-buried, saving himself from the shock of "the muck;" and falling from great heights softer many a time than could have been thought possible. Poor fellow! he is not always so lucky, however; but may, not infrequently, be seen, pale, bloody, mangled, carried home by means of a plank on the shoulders of four of his comrades. Even in such circumstances, however, he is "hard" and "plucky;" and pleases himself to shout for his pipe or "a drop of summut." In such seasons "his mate" usually sticks very close by him; cooking his victuals, administering his medicines, and smoothing the pillow for his aching limbs. He does not desert him, as we know, even when he lies blackening in cholera, but wets his lips and replaces the bedclothes on his restless limbs, till both are superfluous.

By and bye comes the final "Yo-ho" that sends them worn and weary to their scanty suppers, their never-failing pipes, and their early beds. Morning sees them on the mountain-side again, pursuing the same routine. Wet days, Saturdays, Sundays, and paydays, with accidents, and "the tramp" are the only periods of change to them. Wet days do not seem pleasant to the navvie; his pipe fails to give employment enough; he seems as restless and unsatisfiable as the fowls. Not seldom, however, you hear and see him cheerfully cobbling his boots; or, it may be, delightfully dealing a well-thumbed pack of cards. Of a fine Sunday, perched on a gate with his pipe in his mouth, or roaming about the country in bands, he appears happy enough; still we are inclined to believe that even Sunday is not a very happy day with him.

"The pay" may, though we doubt it much, be a happy time to him; but it is a beastly time to all spectators. Till every farthing of his money has vanished, night and day he is drunk. There they are, he and his mates, for days and days after the pay, staggering about the public-house in the most disgusting fashion; or, like warriors on the battle-field, lying strewn along the borders of the highway, asleep in the most brutal drunkenness, and in broad daylight too, perhaps not noon. The painful coarseness of these scenes is beyond words. We cannot say, however, that the navvie is a creature of any delicacy. He is nice in nothing. Many a time we have come upon him rising and shaking himself from—a couch that quite satisfied him—the corner of a haystack. We have assisted more than once, too, to recover him from the asphyxia induced by the carbonic acid gas of the lime-kiln, by the side of which he had stretched himself for the night. Neither is he averse to barns or other outhouses; but vexes the farmer by his pertinacious attachment to them. We have even seen him located in a cold, stone cavern, and, ogre-like (would you believe it?) munching pleasedly a raw leg of mutton or cube of beef. For, if his lodgings are not nice, neither are his victuals. Bread and cheese is the staple of them, though he may have bacon, when he can afford it, and fresh meat once a week. He cooks for himself not unfrequently, when cookery is required; but, on the occasion we allude to, it seems the needful apparatus had been a-missing, and he had e'en set his canines to work without it.

If such be his habits in regard to lodging, eating, and drinking, he is not one whit nicer in the article of clothing. His wardrobe is very limited. Often have we seen his only shirt—as we have come upon him in some secluded spot by brook, river, or canal—take on, beneath his own stiff fingers, a peculiar saffron hue at length, which to him was at once the token of cleanness and the signal to stop; and many a time have we seen him stand dreamy by the hedge that held to the sun this same saffron-hued habiliment.

Among other things, it must be confessed that the navvie is seldom a favourite in any neighbourhood which he may happen to favour with his temporary residence. This we suspect to arise less from the mode of his entrance than from that of his departure. The fact is the navvie has no principle; he lives to slope, and to slope means to slink off without paying one's debts. No genuine navvie believes this wrong; it is his one cleverness, his solitary talent, his single bright point; and it is, perhaps, hardly to be wondered at that, in his pride of the same, the more he can practise it the greater is his glory. It is almost universally the case with him that, when he has been time enough anywhere to get comfortably in arrears with landladies and other natives, he gets quietly up through the night, makes up his bundle—not always omitting to include in it any stray knicknack that may come by accident to hand—and slopes.

We are afraid, after all, that we have not succeeded in making the navvie agreeable to the reader. This brute, possessed of not one rational idea, that consents to such a beastly existence only for the delight of drunkenness and the triumph of sloping, you will hardly smile on. You know the work he does; you know his firmness in accidents; his steadfastness to his master; still he will not go down with you. And, when you meet him on his "tramp," by some roadside, with his brown cheeks and brown throat, his broad shoulders, hands of horn, and sturdy limbs, with his cap or billycock on his head, his loose neckerchief, his folded down collar, his blue striped slop, with the heart worked on the front of it, and his moleskin trousers turned up above his sufficient lace-up boots, you desire to get out of his way. You like neither him nor his mate. You think the things he has sloped with are in that sack on his back, and that bundle in his hand. You will not give him charity. You are still more averse to him if he wears earrings, and has a fresh young lass by his side, that seems, from the neck downwards, all Indian silk pocket handkerchiefs.

Well, reader, perhaps you are right. But then the question is: should all this be allowed? Are there no arguments here for those "Industrial Regiments" of Thomas Carlyle? Are there no arguments here for association? The strange condition of society—that of high refinement, high civilization, this-God bless the mark! and beasts for the harness-beasts of the most undeniable draught, the most unquestionable burden-ungroomed, unstabled, fed on the most villanous straw and husks, that know neither hay nor corn-allowed to roam at large, unbadged, uncollared, and unticketed, trampling on the gardens of the poor industrious, and eating up the substance of the struggling widow and the unwilling pauper. In the whole railway group is not to be found one well-placed figure. Can the contractor who employs the navvies, who knows their fortunes, and who lives by them, conceive himself such? Can the tommy-shop keeper, with the perfumes on him of rancid cheese, sour bread, and rusty bacon indescribably mingled? Can the ganger, "hollering" six days a-week for the sum of thirty shillings, the most blasphemous imprecations? Can the navvie himself believe himself a well-placed figure? 'T is monstrous that such a dissolute-such a loose, incoherent, inarticulate, miserable condition of society should be longer tolerated! Impossible to change it! How so? Could not these beasts of burden have, at least, each a number and an appointed place? Could not their several capabilities be approximately known and registered? Could it not be made impossible that any one of them should fall aside from the highway and die, as we have seen him more than once, in a corner—starved, unhelped, unnoticed, and uncared for? Could it not be made impossible that any one of them should fail of sound cheese, sweet bread, and fresh butter-that any one of them should fail of a shed over his head, or a clean shirt on his back—that any one of them should be found a dunken log upon the turnpike-that any one of them should steal off like a thief in the night, putting his brutal tongue with brutal triumph into his cheek, with the idiotical chuckle that he carried in his haversack the hard-won earnings of that pinched widow who had made his bed, and done sundry other acts of kindness for him this month and more? We will not believe it. We will believe that all of them can be ordered. We will believe that contractors, gangers, and navvies are all susceptible of law; that all of them can be so placed that the work shall be done, and better done, and yet that each of them shall be bodily, morally, and intellectually looked to and cared for, so that, in the individual and the aggregate, the best and largest result shall issue.

The function of the navvie is a good one. He is breaking down the narrow, the limited, the sectarian, the particular, and bringing rapidly the large, the general, the catholic, the universal. Look at him, even in this island, what work he does! How he tosses Scotland into England, and spreads England into Scotland! How he kneads those Welsh mountains, as if they were but clay in his fingers, and scatters all impediments easily, and

pours upon the astonished Celt the light and air which the terrible and hated Saxon has been, for so many centuries industriously, but unscrupulously accumulating for him! And the doer of all this remains in the state we have described! We hope it will not be for long, however. We hope that Association will speedily enable him to hold up his head with the best of us. At all events, we hope ere long to see him no ownerless beast of burden, wandering at large to the misery of himself, and the encreased misery of the already overmiserable, but a clean and wholesome, a disciplined and drilled, an educated, healthy, and happy soldier of labour, proud of his regiment, proud of his cantonments, proud of himself.

THE SONG OF THE STARS, AND DANCE OF HEAVEN.

Sages tell us, with a look
Winning-wise as elder brothers,
To study heaven's starry book;
And we can read as well as others.
And thus we learn to read the notes
Of happy harmonies of heaven:
The song of stars which ever floats,
Their dance on heaven's blue floor given;
And thus would sing, and, singing, shine
And step with stars in dance divine.

The bright moon dances round the earth, And fills our bards with songful measures; While round the sun, in whirling mirth, Three planets dance with shining pleasures: Now advancing, now retiring— In apogée, in perigée; Now their motions swiftly firing, Now slow and stately dance the three; Then to the east, then to the west, Round they turn, and round and round, Forming figures without rest O'er the blue celestial ground; While, amid the starry mazes, Other sets fair form their dances, Circling them with Beauty's blazes As the Ball of Night advances: Thirty-three, all hand in hand, Wreathed in one high heavenly pleasure, Joined in one bright beaming band, Step in time and move in measure. Round the amorous star of Jove, Four most fair ones dance in passion, Trembling round him as they move, Circling sweet his jealous station; While round dark old Saturn's orb, Two soft sisters—each one vying In the love that doth absorb— Are the dance of joy supplying. And around, how meet the music! How it swells on poet's car! As when Endymion faintly grew sick At the Moon's voice, crystal clear. As they dance the stars are singing, Tone and semi-tone are blending, Shafts of sound around are winging Which their bows of voice are sending. Hark, great Jupiter's deep bass Mingled with old Saturn's tones, Fill the vaulted roofs of space, Hush with solemn sounds our groans! While brave Mars his tenor raises, And our Earth and Venus chime Counter-tenor in the praises Of each other, true in time; And the thrill of Mercury's treble Ravishingly ripples on— In the skiey streams a pebble Liquid-sounded in its tone; And all stars take up the chorus-Some with voice and some with string-Till the spheral sounds come o'er us, And souls dance and spirits sing.

O that thus the world would move—
Ever brightening in progression—
In a starry dance of love
Round its suns in proud procession!
O that thus mankind would time
Their souls unto the starry measures,
Till spirits all beneath the moon
Sung in strains of sacred pleasures!
O that thus mankind would be
Conjoined in heavenly harmony;
Thus God's will on earth be done—
Sky and land be blent in one!

GOODWYN BARMBY.

Matters of Fact.

FINSBURY BANK FOR SAVINGS, SEKFORDE-STREET, ST. JOHN-STREET.—The accounts of the above institution having been made up to the 30th of November, the managers have published the following satisfactory statement of their receipts, repayments, and capital, during, and at the close of, the last ten years:—

Years.		Receipts.		Repayment	Capital.	
1841	• •	44,982		46 239	••	$oldsymbol{\pounds}$ 142,160
1842	• •	45,242	• •	43,618	• •	148,127
1843	• •	51,903	• •	39,726	• •	165,556
1844	• •	60,110		47.025	••	185,051
1845	• •	62,117	• •	52,365	• •	200,513
1846	• •	64,400	• •	64,674	••	205,948
1847	• •	58,096	• •	83,674	• •	185,317
1848	• •	55,726		64,202	••	182,510
1849	• •	65,977	• •	51,791	••	202,146
1850	• •	69,429	••	59,006	• •	218,505

FACTORIES-—A parliamentary document, extending to twenty one pages, has been printed, containing returns of cotton, woollen, worsted, and silk factories, subject to the Factories Act in the United Kingdom. The num-ber of factories in the United Kingdom is 4330, of which 3689 are in England and Wales, 550 in Scotland, and 91 in Ireland. The number of spindles used in the whole is 25,638,716, and the number of power-looms 298,916. The number of moving power by steam is 108,113, and by water 26,104. The number of children between 11 and 13 years in silk-throwing mills is 1737 males and 3916 females. The number of children under 13 (those attending schools) is 19,400 males and 15,722 females. The number of males between 13 and 18 is 67,864, and of females above 13, 329,577. The number of males above 18 is 157,866, making the total number employed in the 4330 factories 596,082, of whom 246,867 are males, and 329,215 females.

UNITED STATES ARMY.—The report of the Secretary of War states that the present aggregate strength of the army is 12,326 men, though only 60 or 70 per cent. of that number are now actually in service and fit for duty. Of the army 7796 are apportioned to Texas, New Mexico, California, and Oregon, and 4530 in the other States and Territories. Indian depredations are carried on with great boldness in Texas and New Mexico, and an additional force of mounted men is recommended. One hundred Indians remain in Florida, and are a source of annoyance and danger to the whites in their vicinity, but great hopes are entertained that they soon will be induced to emigrate westward. The secretary recommends that a small force should be sent against the Sioux in Minnesota to enforce the observance of their treaties with the Chippewas—states that Captain Stansbury's party, to explore the Great Salt Lake, has completed its labours-recommends the formation of a retired list of officers of the army, and estimates the expense of the Quarter-Master's department for the year ending June 30, 1852, at 4,250,000 dollars. The cost of transportation for the army during the year ending in June last was 1,900,000 dollars.

POPULATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.—An official census of the State of Massachusetts has just been completed, showing a population of 994,665, being an encrease of 256,965 since the last census. This is at the rate of 35 per cent., or more than double the average encrease of the five preceding decades.

HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK. (From the Registrar-General's Report.)

The mortality of London, which in the last week of November declined to 861 deaths, and in the subsequent week rose to 1004, now exhibits a further encrease of considerable amount. The deaths registered in the week ending last Saturday were 1090, a number which is greater than that of any corresponding week in the ten years 1840.9, with four exceptions—namely; in 1844, when a week of unusually low temperature (the mean not exceeding 28 degrees) was fatal to 1201 persons; in 1846, when the deaths were 1163, that week being also marked by low temperature; in 1847, when the deaths rose to 2416, at that time influenza being epidemic; and in 1848, when they were 1130, fever then prevailing to some extent, and cholera having appeared. Last week has carried off an unusul number of aged persons (those of 60 years and upwards); and the encrease over the previous return is principally caused by bronchitis and pneumonia, or inflammation of the lungs. In the last three weeks the encrease of bronchitis appears from the numbers returned as follows: 64, 88, 114; that of pneumonia is shown by 67, 86, 113, whilst the mortality from phthisis in the same periods has been more uniform, namely, 96, 113, and 116 deaths. The greater activity of small-pox lately has been noticed; in the present return it numbers 24 fatal cases (nearly the same as in the preceding), of which 4 occurred to persons above 20 years of age. Lisson Grove, in Marylebone, is still distinguished by its ravages; five additional cases (all except one being described as "variola, natural") were registered in the week. With reference to a case in St. Clement Dancs, the registrar remarks, that "the father of the deceased objects to vaccination, but can offer no reason for his opinion;" and reports from other districts prove that the person here referred to is not singular in his prejudice, Other important epidemics are measles, which numbers 20 cases; scarlating, 29; hooping-cough, 42; croup 12; and typhus, 37. From diarrhoa, there were only 10 deaths; two caused by cholera. In connection with various deaths from scarlatina and typhus, the registrars are careful to mention nuisances to which the sufferers have been exposed.

Ten Weeks Week of 1839-49. of 1850. .. 2652 ... 200

	certain or variable seat	556		46
	Tubercular Diseases	1739		165
	Diseases of the Brain, Spinal Marrow,			
	Nerves, and Senses	1203		140
	Diseases of the Heart and Blood-vessels	342	••••	46
	Diseases of the Lungs and of the other Or-			
ł	gans of Respiration	2612		271
į	Diseases of the Stomach, Liver, and other			
i	Organs of Digestion	598		48
ı	Diseases of the Kidneys, &c	96		12
Į	Childbirth, diseases of the Uterus, &c	118		12
Į	Rheumatism, diseases of the Bones, Joints,			
İ	&c	81		10
I	Diseases of the Skin, Cellular Tissue, &c	9		
ł	Malformations	29	• • • •	7
ł	Premature Birth and Debility	244		30
l	Atrophy	156	••••	23
ļ	Age	697	••••	45
١	Sudden	152		7
l	Violence, Privation, Cold, and Intemperance	319		27
l	• •			
ı	Total (including supersified course)	11665		1090
ı	Total (including unspecified causes)	11009		1090

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

The market for the English Funds has been rather flat this week. On Monday Consols opened at 96% to 96%, and afterwards rose 1, but next day, owing to an encreased demand for money in the Foreign and Share-market, prices slightly declined. On Wednesday the market was rather depressed, and Consols closed at 96? to $96\frac{7}{8}$. There was a little more confidence among buyers yesterday; under the influence an advance of was obtained. This morning the market was firm, without any change.

The range of prices during the week has been as follows:—Consols, 96½ to 97: Bank Stock, 212½ to 214; Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents., 98½ to 99½: Exchequer Bills, 64s. to 68s.

In the Foreign Stock Market there has not been much business done. In the official list, yesterday, Buenos Ayres were quoted 53; Chilian, 104; Ecuador, 3\frac{3}{4}; Granada, 18\frac{4}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } \frac{3}{6}; Mexican, for money, 35\frac{1}{4}; for the account, 35\frac{7}{4}, \frac{3}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}, \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, for the account, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and } 36; Peruvian, 82\frac{1}{4}; \text{ and and 82; the Deferred, 364; Portuguese Four per Cents., 354 and 374; for the account, 35, 354, and 344; Russian Five per Cents., 1094 and 4; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents., 978 and 8; Spanish Five per Cents., for money, 19; for the account, 188 and 4; Spanish Three per Cents. Cents., for money, 401; for the account, $40\frac{1}{2}$; Belgian Four-and-a-Half per Cents., $89\frac{3}{4}$ and $90\frac{1}{4}$; and Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., $58\frac{3}{4}$, $\frac{1}{2}$, and 59.

MARK-LANE, FRIDAY, Dec. 20.

We have a good supply of Foreign Wheat, and of English Wheat, Barley, and Oats since Monday. The trade in all grain has been very inactive during the week. Wheat barely maintains the rates current on Monday. Barley meets a slow sale, and all but the finest qualities are a shade lower. The stock of Oats being exceedingly short, former prices are supported with great firmness, but no advance can be realized. The country markets held during the week have exhibited the same dulness as our own.

Arrivals from Dec. 16 to 20:—

		English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat	• •	3770		11410
Barley	• •	•• 4590		1310
Oats	• •	3560	2390	2240

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 7th of December, 1850.

ISSUE DEP	ARTMENT.
£ Notes issued 29,318,915	Government Debt, 11,015,100 Other Securities . 2,984,900 Gold Coin and Bullion
£29,348,915	£29,318,915
BANKING DI	EPARTMENT.

1100 و1200 بدينة	###J010101010
BANKING DE	PARTMENT.
$oldsymbol{\pounds}$	$oldsymbol{\mathcal{L}}$
Proprietors'Capital,14,553,000 Rest	Government Securities (including Dead-weight Annuity)
£38,188,877	£38,186,877

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (Closing Prices.)

Dated Dec. 12, 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

, group of the second s	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock	2133	2135	2133	213	211	
3 per Ct. Red	97.	97g	975	974	971	
3 p. C.Con.Ans.	ຍຮຶ			97 }		
3 p. C. An. 1726.						
3 p. Ct. Con., Ac.	964	97	963	963	967	
3 p. Cent. An.	997	994	983	083	: 99å]	
New 5 per Cts.						
Long Ans., 1860.	73		73	7 13-16	7 13-16	
Ind.St. 10, p. ct.		l {		271		
Ditto Bonds	86 p	88 p	85 p	81 p	83 p	
Ex. Bills, 1000%.	67 b	68 p	64 p	67 p	67 p	
Ditto, 5004	67 p	68 p	61 p	67 p		
Ditto, Small	67 j	68 p	64 p	67 p	64 p	

FOREIGN FUNDS. (Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Thursda Evening.)					
Austrian 5 per Cents. 94 Belgian Bds., 44 p. Ct. 904 Brazilian 5 per Cents. — Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts. 53 Chilian 6 per Cents	Mexican 5 per Ct. Acc. 36 ———————————————————————————————————				

SHARES.

	· - ·	
	Last Official Quotation for the	Week ending Thursday Evening.
	RAILWAYS.	BANKS.
i	Caledonian 105	Australasian 30
	Edinburgh and Glasgow 30°	British North American 43
i	Eastern Counties 61	Colonial
į	Great Northern 173	Commercial of London —
ı	Great North of England 245	London and Westminster 28
J	Great S. & W. (Ireland) 42	London Joint Stock —
l	Great Western 78	National of Ireland —
l	Hull and Selby 1004	National Provincial —
I	Lancashire and Yorkshire 581	Provincial of Ireland 431
i	Lancaster and Carlisle 70	Union of Australia 353
١	Lond., Brighton, &S. Coast 87	Union of London 127
l	London and Blackwall 71 London and NWestern 1253	MINES.
l		Bolanos
I	Midland 48	Brazilian Imperial —
ı	North British 91	Ditto, St. John del Rey 141
l	South-Eastern and Dover 234	Cobre Copper —
l	South-Western 774	Miscellaneous.
l	York, Newcas., & Berwick 183	Australian Agricultural 28
ĺ	York and North Midland 24	Canada 1044
l	Docks.	General Steam 271
	East and West India 144	Penins. & Oriental Steam 90
	London	Royal Mail Steam 74
i	St. Katharine 78	South Australian 24

GRAIN, Mark	-lane, Dec. 13.
Wheat, R. New 39s. to 41s.	Maple 30s. to 32s.
Fine 41 — 43	White 26 — 27
Old 40 — 43	Boilers 28 — 30
White \dots 43 $-$ 45	Beans, Ticks 26 — 27
Fine 42 — 44	Old 27 — 28
Superior New 45 — 48	Indian Corn 30 — 32
Rye 26 -27	Oats, Feed 18 — 19
Barley 21 — 22	Fine 19 — 20
Malting 24 — 26	Poland 20 — 21
Malt, Ord 48 — 50	Fine 21 — 22
Fine 50 — 52	Potato 19 — 20
Peas, Hog 27 — 29	Fine 20 — 21

FLOUR.			
Town-made per sack	40s.	to	43s.
Seconda	37	_	40
Essex and Suffolk, on board ship	32	_	34
Norfolk and Stockton	30		32
American	. 22		23
Canadian	. ZL		23
Wheaten Bread, 7d. the 4lb. loaf. Household	ds, 6 d	l.	

GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

	W	EEK	End	ing Dec. 12.	
				Weekly Average.	
Wheat		39s.	9d.	Rye	11d.
Barley		24	3	Beans	11
Oats		17	1	Beans	5
	Aggregat	e Av	erage	of the Six Weeks.	
Wheat		40s.	2d.	Rye	3d .
Rarley.		24	3	Beans28	9
Oats	• • • • • • • • • • •	17	3	Beans	3

BUTCHERS' MEAT. NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL.*

SMITHFIELD*.

T/ 13/4 O:22 is testing the second se	
s. d. s. d. s. Beef	6 to 4 2 0 - 4 4 8 - 3 8
Head of Cattle at Smithfield. Friday. Beasts	6720 26,800 284
Pigs 385	300

AVERAGE PRICE OF SUGAR. The average price of Brown or Muscovado Sugar, computed

from the returns made in the week ending the 10th day of December, 1850, is 28s. 41d. per cwt.

PROVISIONS.

l	Butter—Best Fresh, 12s. 0d. to 14s. per doz. Carlow, £4 0s. to £4 6s. per cwt.	40		40-
l	Dean Irish	453.	to	408.
l	Chappe Cheshire	40		1747
l .	1)0rhv 1/1911)	77		*/*
ı	Hams, York	60	_	70
	Eggs, French, per 120, 4s, 9d, to 5s, 6d.			

1101	PS.			POTATOES			
Kent Pockets	748. 1	to	818.	York Regents per ton	90s.	to	100
Choice ditto	30 -		150	Wisbech Regents	90		95
Sussex ditto	63 -	_	75	Scotch Reds	85		90
Farnham do			-	French Whites	75		80

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, December 13.

Priday, December 13.

Declarations of Dividende.—W. J. Bebell, Gloucester, shipbuilder; second div. of 4s, together with the first div. of 10s., upon new proofs, any Wednesday; Mr. Miller, Bristol—A. Dickson, Narbeith, Pembrokeshire, grocer; second div. of 2s. 83d., together with the first div. of 6s. 8d., upon new proofs, any Wednesday; Mr. Miller, Bristol—S. Staniford, Plymouth, innkeeper; first and final div. of 7s. 9d., any Tuesday or Friday after December 17; Mr. Hernamann, Exeter—W. Varnan, Ibstock, Leicestershire, draper; second div. of 9d., any Thursday; Mr. Christie, Birmingham—J. and J. Burt, Manchester, and W. T. Watson, Leeds, commission-agents; second div. of 9d., and 1s. 04d. on new proofs, on Tuesday, Dec. 24, and any

Zymotic Diseases Dropsy, Cancer, and other diseases of un-

subsequent Tuesday: Mr. Fraser, Manchester—T. T. Cooke, Manchester, bill-vender; final div. of 4d. and 13-16ths of one penny. on Tuesday, Dec. 17, and any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pott, Mauchester—T. Bamford, Rochdale, woollen-manufacturers, final div. of 2d. and 12-16ths of one penny. on Tuesday. facturer; final div. of 2d. and 13-16ths of one penny, on Tuesday, Dec. 17, and any subsequent Tuesday; Mr. Pott, Manchester— E. Litchfield, Ipswich, upholsterer, first div. of 2s., on Saturday E. Litchfield, Ipswich, upholsterer, first div. of 2s., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurchlane—H. Thompson, Portpool-lane, Gray's-inn-lane, common brewer, second and final div. of 15s. 6d., on Saturday next, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—J. Gerard, Carnarvon, surveyor of taxes, fourth div. of 1s. 7d., any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—J. King, Liverpool, licensed victualler, first div. of 3s., any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—T. Smith, Liverpool, cheesemonger, first div. of 2s., any Thursday: Mr. Cazenove. Liverpool—H. Green of 2s., any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—H. Green, Liverpool, ironmonger, second div. of 1s., and first div. of 4s. upon new proofs, any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—H. Hollis, Liverpool, tea dealer, third div. of 4dd., and first and second div. of 2s. 2d. on new proofs, any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—G. Weiss, Liverpool, musicseller, third div. of 2d., and first and second div. of 2s. 6d, on new proofs, any Thursday: Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool. any Thursday; Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED .- J. Nye, Park-road, Old Kentroad, machinist.

BANKRUPTS .- H. M. EAST, Mark-lane, stationer, to surrender Dec. 23 (instead of the 30th inst., as advertised in the London Gazette of the 3rd inst.), Jan. 15; solicitor, Mr. Richardson, Moorgate-street; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—S. INGAMELLS, March, Cambridgeshire, machinist, Dec. 24, Jan. 28; solicitors, Messrs. Meredith, Reeve, and Co., New-square, Lincoln's-inn; and Messrs. Barley. Wise, and Co., New-square, Emotin s-im; and Messis, Barley. Wise, and Dawbarn, March; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurchlane, Lombard-street—8. Bernard, Warwick-street, Regentstreet, embroiderer, Dec. 20, Jan. 24; solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Stansfeld—C. Grindel and J. Grace, Jermynstreet, St. Langer, Licensed with ullers. Dec. 21, Langer, Schlein. street, St. James's, licensed victuallers, Dec. 24, Jan 23; solicitor, Mr. Shattock, Coleman-street; official assignee, Mr. Johnson—G. Johnstone, Newbury, Berkshire, publican, Dec. 21, Feb. 8; policitors, Messrs. Lawrance and Plews, Old Jewry-chambers; and Mr. Bunny, Newbury; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street—J. Letts, Leamington Priors, Warwickshire, miller, Dec. 31, Jan. 20; solicitor, Mr. Wellington, Leamington; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Brimingham—W. Cousins, Wolverhampton, coachbuilder, Dec. 31, Jan. 16; solicitors, Mr. Stuart, Wellingham—Ton. and Massing Mr. Stuart, Wellingham—Ton. citors, Mr. Stuart, Wolverhampton; and Messrs. Motteram, Knight, and Emmett, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Christie, Birmingham—G. Eckersley, Tyldesley, Lancashire, victualler, Dec 31, Jan. 21; solicitors, Messrs. Richardson and Marsland, Bolton; official assignee, Mr. Pott, Manchester.

DIVIDENDS.—Jan. 3, R. Simpson, Great Bell-alley, merchant—Jan. 9, T. F. Piper, Cheapside and elsewhere, wholesale staymanufacturer—Jan. 4, E. Whalley, Kingsgate-street, High Holborn, clothworker — Jan. 16, W. Halley, Kingston, Herefordshire, miller — Jan. 23, J. T. Holland, Coventry, builder — Jan. 2, J. Scowcroft, Haverfordwest, scrivener — Jan. 2, G. Strawbridge, Bristol, builder — Jan. 9, W. H. Boon, Plymouth, ironmonger — Jan. 14, J. Robinson, Wakefield, spinner — Dec. 23, J. and J. Burt, Manchester, and W. T. Watson, Leeds, commission-

CERTIFICATES.—To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary on the day of meeting.—Jan. 9, H. Snelling, Brighton, grocer — Jan. 7, T. Woodroffe, Webb's County-terrace, New Kent-road, druggist—Jan. 4, G. Fuller, late of the Poultry, auctioneer — Jan. 4, J. T. Gunn, late of Knightsbridge, bill broker — Jan. 13, J. Gilston, Leeds, woollendraper — Jan. 6, J. and T. Horsfield, Wheelock, near Sandbach, Cheshire, coal dealers— Jan. 9, J. Worsey and J. Biggs, Aston, near Birmingham, wire

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS. - D. Wylie, Methven, Perthshire, farmer, Dec. 18, Jan. 8 — L. Fraser, Inverness, coachbuilder, Dec. 20, Jan. 10.

Tuesday, Dec. 17.

DECLARATIONS OF DIVIDENDS. - J. Robinson, Ripon, surpechanations of Dividends.—J. Robinson, Repon, surgeon; first div. of 2s., on any day on or after Dec. 17; Mr. Young, Leeds—J. Eastwood, Farnley Tyas, manufacturer; first div. of 1s. 2\d., on any day on or after Dec. 17; Mr. Young, Leeds—T. Broadbent, Halifax, draper; first div. of 5s., Dec. 19, or any subsequent Thursday; Mr. Freeman, Leeds—C. Fenfold, Arundel, ironmonger; first div. of 7s. 6d., Dec. 21, and three subsequent Saturdays; Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane—S. W. Rickman, Hailsham, Sussex, innkeeper; first div. of 11d., any Wednesday; Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—G. Thorneloe, High-street, Poplar, grocer; first div. of 94d., any Wednesday; Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street-T. Blenkarn, Chancery-lane, law stationer; third div. of 13d., Dec. 19, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street-W. Stiles, Lisle-Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street—W. Stiles, Lisle-street, Leicester-square, coppersmith; second div. of 1s. 4\d., Dec. 19, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street—M. Marentie, King William-street, merchant; third div. of 3s. 0\frac{3}{4}d., Dec. 19, and three subsequent Thursdays; Mr. Stansfeld, Basinghall-street—F. and C. Sandars, Dorlay, corn marghants; first div. of 10d on the identication. Derby, corn merchants; first div. of 10d. on the joint estate, first div. of 8s. 6d. on the separate estate of F. Sandars, and first div. of is. 8d. on the separate estate of C. Sandars, Dec. 21, or any alternate Saturday; Mr. Bittleston, Nottingham-G. Ellins, Droitwich, Worcestershire, salt manufacturer; second div of ad., any Thursday; Mr. Christic, Birmingham.

BANKRUPTS.—G. MAY, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, builder, to surrender Dec. 27, Jan. 31; solicitors, Messrs. Norton and Son, New-street, Bishopsgate; official assignce, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street.—G. LEA, Upper Belgrave-place, Pimlico, and Nun-head-lane, Peckham-rye, coal merchant, Jan. 3 and 28; solicitors, Messrs. M'Leod and Steming, London-street, Fenchurch-street; official assignce, Mr. Graham-J. PULLEN, Powis-place, Great Ormand-street, lodging-house-keeper, Dec. 31, Jan, 24; solicitor, Mr. Barham, Essex-street, Strand; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street-G. Bonny, Windmill-street, Gravesend, licensed victualler, Dec. 28, Feb. 8; solicitors, Messrs. Martineau and Read, Raymond's-buildings, Chancery-lane; official assignee, Mr. Pennell, Guildhall-chambers, Basinghall-street-8. MOYER, Old-street, St. Luke's, linendraper, Dec. 21, Feb. 8; solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside; official assignee, Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street— T. MATTIRWS, Kenilworth, licensed victualler, Jan. 6, Feb. 3 solicitors, Messrs. Motteram, Knight, and Emmet, Birmingham; official assignee, Mr. Valpy, Birmingham—G. STEELE, Durham, grocer, Dec. 31, Jan. 28; solicitors, Messrs. Maples, Maples, and Pearse, Frederick's-place, Old Jewry; and Messrs. Wright, Sunderland; official assignee, Mr. Baker, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

DIVIDENDS .- Jan. 8, W. Greenup, sen., Prescot, Lancashire, coal proprietor—Jan. 8, J. G. Geyelin. Liverpool, zincworker—Jan. 9, T. Dalton, Coventry, silk dyer—Jan. 10, W. Barnes, Milnrow, Lancashire, flannel manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES .- To be granted, unless cause be shown to the contrary, on the day of meeting, -Jan. 8, R. Lavers, Southampton, grocer—Jan. 8, J. Hawke, King William-street, hatter—Jan. 8, F. and G. La Mark, Water-lane, Tower-street, ship brokers—Jan. 10, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 10, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 10, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 10, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 10, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 11, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 11, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 12, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 12, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 12, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 12, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 13, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 14, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 14, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 14, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 14, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 14, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and E. Braddock, late of Farringdon—Jan. 15, J. B. Dames and Jan. 15, J. B. Dames street, glass merchants -- Jan. 9, H. E. Gerlach, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, merchant-Jan. 9, W. H. Boon, Plymouth, ironmonger.

SCOTCH SIGUESTRATION .- J. Bogle, Uigle, Kintyre, Argyleshire, fa mer, Dec. 23.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

On the 8th inst., at Florence, Mrs. Baring, of a son. On the 13th inst., at Pixton-park, Dulverton, the Lady Mary Hood, of a daughter.

On the 13th inst., at Weybread Vicarage, Suffolk, the wife of the Reverend T. K. Thomas, of a son.
On the 13th inst., at Oakhill, Accrington, Lady Gervis, of a On the 13th inst., at Croston-lodge, Lancashire, the wife of

H. M. Feilden, Esq., of a daughter.
On the 14th inst., at Farnborough Vicarage, Warwickshire, the wife of the Reverend C. W. Holbech, of a son.

On the 15th inst., at Folkestone, Kent, the wife of R. B. M. Lingard, Esq., of a son.

On the 15th inst., at Highgate-hill, the wife of J. I. Tatham, Esq., of Lincoln's-inn, of a daughter. On the 15th inst., at Kilburn, the wife of J. L. Merivale, Esq.,

of a daughter. On the 15th inst., in Doctors'-commons, the wife of W. T. Pritchard, Esq., of a daughter. On the 15th inst., at Moulton-paddocks, Suffolk, the lady of Sir

R. Pigot, Bart., M.P., of a son. On the 15th inst., at the Parsonage, Maidenhead, the wife of

the Reverend J. A. Birch, of a daughter. On the 16th inst., Mrs. H. D. Abercrombie, Stanhope-street, Regent's-park, of a son.

On the 16th inst., the wife of Chas. Skipper, Esq., of Russellsquare, of a daughter. On the 17th inst., in Grosvenor-square, the Lady Mary Far-

quhar, of a daughter. On the 17th inst., in Lower Brook-street, the Lady Wodehouse, of a daughter.

On the 17th inst., in Weymouth-street, Portland-place, the wife of G. T. Airey, Esq., R.N., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 31st of October, at Perth, Canada, John Dewe, Esq., of Kingston, to Clara Alicia, sixth daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel H. Nellis, of Grimsby.

On the 10th inst., at Walworth, Elizabeth Frances, eldest surviving daughter of the Reverend J. Wood, of Great Malvern, to H. B. Sheridan, Esq., Brompton.

On the 12th inst., at Edinburgh, the Honourable C. Augustus Murray, her Britannic Majesty's agent and consul-general for Egypt, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Jas. Wadsworth, Esq., of Geneseo, New York.

On the 14th inst., at St. Botolph's, Aldersgate, James Bowen Thompson, Esq., M.D., of Suffolk-place, to Elizabeth Maria, second daughter of the late H. Evans Lloyd, Esq., of Charterhouse-

square.
On the 16th inst., at St. James's, Paddington, the Reverend J. J. Wilkinson, M.A., vicar of Erith, Kent, to Gertrude, sole surviving child of the late J. Walpole, Esq., of Dublin,

On the 17th inst., at St. Marylebone Church, William Hunter, Esq., Eightieth Regiment of Foot, to Miss Carsina Gordon Gray, of Carse, Forfarshite.

On the 17th inst., at All Souls' Church, Langham-place, C. R. M'Grigor, Esq., eldest son of Sir J. M'Grigor, Bart., K.C.B., to Elizabeth Anne, youngest daughter of Colonel Sir R. Nickle.

On the 17th inst., at Morval, Cornwall, Sir John Duckworth, Bart., to Mary Isabella, youngest daughter of the late J. Buller, Esq., of Morval.

On the 18th inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Colonel J. Perry, of the Thirty-first Madras Light Infantry, to Ida Sophia, eldest daughter of Captain J. E. Parlby, R.N.

DEATHS.

On his passage from Madras to the Cape, Captain H. Houghton,

of the First Madras Fusiliers. On the 22nd of September last, in California, John Sampson Esq., second son of the late Reverend G. Sampson, rector of

Leven, Yorkshire. On the 24th ult., at Hampton-court Paddocks, Mr. W. Worley, aged 86, a faithful servant of the Royal Family for 72 years. On the 28th ult., on board the bark Clara, off the Island of St.

George, Azores, J. G. Courtenay, Esq., staff surgeon, late principal medical officer of New Zealand. On the 29th ult., at Alston, Cumberland, G. Salvin, Esq., late

captain in the Fourth Foot. On the 8th inst., at Redland, near Bristol, aged 35, Mr. Robert Norris, an earnest and able supporter of civil and religious

On the 12th inst., at Bognor, Chas. M. H. Kennett, Esq., only surviving son of the late Reverend B. Kennett, rector of East Hsley, Berks, aged 28. On the 12th inst, at Portsea, Elizabeth, relict of the late Re-

verend J. Griffin, of Portsea, aged 80. On the 12th inst., at Shanklin, Isie of Wight, J. A. Warburton,

youngest son of the late J. Warburton, Esq., M.D. On the 13th inst., the Reverend J. Townsend, of Newbury, Berks, formerly rector of Ickford, Bucks, aged 66. On the 13th inst., at Lille, in France, Major J. B. French, late

of the H.E.I.C.'s service, aged 51. On the 14th inst., at Tottenham, G. Twining, of the Strand,

aged 68. On the 15th inst., in Green-street, Grosvenor-square, General the Honourable Sir Wm. Lumley, G.C.B. and K.C.H., aged 82, extra groom in waiting to her Majesty, colonel of the First Dragoon Guards, and uncle of the present Earl of Scarborough

On the 15th inst, at Edinburgh, Mrs. Harriet Sucherland, only daughter of the late Mr. S. Highley, of Fleet-street. On the 15th inst., at Beeding Priory, Sussex, aged 45, Anna

Matilda, wife of the Reverend W. P. Hulton.
On the 16th inst., at the Hall, Barrow-on-Trent, the Right Honourable the Lady Scarsdale, relict of the late Lord Scarsdale os Redlestone, Derbyshire, aged 84.

On the 16th inst., in Langham-place, Mrs. Winifred Spencer Stanhope, aged 87. On the 16th inst., at Mount Radford-terrace, near Exeter. Marianne Elizabeth Cathcart, daughter of the Honourable and

Reverend A. H. Cathcart. On the 17th inst., aged 71, Thos. J. Tatham, Esq., of Russell-square, many years assistant tithe commissioner.

On the 17th inst., Elizabeth, the wife of the Reverend Armine Herring, of Thorpe Rectory, Norfolk, and daughter of the late G. Robinson, Esq., of Knapton, in the same county.

In his 76th year, the Reverend R. W. Wake, rector of Courteenhall, Northamptonshire.

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