

Joseph Clayton Junr, 205 Market

# The Leader.

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

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## News of the Week.

THE Income Tax Bill has passed its second reading in the House of Lords, without even an anxiety pro forma: the debate was to be considered simply as an appendix to the previous debates, the whole treatment of the affair having been arranged beforehand. One year more of the income-tax and then a fight about it; unless in the interval Whigs and Protectionists find their interest in combining against the public.

For the Protectionists are not to be trusted, even in their capacity of anti-Whigs. Their leader is no more than an exiled Whig, a Coriolanus amongst the Volscians; his opposition to the possessors of the Capitol is a perverted sympathy, rather than a genuine antagonism. His party for the time being neither trusts him nor understands him, nor comprehends its own vocation. When Lord Stanley was sent for to form a Ministry, he declared himself "not prepared:" when he had an opportunity of legislating, or trying to legislate on protective principles, he skulked below and shirked what seemed to be the plain duty of a devout believer in the prime article of his party's creed. Now, when he has not the slightest chance of success, when even the forms of the House bar him from the attempt, when he cannot move, he comes out and declaims at the House in good set terms.

Yet have these Protectionists a mission, and they know it—but know not how to perform it. Protection meant something more than "rent." It had a bright or rather a less dark side. What it seems to have meant was this: that the cultivators of the land should have a full share of the fruits of their toil. We are now "prosperous," gay, employed, and amused. But the season of distress which occurs periodically will assuredly return, like the typhus or the cholera, and then "prosperity" will vanish. The Protectionist party are still the landlords—still the respected patrons of the agricultural labourers; they are on the spot, and, in that day of trial, the agricultural labourers will look first to their "friends" for relief: those landlords must be prepared to solve the question then, or the exasperated peasantry will at once turn to others, the promulgators of doctrines which have found their way into Wiltshire and Somersetshire; into Hampshire, Devon, and Kent; doctrines which teach that the land is man's, and that the fruits thereof are the rightful property of industry.

A perverse fate, self-provoked, obliges Ministers to go on with the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, painful even to themselves, despised by their supporters, and successfully obstructed by the Irish members. The Irishmen are quite right. The measure deserves no respect; the Government which propounded it does not deserve to exist; and there is no reason why conscientious opponents should waive the resources of an Opposition. They are

[COUNTRY EDITION.]

right to fight the Government on this bill, right to support Mr. Baillie in his Ceylon motion next Tuesday, because his attack menaces the existence of the Government. In order to make his attack effective they ought not only to give him their votes at a division, but to take care that he has a House, and to keep it for him, even through the dinner hour. If the independent members had done their duty, they would have stood by Sir William Molesworth and Van Diemen's Land on Monday.

A perverse fate deprives them of the courage to accept a rising movement, which would fall in well enough with their past, and with their general views—the movement for secular education. Mr. Fox reintroduced it, with much ability, on Thursday, in a speech full of facts, clear and temperate. Lord John Russell must see, well enough, that the plan is not hostile to religion, but the reverse; nevertheless, Sir George Grey committed the Ministry to the imitation scheme, which was devised, like the original in Manchester, but which has not, like that, the inherent elements of success. Ministers have taken up with cant and misconception, where an easy and most creditable reform offers itself for their adoption.

The May meetings are totally eclipsed by the Exposition and its appendages: even the Derby did not thin the crowd in the Crystal Palace on Wednesday—the greater, perhaps, for the expectation of more room; and ordinary philanthropies gave place to the grand international dinner at Richmond, where English Conservatives and Commissioners fraternized with foreign Republicans. Lord Ashburton, indeed, made the mistake in his congratulatory retrospect, of declaring that the press had been hostile to the Exposition whilst it was a project; but the working commissioners must know better. Lord Ashburton has been misled by the temporary aberration of a distinguished journal; his colleagues can tell him that the press was generally favourable, and sometimes useful at a pinch. As to the Exposition itself, the continued increase of numbers has suggested the very pertinent question whether further regulations may not be necessary when the admission shall be reduced to one shilling. Already the collection of the crowd is great at particular spots within the building.

French politics are becoming wonderfully simplified. Parties clearly define their boundaries. "Fusion," as we have seen, is Legitimacy in disguise; "Revision" is Monarchy at any price. The principle of both is the same. For a long distance their route is coincident. The Republic is no longer covertly called "neutral ground." It is now hostile territory openly attacked; and the design is openly announced of conquering it by force or fraud. This, of course, simplifies the position of the Republicans. They now know their foes, and the designs of those foes. It is their turn to take up the strong position of legal resistance, and they will not be backward. They have, in effect, become the "Party of Order."

The mask of hypocrisy worn by the De Falloux and De Broglies is torn aside. They are now the enemies of constituted authority.

The forged message hoaxed the *Débats* and the *Constitutionnel*, as well as the *Chronicle* and the *Times*. The *Débats* honourably inserted a letter addressed to it by Mazzini without comment, simply intimating, in a few introductory lines, signed "Armand Bertin," that the forged missive was not inserted without doubts of its genuineness. The *Times* correspondent, however, suppresses one paragraph of Mazzini's letter, sneeringly doubts its authenticity, and tells us that in "official quarters" the message was held to be genuine. The *Constitutionnel* insinuates doubts as to the sincerity of the denial, and treats the whole affair maliciously. In fact, both in good sense and good faith, M. Mazzini has again surpassed these mighty paladins of the party of order.

Rome does credit to French patronage and English tolerance. Roman is constantly fighting with Frenchman, and beating him, single-handed. Blood flows. The population exhibits its hatred, both of the Papal Government and its French janisaries in many ways. Notably, by beating the French, and refusing to smoke Papal tobacco. Meanwhile the Pope walks before the Lateran in a high wind, with his major domo to hold his scarlet hat on!

The cunning old Germanic Diet has again set itself up at Frankfort. In the words of one of its own organs, it has "resumed." What a long adjournment—three years! Apparently its members have quite forgotten that Metternich had to scamper from Vienna, and that they themselves vanished before the "Constituent" assembled in St. Paul's Kirk! Prussia, quite beaten and disarmed, flies into the arms of brother-in-law Nicholas at Warsaw. Austria, triumphant for the moment, will go to meet the effete Diet, prepared to enforce the execution of her scheme for the incorporation of the non-Germanic provinces. These German Kings have a curious and devout faith in dead institutions. We wish them joy of their transitory victory, and a light pair of heels in the coming day of retribution.

Nearer home, the most stirring events of the week, perhaps, have been the Derby day without a great race, but one which piqued interest by perplexing calculation; the fatal fall of a great building in Gracechurch-street, a great range of chambers uncompleted; two disastrous accidents on the Midland Railway through neglect of signals; and more than one bad fire. The worst fire in the City is evidently of that class in which life would have been saved if one of Phillips's "annihilators" had been in the house. In the railway and building accidents, we see how the commercial principle fails when it is trusted too far. The love of dividends multiplies trains too quickly on the line; parsimony of materials cuts too close for safety; and in both instances life is sacrificed to the golden idol.

## PARLIAMENT OF THE WEEK.

The stagnant calm which usually prevails in the House of Lords was slightly disturbed, on Monday evening, by a gentle discussion on the Property Tax Bill, in which the Marquis of Lansdowne and Lord Stanley were the chief interlocutors. Lord Lansdowne, in moving the second reading of the bill, admitted that the property tax, like all direct taxes, is liable to the imputation of great inequality in particular cases, inequality which he was convinced no ingenuity of Parliament could remove; still, however with all its defects, it had enabled them to repeal or reduce taxation to the extent of more than £10,000,000 a year since 1842, while such had been the development of trade under those reductions, that the nett revenue, independent of the income tax, was nearly as large in 1850 as it had been in 1842. They had therefore established a great power of reproduction, and were now in the proud position of having to dispute, not so much as to how they should raise an amount of revenue, as how they should dispose of the surplus at their command. After saying a few words in favour of Sir Charles Wood's Budget, he concluded by moving that the bill be read a second time. Lord Stanley had no intention to oppose the bill, nor even to discuss the present commercial system of Ministers, for the development of which the continuance of the property tax was required; but he could not agree with the course Government seemed inclined to pursue, namely, to continue this confessedly anomalous and irregular measure, not as it was proposed by Sir Robert Peel, and pledged by Parliament to be—a temporary expedient to meet a temporary emergency—but as a permanent incorporation with the general taxation of the country for the development of what was called "our commercial prosperity." He did not approve of applying any portion of the surplus to the abolition of the window tax, or the reduction of the timber and coffee duties. A much wiser plan, in his opinion, would have been to apply what they could spare of it to the reduction of the income tax. He thought that, both financially and politically, they had carried the system of free trade and unchecked importation of foreign produce to a dangerous and mischievous extent. As regards the property tax, he was sorry to see Ministers acting on so pernicious a principle, allowing no surplus to accumulate, but continually bringing down the revenue so nearly to balance the expenditure that it was hopeless in any one year to be able to do away with that tax:—

"He thought they ought to take steps for gradually, but certainly, getting rid of the tax at the earliest possible moment; but, standing in the hampered position which their lordships' House did with regard to bills of this kind coming from the other House, he for one could not, under the circumstances, agree to assume the responsibility of advising their lordships to reject a measure which they could not amend, and which was absolutely necessary, in one shape or another, for the maintenance of the public credit of the country."

Lord MONTEAGLE said he should be sorry to see Parliament go on blindfold with a system of taxation which contained within itself the elements of decay. The system of relying on a property tax was a most dangerous one, because in order to induce Parliament to grant a renewal of the most odious of all taxes, Ministers were obliged to sacrifice some of those taxes which were unpopular in the next degree. The wiser plan would have been to employ the surplus in reducing the income tax. Earl GREY, in reply to a remark of Lord Stanley regarding the adulteration of coffee, which seemed to imply that the practice was rather favoured than otherwise by Government, said—

"If the noble lord had looked more closely, he would have found the real fact to be that the Government did not favour the adulteration of coffee, but that both the present administration and the two which had preceded it felt that practically it was totally impossible by legislative restriction or interference by excisemen to prevent that adulteration. He was afraid that adulteration was not confined to the article of coffee alone, but was too common in many other things. He had been shown a certain kind of chalk or limestone, the other day, at the Museum of Economic Geology, and upon asking what it was used for, he was informed that it was principally employed to adulterate the best Durham mustard. (*Hear, hear, and laughter.*) He thought the truth was, that with regard to adulteration, the only remedy lay in the hands of the consumer, who, if he took care to deal only with respectable tradesmen, would not be given an adulterated article."

Notwithstanding the general impression on Friday evening that Ministers were likely to carry their amended Papal Aggression Bill, without much further discussion, the speech of Mr. REYNOLDS, when the House had gone into committee, on Monday evening, showed that the Irish party were determined not to give up their ground so easily. The member for Dublin, having moved that Mr. Bernal do now report progress, proceeded to defend the course taken by the Irish members in their opposition to the bill. They had been charged with wasting the time of the House in factional opposition, but they had excellent precedents for what they had done and proposed to do. In proof of this he read a passage from the first volume of Mr. Brongham's speeches, describing

the course taken by the Whig Opposition obstructing the continuance of the income tax in 1816, when nearly six weeks were spent by the House of Commons in receiving the numberless petitions poured in from every quarter. The course taken on that occasion was followed by success; it had received the sanction of the highest Whig authorities, and he could not understand why a similar course of proceeding should now be condemned as factious. Sir GEORGE GREY hoped the House would not go into that discussion. As for the question whether the course now taken was in accordance with the spirit of the understanding made with the House on Friday evening, he was quite willing to leave that to the decision of the House. The Earl of ARUNDEL and SURREY, in seconding the motion of Mr. Reynolds, denied that they were infringing any arrangement, and repudiated the charge of their opposition being factious. Mr. ROEBUCK also disclaimed all factious motives in the opposition he had given; and contended that the motion was perfectly reasonable. The bill had been completely changed, and therefore the House ought to have time to consider it. Mr. GLADSTONE did not think the motion would be consistent with the arrangement made on Friday evening. Nevertheless he thought that the opponents of the bill had a right to demand that a few days should be given to consider the changes made in the bill. An irregular discussion followed, after which the House divided, when the numbers were—

For reporting progress ..... 46  
Against..... 262

Majority in favour of Ministers 216

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL totally denied that this was a new bill, the only alteration being the insertion of the clause now standing first, that which was formerly first being now second. The first clause was declaratory, and embodied the recitals of the preamble. It declared that the attempt by the Court of Rome to establish sees or dioceses, with territorial titles, was illegal and void. This clause added nothing to the penalties of the bill, but gave a more solemn form to the recitals of the preamble. The second clause went on to enact that the assumption of titles not provided for in express terms by the Emancipation Act—that is, the assumption of titles not belonging to existing sees or dioceses of the Established Church—should be illegal. This clause had been so much discussed, that its real intention and effect could not be mistaken. When it was said that the second clause would interfere with charitable bequests and trusts of the Roman Catholic Church, the simple and obvious answer was that the provision of the Emancipation Act had not had that effect, and the present bill would only be the application of the provisions of that act to sees and dioceses not included within it. Mr. GLADSTONE wished to know whether the bill, as it at present stood, would make all written documents connected with the rights or usages of the Roman Catholic religion illegal, as had been stated on learned authority? The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said they would stand on the same footing as such documents had stood since the passing of the act of 1829 to the present time. Doubts, indeed, might be entertained on the subject. The question that the preamble be postponed underwent a long debate, or rather conversation, in the course of which Mr. REYNOLDS moved that the Chairman report progress, which was negatived upon a division. The other question was affirmed upon a division. Lord ARUNDEL and SURREY then renewed the motion that the Chairman report progress, which was supported by Mr. REYNOLDS; and ultimately Sir G. GREY, on the part of the Government, assented to the Chairman leaving the chair, to sit again on Friday.

Sir WILLIAM MOLESWORTH brought forward his motion on Tuesday, for an address, praying for the discontinuance of transportation to Van Diemen's Land, in an able and unanswerable speech. He commenced by alluding to the strong feeling which prevailed on the subject throughout the colony. Numerous public meetings had been held last year, and petitions adopted, claiming the fulfilment of the imperial promise made in 1847, that transportation was to be abolished, and praying her Majesty, as the mother of many children, to save their children from the horrid corruption and unutterable pollution to which they were exposed from being surrounded with convicts. He gave a rapid sketch of the fluctuating policy of the Legislature for a number of years past. In 1838 a parliamentary committee reported that the assemblage of a large number of convicts in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, and the disproportion between the sexes in those colonies, had produced, and were certain to produce complicated and appalling evils, moral and social, which outweighed beyond calculation the lucrative advantages from convict labour to the penal colonies. They therefore recommended that transportation to New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land should be continued as soon possible. In 1840 an order in Council was issued, which put an end to transportation to New South Wales, a boon for which they were indebted to the Prime Minister. Unfortunately the noble lord was succeeded by Lord Stanley in 1841, who, as regarded Van Diemen's Land, disre-

garded every one of the recommendations of the Transportation Committee:—

"To that colony, previously overcrowded with convicts, the noble lord transported annually twice as many convicts as had been transported to it in any previous year; and he subjected those convicts to a system of punishment, namely, the gang system, which the Transportation Committee had especially condemned as the worst form of transportation. (*Hear.*) On the average of the three years, before Lord Stanley came into office, the number of convicts transported to Van Diemen's Land amounted to about 1680 a-year; on the average of the five years that Lord Stanley was Secretary of State for the Colonies the number of convicts transported to that colony was 4200; therefore, in those five years 21,000 convicts were added to the criminal population of Van Diemen's Land. It was calculated that in consequence of this influx of convicts, and the consequent overstocking of the labour-market, 12,000 free persons were driven out of the colony in the interval between 1841 and 1848. He found on comparing the census of the 31st of December, 1842, with that of 1847, that in that interval the criminal population, including the convicts who had become free, had increased more rapidly than the non-convict population had increased by births and immigration; that, in 1847, of the whole population of the colony above the age of fourteen, more than two-thirds had been transported; that of the non-convicted portion of the population one-half were under the age of fourteen; and that of the criminal population only one-sixth were women."

In 1846, Mr. Gladstone left office, having previously decided that transportation to Van Diemen's Land should be suspended for two years. He was succeeded by Earl Grey, who, in his first letter of instructions to Sir William Denison, governor of that colony, said he regarded the resumption of the plan of pouring into Van Diemen's Land such an annual flood of transported convicts, as had recently been sent to that island, as altogether impossible. In the following year, the governor, in his address to the Legislative Council, stated that Government had decided that transportation to that colony should not be resumed at the expiration of the two years. The fact of this declaration having been made was announced to Earl Grey in a despatch received at the Colonial-office on the 5th of February, 1848, and as no contradiction was given to the statement, the natural conclusion was that Government accepted it as correct. Notwithstanding the Government pledge, however, transportation was soon after resumed. In 1845 Lord Stanley left office, and was succeeded by Mr. Gladstone, by whose orders an inquiry was instituted into the state of the colony, when the most appalling discoveries were made. It was found that the chain gangs and probation parties were, to use the words of Sir James Stephen, "nothing else than schools of advanced depravity, by which every remaining trace of virtuous habit or sentiment was effaced from the mind of the convict." It was discovered that very many of these convicts were suffering from hideous diseases, produced by unmentionable crimes, which, according to the statement transmitted by the Bishop of Tasmania from his clergy, "were committed to a dreadful extent throughout the diocese." In short, Van Diemen's Land was a loathsome ulcer on the body of the British empire, and a foul reproach to this country. Soon afterwards an address was presented to her Majesty from 1750 free colonists of Van Diemen's Land, praying for the abolition of transportation, and a similar petition was presented to this House. The petitioners stated that they lived "in continual dread and anxiety for themselves and their families, owing to the number of convicts by whom they were surrounded;" that, if transportation to Van Diemen's Land continued, they must, at whatever sacrifice, abandon a colony which would become unfit for any one to inhabit who regarded the highest interests of himself or his children;" that the unbounded supply of convict labour was driving the free labourers out of the colony; that "no new emigrants would come, for that they themselves would never have emigrated to Van Diemen's Land had they foreseen its present state;" and that "ultimately Van Diemen's Land would exhibit a spectacle of vice such as the world could not parallel;" and the result was great discontent throughout the colony. First of all, at the close of 1847, an attempt was made to send the worst class of convicts for New South Wales to Van Diemen's Land, but this attempt was not successful, and the order for it was revoked. A second attempt was made in April, 1848, when Lord Grey wrote a despatch to Sir W. Denison, in which he announced his resolution to resume the ticket of leave system. Since this transportation had continued, notwithstanding the numerous petitions, memorials, and protests, against the system from the Legislative Council, the magistrates, by the inhabitants, and the women of the colony. Three most important meetings had been held in Van Diemen's Land, for the purpose of protesting against transportation in any shape to that colony. From the statements made at these meetings it appeared that three-fourths of the entire adult male population were convicts. These convicts now impudently set up a claim to the whole of the colony. They said that Van Diemen's Land was the patrimony of the thieves and felons of England. That colony, they said, was created for them, and they



threatened to expel the honest settlers, whom they represented as "Puritans." A Vagrancy Act had been passed by the Australian Legislature for the protection of the settlers against the felony of Van Diemen's Land, but that act had been vetoed by the governor, to the disgust of the honest inhabitants, who have formed an anti-transportation league, for the purpose of diverting the stream of vice and crime which threatened to overwhelm them and their offspring. A petition had been agreed to in one part of the colony, signed by 35,000 persons, including the three bishops and all the clergy, praying that their land might no longer be polluted by the convicts of this country. At Sidney, also, a petition, with 50,000 signatures appended, had been got up, and at Melbourne similar exertions had been made to remedy the present degrading system. Without saying anything as to the system of punishing criminals by transportation, he earnestly called upon the Government to listen to the prayers of the settlers of Van Diemen's Land. He concluded by moving that an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying for the discontinuance of transportation to Van Diemen's Land. Sir GEORGE GREY could not deny that there was a general desire amongst the colonists for the abolition of transportation, but he thought the statements on that head had been greatly exaggerated. He admitted that Earl Grey had changed his opinion on the transportation question, owing to the difficulty he found in carrying out the original intentions of Government, but he had also found that public opinion in Van Diemen's Land had undergone some alterations on the subject. He admitted, however, that the colony had reason to complain, and that it was the duty of the Government to attend to those complaints, and to endeavour to relieve them from the aggravated pressure of convicts. But he thought that it was justice to the colony to show that its condition was not so bad as had been represented. The evils at present existing in Van Diemen's Land did not arise from sending out there a small number of improved convicts under the present system, but were the results of the too long continuance of the old system. Though the views of the Government as to the dispersion of convicts as widely as possible have been thwarted by the unwillingness of the colonists to receive convicts in any stage of their sentence, with a view to that dispersion the Government were not without a means of meeting the difficulty. He thought there were means in view by which they might dispose of their convicts in a way to meet the wishes of the colonies. With regard to the motion before the House, he hoped the House would not by its hasty adoption impose on the Government greater difficulty and embarrassment than they had already to encounter in carrying out the sentence of transportation, or attempt, by removing one evil, to create another. He hoped they would be satisfied with the desire of the Government to act justly and impartially towards the colony, and he therefore trusted they would reject the motion. Mr. ANSTAY having risen to support the motion, it was suddenly found that there was not a House, there being only thirty-three members present, who instantly adjourned.

The chief subject of debate in the House of Commons on Thursday night was Secular Education. Mr. Fox moved:—

"That it is expedient to promote the education of the people in England and Wales by the establishment of free schools for secular instruction, to be supported by local rates, and managed by committees elected specially for that purpose by the ratepayers."

He asked for education not as a measure of compassion, but as an act of justice. The system of voluntary contributions was in a state of demonstrated inefficiency. The evidence furnished by the inspectors of schools amply proved his case. That evidence showed that education could not be sustained unless recourse was had to an educational rate. The mode in which the present system was carried on was another cause of inefficiency. There was a partiality inherent in it, which obstructed public coöperation. The church schools received a great part of the grants; the inspectors, all but three, were members of the Established Church; and the poor ratepayers found themselves compelled to pay for a better education for pauper children than they could afford to give to their own. Besides the burden of the expense fell upon the clergymen; owners and occupiers of land contributing little or nothing towards parish schools:—

"The present system afforded a stern denial to every proposition for moral education, but gave support to every kind of religious teaching. It seemed as though there was something evil in 'morality' which required to be counteracted by even bad theology (*hear, hear*); that history was not to be studied unless it was accompanied by heresy, and that decimal fractions were fatal to the soul if they were not mingled with that which some called idolatry. One of the school catechisms spoke of the Puritans as men who murdered their Sovereign and starved the clergy. Were dissenters to pay for such things as that? The result of the whole system was, that every man had to pay for something he did not believe, and in his turn became a cause of taxation to others for something he believed and they did not believe. (*Hear, he*)

The resolution he proposed asserted the necessity of local taxation and local administration for purposes of education. He wished to separate secular from religious teaching; he did not wish to annihilate the latter. It was impossible that secular and religious instruction could alone, and the same time, flow from the mind of the teacher to the mind of the pupil. What affinity was there between the Athanasian creed and the multiplication table?

The resolution was opposed by Sir GEORGE GREY and Sir W. P. WOOD, on the ground that, though education might be desirable, it would be wrong and impossible to separate secular from religious education without destroying the latter. Sir GEORGE GREY held that the country had expressed its clear opinion that education should be based upon religion; and Sir W. PAGE WOOD declared that the real effect of the proposed plan would be tyrannically to sweep away all existing religious schools supported by voluntary contributions. The noticeable thing being, on the Government side, that they took up with the Clerical Manchester Plan, eulogized it, and wished it success. Sir G. GREY even hoped that they would bring in their bill next session.

In support of the resolution, Mr. C. Adderley and Mr. Cobden occupied the chief places. Mr. ADDERLEY pointed out with great effect that the present system was deficient in one great feature, for it failed to point out to the people how they might earn their own livelihood. Mr. COBDEN dealt broadly with the whole question. They did not want to destroy religion and nurture irreligion. It is worth remarking that Mr. Cobden declared he would not oppose the reading of the Bible, without note or comment, where desired. Sir ROBERT INGLIS declared that knowledge by itself was an unmixed evil. Mr. Sidney Herbert marked the state of opinion in the majority, when he said there was a decided feeling expressed in the country that "education must be promoted, and that in some shape or other it must be secular, but likewise religious." On a division there were—

For Mr. Fox's resolutions .....	41
Against .....	139
Majority .....	—98

In the House of Lords the Earl of CARLISLE moved that the Capitular Estates Bill be read a second time and referred to a Select Committee. This is a bill for the better management of Church property. The Bishop of London and Lord Stanley both admit the necessity for inquiry, but the bishops object to the bill itself. The ministerial proposition was affirmed by 46 to 28.

**CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.**—The resolution moved by Mr. Ewart, "That it is expedient that the mitigations which have been made in the laws inflicting capital punishment in England be extended to Scotland, and, as far as possible, to the colonial possessions of this country," was, after a short discussion, withdrawn, on the assurance of Sir George Grey that he was in communication with the Lord Advocate of Scotland on the subject.

**HOP DUTIES.**—The motion of Mr. Hodges for leave to bring in a bill to reduce the hop duty to 1d. per pound was negatived by 88 to 27.

#### THE EXPOSITION DINNER AT RICHMOND.

International Dinners, as we intimated last week will be celebrated in the annals of 1851.

The Chairmen of the Metropolitan Local Committees entertained the foreign Commissioners at the Castle, Richmond, on Tuesday. Five o'clock was appointed for meeting, and when the guests arrived, the whole population of the town turned out to receive them. Triumphant arches spanned the streets, and flags of all nations fluttered with surprising profusion from balcony and house-top. Inscriptions conveying a hearty welcome were displayed on every side, and repeated cheers broke forth from the crowd when the strangers made their appearance. Arrived in the grounds of the hotel, the guests beheld a series of rowing matches take place on the river. During this interval, also, Mr. Chapman presented to Lord Ashburton, the chairman of the day, a congratulatory address, which his Lordship acknowledged in suitable terms. Shortly after six o'clock the company assembled in the large and handsome hall of the hotel.

After dinner the speechifying business commenced with the customary toasts. In proposing the health of "Prince Albert, and all who are near and dear to him," Lord Ashburton eulogized the Prince as the patron and author of the Exposition:—

"Prince Albert found the Houses of Parliament indifferent—ready to listen to objections, however frivolous—he found the leaders of parties, leaders of public opinion, shrink from the responsibility of defending it. He found the press hostile, the Government paralyzed by the thought that if it failed they would have thousands to pay, if it succeeded they would have millions to keep in order. He found the public bewildered; it knew not what to do, what to wish, what to expect. Who then was for it? No one save the Prince and the small knot of enterprising men—(*loud cheers*)—he had associated with himself, and partially inspired with his enthusiasm. The fact was, we were not prepared for it. We talked, indeed, of progress; we enjoyed, like children, a whisk to Exeter in four hours—like children we delighted to see Nasmyth's hammers squeeze an orange or crush an anvil. We admired the physical results of progress, but

the effect of our discoveries on the social and political relations of mankind we were all blind to. We were like full-fledged birds sitting on the brink of the nest, conscious of fresh powers, but ignorant of the mighty range which their development had brought within our scope. (*Cheers.*) But it was not so with Prince Albert; he felt that God had not given us the genius of discovery, had not intrusted us with dominion over the powers of nature that it should all end in cheapness. He felt that nations might be brought together with their works, and that, through this Industrial Congress, some advance might be made towards that unity of mankind, that universal peace, which has been the dream of philanthropic men from Sully to Elihu Burritt. But those good men mistook their means of action, and brought ridicule on their sacred mission. They thought that the lust for war might be controlled by the fear of war; that a majority would always be on the side of peace. But a sounder philosophy has taught us that prevention is better than punishment—(*cheers*)—and as we seek to keep peace among citizens by softening their hearts, by training and civilization, so also we might soften the hearts of nations one towards another by such meetings as these. (*Cheers.*) In this faith—in this steadfast faith—he got this ark reared, the ark of a new covenant among nations; in this faith he sent forth his missives into all lands; in this same faith the nations of the earth have responded to his appeal; they have understood his meaning, and have sent you, gentlemen, to represent them in this first great gathering. (*Cheers.*)"

The next toast was "The Foreign Commissioners," to which M. Von Viebahn heartily responded in English, calling the Exposition "an event the advantages of which will serve the interests of all mankind."

M. Van de Weyer returned thanks on behalf of the members of the diplomatic corps:—

"They would permit him to make use of a humble English phrase when he said, that the Crystal Palace spoke for itself, and had silenced for ever all dissentient voices. Since the 1st of May, the grumbling against that magnificent undertaking had entirely ceased, and this was but another proof of the truth of the saying of a witty Frenchman, 'Rien ne reussit si bien que le succès.' (*Cheers.*) If such a phenomenon existed as an opponent to the Exhibition now, he must have a peculiar organization indeed. (*Cheers.*) As a foreign Minister, he desired to express his deep sense of gratitude to the English people. When the nations of the civilized world responded to the invitation of Prince Albert, and forwarded to this country the richest products of industry and art, they well knew they were treading on safe and solid ground, and their confidence was a just tribute to the strength of British institutions, to the sterling qualities of the people, and to their respect for order, authority, property, and law. (*Cheers.*) Foreigners were not then so well aware as they now were, that every class of society would vie with the other in giving to visitors from abroad the warmest reception; that the noblest hospitality would be shown, and that strangers would be made, by the reception they received, to feel themselves at home in this country. (*Cheers.*)"

The Chevalier de Burg read a speech translated into English, in which he said:—

"Our noble chairman has ever been foremost in the cause, and, as foreigners, we shall ever remember with gratitude the urbanity with which his hand, even from the commencement, has been stretched forth, to welcome such of us as wished to participate in the festival dedicated to the industry of every nation, a festival intended as a solemnization of the sacred cause of labour. Gentlemen, I give you from my heart, 'Our noble Chairman, Lord Ashburton.'"

M. C. Dupin, in French, proposed "The Royal Commissioners." He spoke warmly in praise of English institutions, English wealth, the Royal Commission, and Prince Albert, the "most gracious, affable, and active of princes." He dilated upon and exaggerated the difficulties which they had surmounted—even the site of the "féerie du Palais" had been disputed; and he wound up by an eulogy of the juries, justly applauding the whole conduct of the Commissioners in relation to foreign exhibitors.

Lord Granville returned thanks in the name of the Royal Commissioners. He said the present dinner was given in honour of the foreign Commissioners, without whose exertions and untiring zeal the success of the Exhibition must have been converted into a failure. The last toast proposed was "the health of Mr. Paxton," who said that when the grand project of the Exhibition was proposed, he had heartily entered into it; but, while he had anticipated great results from assembling together the products of all nations, he had anticipated still greater advantages from bringing together the inhabitants of different countries. (*Cheers.*):—

"In one respect only had he been disappointed, for he had fancied that the Crystal Palace would be a difficult place to keep clean. (*Laughter.*) He had designed a machine to obviate that inconvenience of a hundred housemaid power—(*laughter*)—and he had put the commissioners to some expense in having these machines made. They would have answered very well, but they had never been called into requisition, for they were not needed. As a policeman had remarked to him, the building had been kept completely clean by the rich silk dresses of the ladies. (*Laughter.*)"

There was music during the evening. Mr. Harker was toast master, and created an immense sensation among the foreign guests by the manner in which he discharged the duties of his important office.

[We regret to state that we have been disappointed in not receiving in time an expository paper on the Great Exposition, which therefore will appear in our next.]

Although the morning of Saturday was cool and misty, and threatened to be showery, and although it had been announced that, as usual on that day, the doors would not be opened until twelve, except for exhibitors, the pressure at the doors, even at the hour of ten, of many who did not know of this arrangement, sufficiently indicated that it would be a great day for the Crystal Palace. Her Majesty and the Prince Consort, at that time, were within the building, having arrived about half-past nine, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Prussia, and attended by Mr. Dilke. Her Majesty had also with her the three elder of the princesses, and the two younger were likewise present for a short time. The royal party commenced with Spain, and her Majesty and the Prince carefully examined the contents of this small compartment; where are to be seen the elastic blades of Toledo, the superb monstrosity of Lima, the wool of Merino, the silks of Valencia, the veils of Andalusia, and the embroideries of Seville, besides the woods of Cuba and the ores of Peru. They then passed into Portugal, and thence into the Tuscan, Roman, and Sardinian compartments. The French section of the Exhibition subsequently occupied the attention of the royal visitors, who left the building shortly before twelve o'clock.

During the day the Duke de Nemours visited the building, as also did the Duchess of Gloucester; and in the afternoon Prince Albert and the Duke of Saxe-Coburg were there. Among the other distinguished persons present we may mention the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Wellington, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Stanley, Sir J. Graham, Sir G. Grey, and Mr. Labouchere.

About half-past four a plan was put in operation for the purpose of ascertaining as nearly as possible the total number present in the building at one time. Policemen were placed at the doors to count the persons who left, it having been ascertained that the numbers of those who after that hour passed in were much less. The result was that, from that time till the close of the Exhibition at seven o'clock, 24,850 persons passed out. The building was very much crowded, at least the central portion of it, during the latter half of the day, but in other parts there was not the least pressure. Towards the afternoon the sun came forth with great warmth, and from twelve till four there was one constant stream of visitors, arriving by all sorts of vehicles—omnibuses, carriages, cabs—and, in the latter case, often involved in altercations with the drivers.

The funds of the Exhibition were increased on Saturday by the sum of £3089 16s., which was made up as follows:—From season tickets, viz., 141 ladies' and 83 gentlemen's admissions, £557 11s. 6d.; receipts at the doors, from 10,129 visitors at 5s., £2532 5s. The total receipts at the doors last week were £13,406 10s., from 53,626 visitors. 992 ladies' and 657 gentlemen's season tickets were sold during the same period.

It is in contemplation to invite the members of the executive committee of the Great Exhibition to a public dinner at Birmingham.

Lord Leigh has invited all his numerous tenants to visit London at his expense, that they may see the Crystal Palace and its contents.

A letter from Stockholm, of the 3rd, says:—"It may be remembered that the King of Sweden has sent, at his own expense, several distinguished artisans to London, to examine the Great Exhibition. Now the Diet, on its side, has just voted 12,000 rix dollars (66,000 francs) destined to allow 100 clever workmen to proceed to London for the same purpose."

On Monday morning the Queen and Prince Albert, with the Prince and Princess of Prussia, were in the building from a quarter past nine; and the Duchess of Kent had arrived still earlier. Her Majesty and the Royal party entered, as usual, at the door on the north side, and proceeded to resume their inspection of the Exhibition at the point where they had last left it—the North German States of the Zollverein. Her Majesty examined the different stands in each compartment, and thence proceeded to Russia, whose extensive compartments still look very bare, although there are already not a few articles in them of no small size or magnificence. They next passed into the adjoining compartments of America, of which it will be remembered there are five on each side, though their contents are by no means in proportion to the space occupied. Her Majesty then visited the two smaller, but better filled divisions occupied by Sweden and Norway and Denmark, and the extensive compartments of the Zollverein, which lie on the south side of them. Through the superb stands of Bohemian glass the Royal party next went into the Austro-Italian sculpture-rooms, and shortly afterwards left the building.

Among those present on Monday before twelve o'clock were the Duke of Wellington, Don Miguel, Earl Fitzwilliam, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Bishops of Oxford and Salisbury, Lord Hotham, Mr. P. Scrope, Mr. Trevelyan, Mr. Cobden, and many other members of Parliament. The Prince of Wales was with Prince Alfred examining the machinery while her Majesty was in the building. After her Majesty and Prince Albert had retired, the Prince and Princess of Prussia remained some time, and, subsequently, when the Princess withdrew, the Prince still remained, as also did the Duchess of Kent, some time longer. It was two o'clock before the Duke of Wellington left, and he had previously visited "France" and other foreign compartments, and also our Indian compartments.

The total amount of money taken for 5s. admissions, on Monday, was £2443. The numbers present were somewhat less than on Saturday or Friday.

Many regulations are under consideration for the purpose of moderating the pressure of the crowd expected next week. Among these it is suggested to keep the crowd in regular and constant current, by making them

pass up one side and down another, and preventing any one moving against the current—compelling them to go into side passages if they wish to deviate. This arrangement is already adopted on a small scale in the Italian sculpture-room, which without it would be almost inaccessible. It is also intended to place policemen on platforms slightly raised, so as to enable them to overlook the crowd. It is intended, as far as possible, to limit the admissions during the same period, so as to prevent more than about 30,000 or 40,000 being present at one time—which, it is supposed, will be effected by admitting not more than 60,000 on any one day.

The receipts at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, from 5s. entrance fees, rose to the enormous sum of £3360 15s., which with the amount drawn from the sale of season tickets (£350 14s.) amounted altogether to £3711 9s. Such a result is truly surprising, and is probably attributable to the additional number of visitors brought up to town by the attractions of the Derby-day. As the demand for season tickets at the present rate of charge is now visibly on the decline, it is a question whether the commissioners ought not by reducing the price to try and open up a fresh demand. It is perfectly open for them to do so if they think proper, and, considering the size of the building, we cannot see any objection to such an arrangement. Professor Ansted has announced a series of eight lectures on successive Friday and Saturday mornings, between the hours of nine and twelve o'clock, in explanation of the mining processes, mineral products and manufactures forwarded for exhibition from various parts of the world. The first of these lectures which took place yesterday, was of an introductory character—treating of the general nature of the materials of which the earth is composed. He will next discuss in their order, mineral fuel, iron, and other metals; stone, clays, various earthy minerals and gems.

The chief commissioner of police has just issued the first and second parts of a series of hand-books, intended as guides for the constabulary of the metropolis in the first instance, and likewise as securities to the public, as to the fares for hackney carriages, both by distance and by time. With these comprehensive manuals in the hands of every police officer on duty, most effectual provision is made against imposition and extortion; for, in every street, appeal can be made to an authority against which we may venture to say drivers will rarely offend, knowing, as they soon will, the consequences with which they will be visited. The standings from which the fares and distances are given in the two handbills just issued are those at Whitehall and at the Exhibition, Prince's-gate, Hyde-park; and it is intended to publish similar lists for all the principal standings.

#### CONTINENTAL ASPECTS.

The continental news presents nothing stirring this week.

M. de Sainte Beuve was beaten in his free-trade proposition in the National Assembly. The parliamentary clubs are still actively organizing the great "revision" party. The plan we mentioned last week has been made public, and will be carried out. M. de Falloux, in an address to a Legitimist meeting, has openly declared for monarchy. In the course of his speech he said:—

"As to postponing a vote on the question of revision, I cannot see how we can do so, as to discuss the question and then not vote on it is what the country could not comprehend. Many will say that Providence does not do much in the political affairs of the world; but who can venture to say so, when all that has occurred since 1848—all our unexpected successes—are taken into consideration, such as the law on public instruction, the expedition to Rome, the union of parties previously at variance, order so miraculously restored, owing above all to the noble leader who commanded the army? In pondering over all these facts, I cannot but come to the conclusion that never has Providence better governed; and, in fact, a man might be tempted to say that He did nothing else during the last three years."

A curious specimen of national vanity and French reverence!

The Councils-General are said to be actively preparing for a campaign against both the Constitution and the Republic. But when were they not said to be doing the same thing?

Anti-Republican parties having now unmasked their intentions, the tactics of the Republicans are greatly simplified. They have only to wait patiently for 1852, should there not be in the meantime an armed attack by the party of order upon the Republic. The *National* says:—

"The Republicans are warned; there are in the Assembly, in the high regions of power, men who conspire to overthrow the Republic, and bring back Royalty without adjournment in September, 1851. Well, we are ready. Calm and patient, we shall wait for 1852; but, strong in our right and in our moderation, we will greet every attack against the Republic and the Constitution as we greeted in 1830 the attacks of M. de Polignac and his consorts. The Royalists declare to us that they are going to agitate the country to overturn the Republic. Let them give the signal of agitation, and we promise them that the Republicans will follow them in that course. The Republicans desire peace—that peace which the Monarchy was never able to give; if the Royalists desire disturbance, they shall have it. Let them raise the white flag, we, on our sides, will agitate our flag of the revolution, and there will not be in France a commune, a village, or a hamlet which will not rise to the cry of 'Vive la République!' On them be the responsibility of events!"

The incident of the week, however, is the affair of the *forged message* attributed to Mazzini. The

*Constitutionnel*, wilfully blind to the irony of Mazzini's note to the *Times*, treats it very captiously, not to say dishonestly. The *Débats* is less disingenuous, and candidly states that it "did not publish that singular document without a certain degree of reserve"; and it prints, without further comment, a long letter from Mazzini, not only disavowing the "message," but distinctly contradicting its doctrines. The *Times* correspondent casts doubts upon the authenticity of this letter, which, by-the-by, in his translation he has thought proper to mutilate. Now, we can not only authoritatively assure the *Times* that it is genuine, but point out the forger. The reading public are familiar with the name of one M. Capefigue, who has possibly revealed more diplomatic secrets which never existed than any man living—a sort of Chenu, or De la Hodde in polite society. He was the concocter of "that singular document" which so egregiously mystified the *Times*.

The veracious correspondent informs us that "in official quarters" the genuineness of the message was never questioned. All we can say to that is, that "official quarters" and "own correspondents" appear to be made of gullible material.

In consequence of adverse votes in the Belgian Chamber of Representatives, the ministry, finding that it was impeded in its financial projects, and in its plans for the execution of great public works, resigned *en masse* on the 17th inst.

In Germany the meeting of the Emperors still continued to engross public attention. The Germanic Diet has resumed its sittings at Frankfort. The Austrian project of incorporating her non-German provinces in the confederation, is reported to be going on favourably, which we very much doubt. A rumour prevailed at the beginning of the week, that England had withdrawn her opposition, but it has since been contradicted. Lord Cowley is however at Frankfort, armed with full powers to negotiate with the Diet.

Prince Charles Schwartzberg has left Vienna for Transylvania. It is admitted now that this misgoverned province "was never kept in better order than by Bem, and never in worse than by the present administration." The fate of Hungary, as far as diplomacy and centralisation can affect it, is decided. All sentences are in future to be passed in the name of "The Emperor of Austria." Of the King of Hungary there is no mention.

The steamer Caffarelli, which reached Brest from Lisbon on the 16th, brings news that on the 12th, at the period of her departure, anarchy was at its height at Lisbon, and in all parts of Portugal. Saldanha, who has been left behind by the Progresista movement, which demands the abdication of Queen Donna Maria, did not dare to quit Oporto for fear of some surprise, or of a reaction of opinion of which he would be the victim. Besides this, he had not succeeded in forming a ministry, and the absence of all regular authority favoured to a marvellous degree the projects of the anarchists. Notwithstanding this state of things, the powers represented in the Tagus had made no demonstration.

#### ROMAN RIOTS AND "NO SMOKE!"

The conflicts between the French and the Roman soldiery have become so serious as to cause the removal of a portion of the Pope's soldiers from Rome.

While the Parisians were celebrating, amid rain and sleet, the anniversary of the legal proclamation of the Republic on the 4th of May, a bloody skirmish took place near the Ponte Sisto, which ended in the death of four or five soldiers and one civilian, besides a great number wounded.

The origin of the row was attributed to the zeal of a Jesuit preacher, of the missionary order, who held forth to the people on the afternoon in question from a temporary pulpit in the Piazza della Branca, and exhorted them to abandon their sins, especially the heinous offences of carrying prohibited weapons and reading Mazzinian circulars. Apparently he was successful in his exhortations, since several persons (suspected by some to be merely accomplices in the pious fraud) came forward and presented long knives and printed papers to the preacher, who knocked off the points of the first with a hammer and anvil on his right side, and consigned the second to the devouring flames of a brazier on his left. The Roman public considered this scene of penitence to be a mere farce. Those persons who carry stiletos and read republican papers are by no means likely to be moved by the eloquence of a Jesuit, but the preacher was, notwithstanding, so satisfied with the result of his efforts that he wound up with a procession, to which due decorum was added by an escort of Roman infantry, much to the amusement of some French soldiers, who, standing at the door of their barracks, laughed heartily at the whole affair, and especially ridiculed the military religious duty imposed on the soldiers du Pape. The Romans, not overpleased with forming part of the show, and irritated by the satirical remarks of the French, turned the tables on the latter by abusing them in some wine-shops after the conclusion of the procession, for restoring the Pope and obliging them to out such an unsoldierlike figure. Words brought on blows, and



the French, as usual in these partial engagements, were worsted by the sudden fury of the Romans. Reinforcements were brought on both sides, and the affair became so serious that half a battalion of French troops was required to put an end to it by occupying the whole scene of action, and placing advanced sentries to hinder any one from coming down the adjacent streets. Three French soldiers, who had taken refuge in a passage and closed the door, were alarmed by the sudden entry of a tailor, who happened to live in the house, and ran in to escape the shower of missiles flying between the combatants. The Frenchmen, thinking themselves attacked, rushed out, charging bayonets down the passage, and killed the unfortunate tailor on the spot.

On the next day hostilities were resumed in Trastevere between the Roman and French soldiery. A Roman sergeant, in command of a small party of infantry, was relieving guard, when, passing near the church of San Giovannino della Malva, a group of French soldiers, perhaps irritated by the occurrences of the preceding evening, made as usual some insulting observations concerning the soldats du Pape. This title not being tamely received by the Romans, one of the Frenchmen was imprudent enough to step forward and strike the sergeant in the face, an outrage which the latter immediately resented by transfixing him with his bayonet, leaving him mortally wounded on the spot. The Frenchmen fled at this sight, and the Romans proceeded on their march. The French beat to arms subsequently, and patrolled the quarter in strong parties, arresting and ill-treating Roman soldiers wherever they found them. The sergeant was conveyed with his arms tied behind him, under an escort of six gendarmes and twenty-four soldiers, to the residence of the French commandant de place, there to undergo the sentence of a court-martial, which it is expected will condemn him to degradation and six years of the galleys. A Roman artilleryman, who split a Frenchman's head last year, for having spat in his face, was only condemned to six months' imprisonment, and that not for having killed his aggressor, but for having pursued the other three who had insulted him also, and threatened them with his bloody sabre.

The Romans consider that the sergeant is very hardly treated, as he was insulted by a blow while in the execution of his duty, and was therefore fully justified in making use of the weapon in his hand; but the French military authorities are furious at losing any of their men, and prudently considering that their force is but small in presence of a hostile population, have insisted on the Roman infantry being sent out of Rome.

Meanwhile the Pope was seen, on the same day, walking near the Lateran, with his carriage and guards following—the wind was very strong, and a sudden gust took his broad scarlet hat off his head, but he caught it again in mid air, and thrust it firmly on; not an unapt emblem of his losing and regaining the tiara. His major-domo, walking beside him, then respectfully held the papal hat in its proper position!

In imitation of the Lombards the people of the Romagna and La Marca have determined to abandon the habit of smoking, in order to deprive the Government of the profit arising from the lucrative monopoly of tobacco. The Romans have followed their example; and, albeit, much devoted to the inhalation of the weed, which suits "the gloomy temper of their souls," the greater part of the Romans have joined in the anti-smoking demonstration—a demonstration trifling in itself, but important as showing the unanimity with which the Pope's lieges join in any line of conduct displaying hostility to the Government, even to the sacrifice of their own personal comfort. The police authorities have made the matter worse by thrusting cigars between the teeth of all the spies and *sbirri* of the town, so that many of the moderates, and even *neri*, who would have otherwise continued smoking, have flung away their cigars in order not to be confounded with that class of satellites. Prince Torlonia, who farms the monopoly of salt and tobacco, is horribly annoyed at the demonstration, which has so sensible an effect on his revenues that he has already made a protest to the Government; stating that he cannot consent to become a loser by a purely political movement, not at all depending upon the quality of his tobacco, or the exactness with which he carries out the conditions of his contract. The Government will, of course, laugh at such grounds of complaint. Meanwhile, in the one week's account from Bologna, it was found that in that city alone there was a diminution of 6000 dollars on the average sale of tobacco. In Rome the retail vendors state that their sales amount to hardly one-third of the usual quantity.

#### THE ANTI-CONVICT MOVEMENT.

When the mails, recently arrived, left Adelaide the transportation question was still seriously agitated. A meeting of delegates from all the colonies had been held at Melbourne on the 27th of January last, when an association was formed, called "The Australasian League," the object of which is sufficiently described in the following solemn engagement subscribed to by the members:—

"1. That they engage not to employ any person hereafter arriving under sentence of transportation for crime committed in Europe.

"2. That they will use all the powers they possess, official, electoral, and legislative, to prevent the establishment of English prisons within their bound; that they will refuse assent to any project to facilitate the administration of such penal systems; and that they will seek for the repeal of all regulations, and the removal of all establishments for such purposes.

"3. That from the 1st of January, 1852, they will refuse all dealings, intercourse, and fellowship (so far as may be consistent with religious or natural obligations) with any and all colonists who may be found advocating or endeavouring to procure the transportation of British convicts to the Australasian colonies.

"And lastly. That they solemnly engage with each other to support by their advice, their money, and their countenance all who may suffer in the lawful promotion of this cause; and that they will never dissolve this league until the transportation of convicts to these colonies shall entirely cease."

A demonstration convened by the sheriff was made at Adelaide on the 8th of February. The Chairman, Mr. John Morphett, remarked that the expressions made use of by the Secretary of State in a despatch to the Governor of New South Wales, dated August 30, 1850, showed the inclination of the Minister against the system, and his anxiety "for the moral prosperity" of the colonies. The first resolution stated in effect—The colonists felt assured that the province would suffer, both in a criminal and moral point of view, by indirect transportation, so long as the system of transporting the convicted felons of the United Kingdom to Van Diemen's Land continued. A petition, drawn up by the Sydney Committee, against the renewal or continuance of the moral pest was adopted.

A Mr. Bonwick was introduced, for the purpose of giving his practical opinion on the evil working of transportation in Van Diemen's Land:—

"He was sent out with a Government appointment nine years ago under the Russell Government. He found he had to compete with men who in talent were far his superiors, but who were not free men. At the time he arrived in Hobart Town, there was only one schoolmaster, a prisoner, and when he left it nine months back, there was scarcely one who was not a prisoner. There were not less than eight schools, the masters of which were all prisoners. The head master of the Church of England school was, although a talented man, a prisoner, and the mistress was a lady of highly respectable connections; but what degradation for her to be associated in a school with such a character. It was, in fact, useless to think of competing with bond labour. A clergyman, in fact, the examining chaplain of the Bishop of London, was sent out to Van Diemen's Land, as might be expected, for our good. He was sent on a probationary party for two or three years, and his conduct was so bad, that he (Mr. Bonwick) had heard the men upon the same station declare that he was so disgraceful a character that they would not associate with him. Being possessed of a good address, at the termination of his probation he came to Hobart Town, and was at present keeping a highly respectable school. Persons who came to South Australia were surprised to find the same persons here they found they had left behind, and more was to be dreaded by their presence here as they were unknown, while in Van Diemen's Land everybody knew them. They did not in part know the contamination to which they were subjecting their children. When his (Mr. Bonwick's) son began to grow up and go into the bush, how did he know that his companion was not a truly convicted felon? Let the colonists of South Australia, by assisting to relieve Van Diemen's Land from her present difficulty, emancipate themselves. (Cheers.)"

As the movement was not a political, but philanthropic one, it was carried that the signatures of females be attached to the petition.

#### THE FALL OF THE EDIFICE IN GRACECHURCH-STREET.

Since the fall of the iron roof of the Brunswick Theatre many years ago we have had no similar accident so tragic as that which occurred on Saturday in Gracechurch-street. The premises, which were the property of Messrs. Bell and Corbett, of Pope's Head-alley and Adelaide-chambers, King William-street, occupied the site of the Old Cross Keys Inn and coaching-house, on the west side of Gracechurch-street. They were intended exclusively for chambers and other private offices; and some idea may be formed of their extent when it is stated that the number of apartments amounted to 140. The property comprised one lofty range of buildings, four stories in height, and extended some 200 or 300 feet into Ball's-court, George-yard, Lombard-street, the south frontage running the whole length of Allhallows Church-passage.

The works had been going on for the last six or eight months, and it appears that the firm who owned the premises were their own builders, the workmen and labourers being under the direction of a Mr. Dennett, a kind of superintending foreman. The walls and flooring were built so as to render them fireproof, the girders being of iron, and the intermediate spaces filled with concrete.

Men were at work in all parts of the building, some on the upper floors pouring in concrete, some below mixing mortar and sand, on Saturday; the upper

floors had been just completed as a preparative to laying down the roof. Mrs. Beckett and Mrs. Back, two neighbours, were looking on. Suddenly they saw the pillars which ran up between the windows appear to split in the centre of the building, and one after another give way "just like the falling of a house of cards built by children." Workmen were seen leaping off the building on to the roof of Allhallows' Church and the adjoining houses. Six Irishmen, one after another, ran along the uppermost floor, and let themselves down into the street by the projecting iron stays. A girder in the centre of the building two tons weight had snapped with a report like a musket shot, falling upon and breaking another beneath, and making the walls collapse, crashing down upon those below, carrying with them those above, shaking the foundations, and smashing the windows of near habitations, and, finally, settling down into a chaos of brick and iron, shrouded in a thin veil of dust, and mingling dying and dead and wounded in the ruins.

Consternation, wonder, excitement everywhere! A crowd rushing from the populous streets of the City, shrieks for help from the unhurt but imprisoned workmen, shrieks of pain from the wounded, created a scene as by magic alone after the tremendous crash. But there was panic nowhere. One report says that in ten minutes workmen, police, and passers-by had entered the ruins and rescued from twenty to thirty men. The wounded, seventeen in number, were carried to a chemist's over the way, and thence eleven, more dangerously hurt, were sent to St. Thomas's Hospital. How many were buried in the ruins none could say. At first two were missed, then three; and these have been found. Afterwards the number increased to five; and there may be more.

As it was feared that the remainder of the building would fall, the police had orders to clear the street and barricade it at both ends. A survey of the premises was made on Monday by the City authorities, and a coroner's inquest was summoned for Tuesday.

The evidence taken before the coroner throws little light upon the causes of the catastrophe. The surveyors examined agree in stating that the brick work was sufficient, and they generally agree also in supposing that the snapping of the iron girder, which proves to have been faulty, was the cause of the accident. The jury returned the following verdict:—

"We find that Timothy Donohue, Matthew Connor, James Harrigan, Murtagh Cronin, and Joseph Handley, met their deaths from the falling of a part of the building erecting on the site of the late Cross Keys Hotel, Gracechurch-street, which it appears from the evidence has been caused by the accidental breaking of one of the iron girders." The jury added the expression of their wish that the hoarding at present in front of the building might be removed, as it was not required for safety, and was a great obstruction to the thoroughfare of the street. In the course of the day it was accordingly removed.

Of the six other sufferers who remain in the hospital five are convalescent; the sixth, it is feared, is a hopeless case.

A subscription has been entered into for the relatives of the deceased and wounded. The ward has contributed £5, private parties have come forward, and Messrs. Bell and Corbett have attended in the kindest manner to their wants.

#### METROPOLITAN FIRES.

Before the excitement caused by the crash in Gracechurch-street had diminished, on Saturday, another calamity occurred in the City, nearly as fatal and quite as frightful as that event.

The Rose and Crown is an old tavern in Love-lane, Lower Thames-street, and tradition says that it escaped the Great Fire of London. Mr. Harvey, the landlord, and his household, consisting of his mother-in-law, a lodger, a pot-boy, and a bar-maid, went to bed on Saturday night after "seeing all safe." About two o'clock, Policeman Trimmer, passing down Love-lane, saw smoke rushing out of the front shutters, and at once sprung his rattle and began knocking at the street-door. But publicans and their servants sleep heavily on Saturday nights. For a long time he could make no one hear, and when he did the lower part of the house was all in flames. What became of them no one knew. The engines came up in good time, and the mains of the New River supplied plenty of water. But by that period the entire range of premises belonging to Mr. Harvey were enveloped in one immense sheet of flame, and the fire had extended to the roofs of the houses on either side, belonging to Mr. D. Beard, a baker, and Mrs. Blundell, a fish-boiler. The White Hart Tavern, in Botolph-lane, and the premises of Mr. Stuart, the fish-factor in Thames-street, were also burning with such rapidity as to threaten the entire clump of houses in the immediate vicinity with destruction.

Meanwhile, Elizabeth Chambers had been roused by the noise without, and on awakening she could scarcely breathe for smoke. She leaped out of bed, heard the voice of Mrs. Gray, the mother-in-law, calling "Richard, Richard," and when she opened

the door found hot smoke pouring up the staircase; in great fright she ran to the back window, threw up the sash, and leaped out, without waiting a moment. She fell upon the glass skylight over the kitchen of the White Hart Tavern, in Botolph-lane, and remained there, the flames gradually approaching her, until extricated by Joel King and Thomas Howard. She was taken at once to Guy's Hospital, dreadfully injured.

The persons living on either side of the premises assert that they heard loud and fearful screams in the building, that a man appeared at the third floor window and begged of some one to go and procure a ladder, and immediately afterwards disappeared. A man named Hart, living at Mrs. Blundell's, next door, then went on to the roof, and having opened the trap-door called loudly to the persons within to make for that part of the building, but not receiving an answer he imagined that probably they had made their escape from one of the lower windows.

Ultimately the fire was in some measure extinguished, and its progress stayed. Mr. Braidwood gave directions for several lengths of scaling ladders to be attached, and some of the firemen to search the upper rooms. Upon their so doing they beheld a most frightful scene. The lifeless bodies of four human beings were discovered, three in the attics and one on the second floor. They were all shockingly burnt and disfigured.

At present it is not known how the fire originated.

Besides the fire in Love-lane, a house and all the property contained therein were burnt, and two others injured, on Tuesday morning, at Stoke Newington. The flames commenced in one of the bed-rooms, owing to a young woman approaching too near the bed curtains with a lighted candle in her hand. The drapery suspended to the bedstead immediately ignited, when the poor creature made a vigorous attempt to subdue the flames, by tearing the blazing material down. In so doing she caused her dress to take fire, and before the flames could be subdued she was fearfully burned over both hands. Being obliged to rush out of the room, the flames, unrestrained, extended with unusual swiftness, and it was with great difficulty that the other inmates were enabled to effect a safe retreat—as it was they were nearly suffocated. The engines were quickly on the spot, and the extension of the fire was stayed. Unfortunately neither the house nor the property of the principal sufferer, Mr. Donoghue, were not insured.

Pontifex is a name known in every town in England. On Wednesday night, Mr. Lamplough, chemist, of No. 88, Snow-hill, whilst looking out of one of his bedroom windows, perceived an unusual glare of light in the premises of Messrs. Pontifex, in Shoe-lane, accompanied by a dense volume of smoke rolling towards the roof of the market. He immediately proceeded to the spot, calling, as he went along, the engines in Farringdon-street. Forthwith the various engines of the Brigade, West of England Company, and the parish were despatched to the scene of danger. The firemen then found that the conflagration was raging in the premises used as the lead casting shop, and the brass casting departments. A plentiful supply of water having been procured from the New River mains, the engines were called into operation, and powerful streams of water were scattered over the blazing pile, but it was nearly midnight before the flames could be conquered, and not until the lead and brass casting shops were nearly burned out, and the contents destroyed. The origin of the fire is unknown.

#### EPSOM RACES.

The races commenced on Tuesday under very favourable auspices, the weather being charming, and the attendance unusually large.

There were five races run on the first day; the Woodcote Stakes being the sporting feature, cleverly won by Mr. Clark's Elcot, own brother to Marlborough Buck, one of the Derby favourites. The result of this race improved the feeling in favour of the "Buck" for the great event. A good day's sport was brought to a close shortly after five o'clock.

In point of weather the seventy-second anniversary of the Derby—the Exposition Derby—was remarkably fortunate; a shower of rain fell early in the morning, enough to lay the dust, but neither heavy enough nor long enough to have any effect on the course, which was anything but favourable for horses with doubtful feet.

We may as well state at once that in point of racing, this Derby was inferior to many of its predecessors. Not particularizing the lesser races, the great prize was carried off with comparative ease; the impression everywhere prevailing that the best horse won the race. Thirty-three horses started, a greater number than any previous year can show. We annex the official account of the race:—

The Derby Stakes of 50 sovs. each, h. ft., for three-year olds; colts, 8st. 7lb.; fillies, 8st. 2lb.; the second to receive 100 sovs., and the winner to pay 100 sovs. towards the police regulations of the course, and 50 sovs. to the judge. One mile and a-half on the new course. 192 subs.

Sir J. Hawley's Teddington (J. Marson)..... 1  
Mr. C. Clark's Marlborough Buck (G. Whitehouse) 2  
Mr. Wilkinson's Neasham (J. Holmes)..... 3  
Lord Enfield's Hernandez (S. Mann)..... 4

Betting—3 to 1 agst Teddington, 7 to 1 agst Marlborough Buck, 7 to 1 agst Hernandez, 7 to 1 agst Prime Minister, 15 to 1 agst Constellation, 15 to 1 agst Theseus, 15 to 1 agst Neasham, 22 to 1 agst Black Doctor, 30 to 1 agst Lamartine, 30 to 1 agst Hippolitus, 40 to 1 agst Bonnie Dundee, 50 to 1 agst Ariosto, and 1000 to 15 agst any other.

Buckhound took the lead from the post, and with the Enterprise colt in his wake, the latter, waited on by Teddington, Constellation, Neasham, and Ariosto, led the way nearly to the top of the hill, the running being then taken from him by the Enterprise colt, Teddington following Buckhound, in company with Neasham and Ariosto, next to the latter lying Constellation, Heartbreaker, the Marlborough Buck, and Lord Eglinton's two. This order lasted only to the mile post. Teddington then quitting his horses and going on with a decided lead, the Enterprise colt and Buckhound giving way to Hernandez, the Marlborough Buck, Neasham, and Ariosto, to which lot the race, after making the turn, was confined. Marlborough Buck took the second place at the road, and held it to the distance, where Neasham went up, and by sufferance got within a neck and shoulder of the favourite, by whom, however, he was very speedily disposed of. The Marlborough Buck and Hernandez were thus left within half a length of the favourite, who, having had the race in hand from the time he took up the running, left them without an effort, and won in a canter by two lengths, the Marlborough Buck beating Neasham by a length—Hernandez, who would have been third but for a disappointment opposite the Stand, finishing a neck from the latter. Prime Minister was fifth, and Theseus, Ariosto, and Lamartine well up.

Run in 2 min. and 51 sec.

Being Exposition year, everything has been attended by a happy fortune. The weather on Wednesday was warm without being sultry, the atmosphere harmonizing with the sport of the day. The assemblage was unusually brilliant, and in numbers passed all computation. We have, however, to state, by way of drawback, that numbers of "fast men" on the road and the course, engaged in the gentlemanly occupation of throwing a newly-invented missile, consisting of balls filled with powdered chalk, at the company, materially damaged the costumes of her Majesty's lieges, and destroyed a deal of comfort.

On Thursday the sport was moderately good. But after the "gathering of all nations" on the Derby day the downs yesterday presented the appearance of a desert, the muster outside the stand being quite as scanty as it was within. The racing was over at half-past four o'clock.

#### WORKHOUSE SCHOOLS IN COVENTRY.

(From the *Coventry Herald*.)

We are glad to find that the directors of the poor of this city are about carrying out school arrangements of a superior kind for the education of the pauper children in the workhouse. To many who look at the question thoughtlessly, the proposal to educate pauper children well—better, in fact, than the children of the independent poor man—may seem wrong. Such persons overlook, or are unaware of the fact, that pauperism springs from weakness of physical and mental constitution, and that the best education that can be given to the offspring of paupers is the only way to strengthen and prevent them from falling into the condition of their parents. The case was strongly put many years ago by the proprietor of this journal, who, when serving among the "most discreet," in a letter on the subject of improved schools in the workhouse, observed:—

"Pauper children ought not to be regarded as in any way responsible for the errors or misfortunes of their parents. Whatever may have been the faults of the latter, the children, at least, had no share in them; and most of them being deprived of their natural guardians, being orphans, or deserted, or illegitimate, or the children of cripples or felons, the board of directors is to them *in loco parentis*. Such children are ordinarily born with the seeds of pauperism deeply implanted in their constitutions; their bodies weak and sickly, their minds feeble and ill organized; so that a much greater educational care than ordinary is required to put them upon a level with the children of independent parents, to eradicate such seeds, and to prevent their producing a plentiful crop of both adults and children dependent through life upon the parish funds. It is the duty which the directors owe, therefore, both to the children and the rate-payers, to give as good an education to the former as circumstances will permit. It is their duty to the children as their legal guardians, and to the rate-payers, because it is the best and most direct means of keeping down the rates. That this is not at once acknowledged by all, is owing to contracted views respecting the objects of education, the term being but too frequently confined to a measure of mere reading, writing, and arithmetic, and facility in saying catechisms. But education consists, in fact, of physical, moral and religious, and intellectual, each all but useless without the others. Physical, that may give strength to the body and a healthy tone to each vital function; moral and religious, that may implant

habits (not maxims) of honesty, industry, temperance, frugality, and piety; and intellectual, that shall not merely teach reading and writing, but give that knowledge that shall best fit them to discharge the duties of their station, and enable them in after life to earn an honest and independent livelihood by skilful labour. To carry out education in this sense, the children must not be immured in cellars, but have plenty of light and air and exercise, be well fed and clothed, and those with any kind of contagious disease must be kept apart from the healthy. They must be separated from the adult paupers (excepting their parents occasionally), as such, frequently, are persons of loose and dissolute and confirmed pauper habits, association with whom would render any system of moral training impracticable. This separation is desirable also on other grounds; for the dependent condition of pauper children being the consequence of the improvidence, want of industry, crimes, or misfortunes of their parents, and not, in any sense, of their own conduct, they ought not to be taught to regard themselves as paupers, but a spirit of independence should be carefully implanted that shall act as the most powerful of all stimulants to keep them from the parish in after life."

More than ten years, we believe, have elapsed since these observations were penned, and but little has been done in the interim to carry out the views of the writer, but now, we understand, it is seriously intended to attempt to put these ideas into practice. Nearly six hundred pounds are to be laid out in a spacious and well-ventilated new school, with convenient dormitories overhead, having every arrangement for promoting the health of the children. An active and competent master is to be engaged, to give the boys a good plain education, and, as far as possible, train them in industrial habits. This was then thought to be merely one of the proprietor's "crotchets." He was also a warm advocate of a Sanitary Bill of Baths and Washhouses; but worst of all, of a complete plan of the town, which was to cost £300—a sum then thought monstrous, as applied to such purposes. These things are now, we are glad to see, all taking a practical shape. So that the "crotchets" must now almost all be used up. By the way, does a "crotchet" mean anything more than a principle or theory which people as yet do not understand—practical in itself, and impracticable only to the minds of those who have not given themselves the trouble to understand the subject? Thus it is, that important reforms and improvements are so frequently denounced as absurdities when first proposed, but in course of time being examined and better understood becomes practically adopted.

#### CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND CATHOLIC CLAIMS.

One archdeacon, nine rural deans, and 243 of the clergy of the archdeaconry of Craven, in the diocese of Ripon, have signed an address in reply to the celebrated address of the bishops to the clergy in March last. The chief points in this response are, that the signers sympathise with the bishops in their anxiety "to allay the troubles consequent on the introduction within the last few years of ritual observances exceeding those in common use among them; that they fully assent to a reference 'for the solution of all doubts' in rubrics of uncertain interpretation to the bishop as to their true construction; that in regard to the remaining question to which their attention was invited, the license, namely, claimed by some to adopt at their discretion any form or usage existing in the church before the Reformation and not distinctly forbidden, they feel themselves concluded against every such principle by the Thirty-fourth Article; and that with every feeling of unwavering fidelity to the Church of England, they would record their deliberate and solemn conviction that nothing would more tend to heal our unhappy divisions, to conciliate the respect of the laity, to reestablish mutual confidence, and to strengthen and enlarge their power for good in the great spiritual work before them at home and abroad, than a general and willing acquiescence in the reasonable and parental address of the bishops; neither disparaging the ritual by neglect of its requirements, nor bringing it under suspicion and reproach by exaggerating its relative importance."

A similar reply has also been published from Dr. Hook, and nearly the whole clergy and rural deanery of Leeds. They declare that they are more than ever attached to the Church of England, and they regard the differences between her and the Church of Rome as matters of momentous importance, affecting the vital truth of Christianity. They bless God that they possess orthodox and primitive truth embodied in the liturgy and articles of their Church; and therefore earnestly deprecate all attempts to tamper with these formularies.

The "large proportion of the Roman Catholic laity" who have signed the declaration, apropos of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, mentioned in our postscript of last week, thereby declare—That the Bishop of Rome is the chief pastor and ruler of the Church, and the supreme earthly head thereof; that the State never did at any time, or in any country, possess the right to interfere with the appointment, jurisdiction, see, or title of a bishop, as bishop of the Church, or on account of his spiritual and ecclesiastical character and office; but solely on account of the temporal privileges and



duties which by law had been annexed to the episcopacy; that as their bishops have no civil status or temporal power whatever, therefore the arguments founded on the analogy sought to be established between them and Protestant bishops to justify interference is groundless; they deny that any general European law exists whereby (as it is pretended) the right of creating bishoprics and bishops is inherent in or dependent on the civil power; that the exercise of the spiritual authority of the Pope, belonging to him as the successor of St. Peter, can only be limited by his own free act or concession; that the late rescript was no aggression; that the recent change neither injured nor affected their Protestant brethren; that any justification for the proposed penal enactment, on the ground that a novel and unprecedented extension of the claims of the Catholic Church has been attempted, is merely specious, and wholly unfounded both in fact and reason; that the late act of the Pope does not affect any change in the relation of any of her Majesty's subjects to the courts of law; that by it no new laws whatever are introduced; that they indignantly reject all interference between them and their priesthood; that the government of the Catholic Church, through a regularly constituted hierarchy of diocesan bishops, is the only normal and perfect condition of the Catholic body, and, therefore, that any law dissolving that hierarchy would amount to persecution; and that any law which would prevent the laity from maintaining the supremacy of the Pope, from obeying and recognising the bishops, except at the risk of punishment, would be an infringement of the rights of conscience. These are the only events which the week has brought forth upon this question.

#### MAY MEETINGS.

Among the benevolent meetings held in May, two of the most interesting we have to report this week are those of the British Ladies' Female Emigrant Society and the Ragged School Union. The first, which was held at the Hanover-square Rooms on Wednesday, was formed to establish homes for female emigrants previous to their leaving this country; to provide visitation at the ports, where the emigrants are formed into industrial classes; to secure the appointment of judicious matrons for the superintendence of the young women on the voyage; and to form corresponding societies in the colonies for the protection and assistance of the female emigrants on their arrival. The total income for the year was £1137 3s., and the expenditure £811 12s.—The Ragged School Union met on Tuesday, at Exeter Hall, Lord Robert Grosvenor in the chair. From the report read it appears that the total number of schools at the present time amounts to 102; of Sunday scholars, 10,861; week day scholars, 6021; evening scholars, 5572; industrial, 2062; paid teachers, 180. During the year 3 girls and 81 boys have been enabled to emigrate by the united efforts of the union and local schools, which makes the total number sent out to the colonies 307. The receipts for the year amounted to £3287 11s. 11d., and the expenses to £3076 16s. 5d., leaving a balance of £210 15s. 6d.; and for the emigration fund the receipts had been £951 14s., and expenses £637 10s., leaving a balance of £314 4s.

The annual meeting of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was held on Tuesday, at the Hanover-square Rooms, the Marquis of Westminster in the chair. The report stated that the society had made great progress during the past year, that numerous prosecutions had been carried out by the funds of the society for various cases of cruelty to animals, in all of which the aggressors had been punished with fines, that their operations had been of very great service in the metropolitan districts, and various prizes had been adjudged on the best essays on the ameliorating effects produced by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

The Society for Promoting the Building and Enlargement of Churches held their annual meeting on Wednesday afternoon, at the premises 79, Pall-mall, his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury in the chair. The annual report stated that in the course of the past year aid had been given towards the enlargement of 63 existing churches, in which 10,003 additional sittings had been obtained, all for the free use of the poor. The number of churches and chapels proposed to be built by the society is 42, the number reported last year having been 39; and the number reported to be built during the first 16 years of the society's operations only 27.

A *soirée* was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Monday evening, by the friends and supporters of the British Anti-Slavery Society. A large number of ladies and gentlemen attended, amongst whom were a considerable number of natives of Africa. Mr. E. W. Alexander presided on the occasion, and after the entertainment had ceased, addressed a few words upon the subject of the objects of the society, and its past success. The Reverend J. Howard Hinton, Mr. Joseph Sturge, and the Reverend A. H. Garnett, United States, having offered some remarks upon the iniquity of slavery and the traffic in human flesh. Mr. Peto, M.P., said there were three ways by which they could aid the total liberation of their African brethren. The first was in the present year, when so many slaveholders from the United States were in England, to receive into fellowship with a hearty good will, those of their black brethren who were in England, but steadily and firmly refuse to receive into

fellowship such American visitors as were slaveholders, and who carried on a traffic in their fellow-creatures. The second was by throwing open the pulpits of this country to students who were men of colour, and by receiving them freely and familiarly at their tables. The third way was to agitate the question to the very utmost, when there were so many Americans in this country. No means should be neglected, and he sincerely prayed that their efforts might be successful. The Reverend Alexander Crummel, United States, of African descent, but now an Episcopal clergyman in New York; Mr. Horace Greeley, editor of the *New York Tribune*, and other gentlemen, addressed the meeting, all of them advocating the necessity for exertion in the cause of the African.

A public meeting of the friends of the Religious Tract Society was held on Monday, in the saloon of the Royal Hotel. It was stated that the income of the society last year was £62,169, being an increase over the preceding year of £842. The total issues of the society last year were 20,887,064 books and tracts, being 1,641,623 above the preceding year. The society has now circulated of books and tracts since its commencement 549 millions, and has carefully kept out of debt.

#### ANOTHER RAILWAY SMASH.

The express train which leaves Derby for Leeds at 9.5 p.m. broke the pump-rod near Clay-cross Tunnel, and stopped there to refit. While they were waiting, a goods train, coming up at about twenty miles an hour, ran into them, smashing the two hindmost carriages, killing two passengers, and wounding fifteen. The occurrence is officially accounted for as follows:—

At about three-quarters of a mile from the tunnel, the luggage-train was seen approaching at its usual speed. The engineer, Samuel Stretton, having put on steam after leaving Clay-cross Tunnel, and passing the telegraph box, the signal being right at the station, the curve being sharp at that point, he did not see the passengers' van till within two hundred yards of it, when it was too late to stop the luggage train before it ran into the carriage of the express, when it drove through four carriages, breaking them to shivers, forcing them above the chimney of the engine of the goods train, and driving the engine of the goods train off the line; both trains were then at a stand-still, and the lines, both up and down, covered with the debris and carriages not injured; four carriages, one engine, and tender off the rails. The servants of the railway instantly set to work to discover the injury inflicted, when they found the body of Mr. John Meynell, of Tapton-grove, Chesterfield, under a first-class broken carriage, quite dead, frightfully injured, and Mr. John Blake, in the second part of a first-class carriage, not dead, but who expired before the body reached Chesterfield—his wounds were inwardly; Mrs. Meynell was very dangerously hurt; Mr. Fox, a spirit-merchant of Chesterfield, was also much hurt; Mr. J. Todhunter and his brother were wounded severely; the Reverend J. Hathie seriously hurt; Mr. Ashworth, of Sheffield, had his ribs broken; and other passengers, all of whom had severely suffered—altogether fifteen. An inquest was immediately held, but no evidence of importance has yet been taken.

The same day another collision took place at Long Eaton junction, doing serious mischief. We may remark here, that these two accidents, as they are called, both occurred in consequence of the neglect of the signals.

#### PERSONAL NEWS AND GOSSIP.

This has been the Derby week, and all the elegantly idle have been to Epsom accordingly. We get on gaily now-a-days. The Exposition is still a theme of wonder; and everybody is thanking the *Times* heartily for its vigorous attacks upon our defective cab and omnibus arrangements. The Queen's State Costume Ball is among Town Talk to come; but there is already a rush of ladies to the British Museum for model Restoration costumes.

The Queen gave a State Ball, at Buckingham Palace, on Monday evening, to a most brilliant Court, the invitations exceeding two thousand and one hundred. The arrangements were similar to the first reception this season, the entire suite of State Saloons being opened, and brilliantly illuminated with handsome crystal lustres and gilt chandeliers. The Garter-room and ante-room at the south end of the Picture Gallery were also opened for the accommodation of the numerous visitors. The choicest exotics and fragrant flowers were tastefully arranged in the alcoves behind the elevated seats reserved for her Majesty and her Royal guests, both in the Ball-room and also in the Throne-room; groups of flowers also adorned the Picture Gallery and the Grand Hall. The company began to arrive soon after nine o'clock, those having the *entrée* alighting at the temporary garden entrance, and the general circle entering the Palace by the Grand Hall. All the visitors were conducted by the principal staircase through the Green Drawing-room to the Picture Gallery and the Grand Saloon. The Queen and Prince Albert entered the Grand Saloon at a quarter before ten o'clock, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent, the Prince and Princess of Prussia, Prince Frederick William of Prussia, Prince Henry of the Netherlands, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Saxe-Coburg Gotha, the Duke Ernest of Wurtemberg, the Prince of Leiningen, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. The Queen wore a blonde dress over white silk, with coloured flowers of various kinds worked on it, ornamented with bunches of flowers to correspond, and diamonds. Her head dress was formed of a wreath of flowers of various kinds, to correspond with the dress, ornamented with diamonds. Her Majesty opened the ball with the Prince of Prussia, in a quadrille, at five minutes before ten o'clock, the *vis-à-vis* being the Duke of Saxe-Coburg Gotha and the Duchess of Sutherland. The other members of the royal party joined in this quadrille. After this dance a number of quadrilles, waltzes, and other

dances were performed in the Ball-room by Mr. Boosé's quadrille band. Dancing afterwards commenced in the Throne-room, where Jullien's band was stationed. During the evening the company were served with refreshments in the Garter-room and the Green Drawing-room. A state supper was served with regal magnificence, soon after twelve o'clock, in the principal dinner-room, on long ranges of tables, the splendour of the service being heightened by the consummate taste of the decoration. They were most brilliantly lighted by gold candelabra.

The excitement created in fashionable circles by the announcement of the Queen's Costume Ball, for the 13th of June, develops itself in a strong muster of the *élite* of the aristocracy in the library, reading-room, and print-room of the British Museum, much to the astonishment of the officials and the ordinary denizens of that learned locality. For the last three or four days, the Viscountess Canning, Lady Seymour, the Countess of Waldegrave, Miss Coutts, and a crowd of the fair members of the aristocracy, have been busily engaged in the library, turning over the various collections of engravings of costumes having reference to the period of the Restoration. Several very interesting and highly valuable illustrated works, bearing on this subject, are now placed on the tables by order of the authorities, in readiness for the inspection of their fair visitors.

The Duchess of Cambridge and the Princess Mary left London for the Continent on Saturday morning by express train on the South-Eastern Railway. The Duke of Cambridge accompanied his relatives as far as Dover, and returned to London by the Paris special express train.

The Duke and Duchess of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, the Prince of Leiningen, and the Duke Ernest of Wurtemberg, arrived in London on Saturday morning, having travelled from Dover by special train on the South-Eastern Railway. The whole journey, from terminus to terminus, eighty-eight miles, was performed in one hour and forty-seven minutes, inclusive of stoppages—the party being on their way to Buckingham Palace, in the royal carriages, within one hour and fifty minutes of their departure from Dover.

Among the notable deaths chronicled this week are those of Vicount Strathallan, on Wednesday week, at Strathallan Castle, in Perthshire, in his eighty-fifth year; Colonel Cadogan, brother to Earl Cadogan, at Pau, in the department of the Pyrenees, on the 14th instant, in his sixty-second year; and Mr. Charles Mott, auditor for the South Lancashire poor-law district, who died at Manchester on Monday last.

Jenny Lind has returned to New York, and was to give two concerts at Castle Garden. Her trip through the western part of the states has been remarkably successful. She has realized already a much larger sum than she expected when she first made her arrangement with Mr. Barnum. Some persons estimate her profits at nearly half a million of dollars.

Mr. Fortune, the naturalist, has arrived at Calcutta, from China, with upwards of 20,000 tea plants for the use of the Himalayan nurseries, Kemaon and Gurhwall. The Assam Tea Company's plantations are also rapidly increasing, and there is little doubt that in a few years tea will be extensively produced in India.

The *Gazette* of Friday contains the formal announcement of Mr. Duncan M'Neill being appointed a Lord of Session, in room of Lord Mackenzie, resigned.

Mr. J. Hind, of the Regent's-park Observatory, has discovered another new planet, in the constellation of Scorpio. It is of a pale blueish colour, and its light is about equal to that of a star of the ninth magnitude.

It is said that a new office of "Superintendent of Railways and Rural Mails"—or some such name—is about to be made, and that a brother of Mr. Rowland Hill is intended for it, at a salary of about £800 a year.

Major Hogg and Mr. Owen have been appointed commissioners to proceed to the Cape for the purpose of inquiring into the recent disturbances in Kaffraria.

Captain Paulet Henry Somerset was discharged on Wednesday, the Derby day, from the House of Correction. Strenuous efforts were made by his friends to obtain a remission of punishment, and a petition was forwarded to the Home-office on his behalf; but Sir George Grey replied that he could not advise her Majesty to remit any portion of the sentence. Captain Somerset had hoped, from the influence of his titled friends, that his imprisonment would have been commuted into a money fine, and he was very downcast on hearing the decision. He wore the prison dress, subsisted on the prison diet, and fared in that respect the same as any other prisoner. Nevertheless, by the "special" indulgence of one of the visiting justices, he was visited by his wife, and by a very great number of noblemen, officers, and other friends.

A letter from Berlin of the 14th instant says, that the Emperors of Austria and Russia are to meet at Ohmutz on the 29th instant, and that the Emperor and Empress of Russia arrived at Warsaw on the 13th.

M. Bois le Comte, the French Minister at Washington, who has been recalled by his Government, took leave of the President on Friday, the 2nd instant.

A short time since, a detachment of the Seventh Chasseurs were sent to the garrison of Amboise, for the purpose of escorting Abd-el-Kader in the promenade which the Emir has been authorised to make in the country surrounding his place of confinement. On Tuesday, for the first time since his arrival at Amboise (says the *Progrès d'Indre-et-Loire*), the Emir left the chateau. His Highness rode in a small carriage drawn by two white horses, and was escorted by sixteen Chasseurs in full uniform. The party left about three o'clock, drove as far as Chenonceau, and returned to the chateau at seven o'clock.

A member of the House of Assembly of Jamaica has been expelled his seat, he having been found guilty at the assizes of forgery, while acting as commissioner of public accounts.

Some parties in Australia are endeavouring to arouse their fellow colonists to exertion on behalf of the explorer Leichardt and his companions, suggesting either to start a party to cross his track, or to procure the assistance of native police to run down the route of the intrepid traveller.

A recent emigrant applied for employment to a farmer in Massachusetts, and being asked if he was acquainted with all kinds of farm labour, replied without hesitation in the affirmative. He was accordingly engaged, and the next morning sent to hold the plough, with the son of his employer to drive. After the horse was tackled in, the boy gave him a start; but, hearing an exclamation behind, he turned and beheld the son of the green isle ploughing up the ground with his heels, which were firmly set, while he was straining every muscle to maintain his position, and crying out "Stop, stop; how can I hold the plough if you make the horse drag it away from me?"—*Salem Gazette*.

Among the late arrivals at New York have been nine elephants, a Bramah bull, two immense boa constrictors, and a fretful porcupine. These animals were all obtained by a party of Yankees, sent to the island of Ceylon for the purpose by Mr. Barnum, the entrepreneur of Jenny Lind. This remarkable man seems to be the "Napoleon" of showmen. He is about to establish a mammoth travelling caravan, and is now said to have purchased the celebrated country-seat of the late Nicholas Biddle, near Philadelphia, where he intends to retire.

The trial of Mr. Forrest for a violent assault upon Mr. N. P. Willis commenced in the Superior Court of the state of New York, on the 8th instant, before Chief Justice Oakley, but had not finished when the steamer departed. The assault was not denied, but was justified by Mr. Forrest's counsel in consequence of Mr. Willis's conduct towards Mr. Forrest's wife, and in the unhappy differences that existed between Mr. Forrest and his lady. It was expected that the jury would return a verdict with small damages.

The committee appointed to inquire into the state of the butchers' trade in Paris, has appointed M. Lanjuinais to draw up the report, which will recommend absolute freedom of sale for all persons who desire to engage in the trade.

The little church of Fraize, in the department of the Vosges, was filled with people last Sunday week, listening to the evening service, when the electric fluid fell on the outward wall of the edifice, breaking in pieces a large cornice-stone at one of the angles. It next entering into the organ loft it carried away a shoe from a man's foot, without doing him any injury. The fluid then ran down one of the pillars, killed a man standing at the foot of it, struck three persons seated on a bench, bruising two of them, and killing the third. At this moment it was discovered that the lighting had set some of the woodwork on fire, and immense confusion ensued, each person endeavouring to get out the first. In the midst of the confusion a young man was observed to remain motionless in his seat, paying no attention to the noise; and some person going up to warn him of the danger he was incurring, found to his horror that the young man was dead.

An improvement in the public carriage department in Paris is at present contemplated. Hitherto, persons desiring to go a short distance have been obliged to pay either 1*fr.* 10*cs.* for the poorest kind of cabriolet, or 30*cs.* (3*d.*) in an omnibus. The proprietors of public carriages now speak of establishing a new scale, according to which any one may take a cabriolet for 10*cs.* (1*d.*) the quarter of an hour. This price, if two persons are proceeding to the same spot, will bring the price for each to even a lower point than that charged in an omnibus.

As a proof of the immense extent of church property in Austria and the rich endowments still possessed by convents, it is stated that the monks of the "Schotten" are to receive an indemnity of no less than 450,000 florins, or £45,000, for the abolition of the seigniorial rights on estates belonging to them.

A frightful catastrophe occurred in the garden of the Duke of Montpensier, at Alcala del Rio, on the 10th instant. The prince had caused a steam-engine to be placed in it for its irrigation, and that day was fixed for its trial. Either from neglect or imprudence on the part of the engineer, the boiler exploded, and overthrew the building, burying under its ruins 60 or 70 persons assisting at the experiment as operatives or mere spectators.

Medical diplomas have been granted to eight native medical students who acquired their knowledge at the Grant Medical College in Bombay. The occurrence is chiefly noticeable from its being the first of the kind here. The young men belong to the Hindoo, Portuguese, and Parsee races, and their acquirements are very highly lauded by the Government examiners.

Jootee Persand, a rich and very active commissariat contractor for supplies of all kinds to the armies in the field during the Afghan and Punjab campaigns was tried recently at Agra, on charges of perjury, embezzlement, and fraud, to a very large amount; but after several days' proceedings, the evidence given in his favour by some of the most distinguished British officers under whom he served was so convincing and so powerful that the jury at once acquitted him. He is said to have rewarded his counsel so munificently that the lawyer entertained some thoughts of applying for a treasure party, as a guard from Agra to Calcutta. A treasure party seldom goes with a smaller amount of coin under its guard than from three to four lacs (£30,000 to £40,000). In this case gold is said to have been the medium of payment.

One of the principal prizes for Greek, at a recent examination in the University of Edinburgh, was carried off by a blind student, a native of Dunkeld. He had used in his studies extracts from the books he was examined in, printed in raised characters, which he traced with his fingers.

St. Stephen's, Walbrook, is, by order of the parochial

authorities, thrown open for the inspection of the public free of cost, with an especial view to the gratification of strangers visiting the metropolis this year.

The Dudley Gallery of Pictures at the Egyptian-hall will be open to the public between the hours of ten in the morning and five in the afternoon, every day in the week, except Mondays, from the 21st instant to the 30th of July, after which it may be seen, as heretofore, by cards of admission.

Whilst the bell at St. Alban's Church, Liverpool, which weighs more than a ton, was summoning the congregation to divine service on Sunday evening, it suddenly fell with a tremendous crash, carrying with it three floors in the tower, and doing considerable damage.

The penalties for driving certain vehicles by Oxford undergraduates are now increased. For the first offence a fine of £5, minimum £4; for the second, rustication for a term; for the third, rustication for a year; and for the fourth, expulsion.

"Penny Reading Rooms" have within the last few days been opened in Cheapside. They present a supply of newspapers, including the London daily journals, the leading Parisian and German, as well as the English, Scotch, and Irish provincial newspapers. This extensive selection the visitor is entitled to peruse on payment of the very trifling charge of one penny.

At a meeting held at the Alliance Life Assurance Office on Tuesday, for the purpose of entering into resolutions for the erection of a memorial in honour of the late Sir Robert Peel, it was determined that a committee should be appointed, consisting of twelve members; that the memorial should be a bronze statue, ten feet in height, and that the amount to be paid for it should be £2000. The site will be either at the west end of Cheapside, or in the space at the east end of the Royal Exchange.

#### CRIMES AND ACCIDENTS.

George Green went to Manchester on Wednesday week to sell calves. He returned towards home with the proceeds in his pocket, in a cart, with an acquaintance named Massey, about nine o'clock. He called at a beer-house kept by John Green, passed thence on his way, which led over a very lonely common, surrounded by large spectral willows, and having a stagnant pool on one side. George Green can be traced to the lane leading to Lately, or, as it ought to be called, Lonely Common, but then he vanishes for a time, and is seen no more. He does not reach home that night; he comes not next day. Friend Massey and other friends are anxious about him, and it occurs to one of them that the old man may have stumbled into some pit or fallen into a stream, and that search should be made. The pool with the willow fringe is thought of, grappling irons are procured, Friend Massey and his companions drag the pool. Horrible result! They draw up, with their iron hooks, the body of George Green—but how bruised and broken. His head broken in five places, one ear torn, his nose smashed, and the backs of his hands blackened with bruises; uplifted doubtless in vain effort to shield his skull from the blows of the murderer. The fiend did more—the white hat of the murdered man he had artfully sunk with a sod; a huge willow stake, the weapon of death doubtless, and the grass in the field, is stained with blood. George Green had been married three times, leaving a grown-up family by his first wife, and by the last (whom he had only been married to twelve months) an infant child only.

On the commencement of the service, last Sunday, two men entered the church of St. Mark's, Liverpool, and took seats. For an hour the service proceeded quietly, but at the expiration of that time the individuals in question became apparently restless, and wandered annoyingly up and down the aisle. Mr. Boyd, the clerk, in order to preserve decorum, ordered them either to sit down quietly or leave the church. Instantly one of the men rushed to the pulpit, and opening the door, with a stick in his hand, struck the clergyman, Mr. Pollock, twice on the back. Mr. Pollock, on observing the man ascending the pulpit stairs, inquired who he was. The prisoner exclaimed with violence that he was "God Almighty." Great excitement instantly pervaded the edifice. Gentlemen rose to their feet and ladies screamed. Mr. Pollock, of course, received instant assistance, and, after a violent struggle, the madman was forced from the pulpit and conveyed to the exterior of the building. Mr. Pollock resuming his sermon with perfect calmness and composure. A police officer shortly arrived, and the assailant was conducted in custody to the station in High-street. On arriving at the station measures of strong repression were found necessary to restrain the prisoner from violence, and handcuffs were placed round his wrists and rope round his feet. At first insanity was suspected, it is now believed that the act of violence may be traced to brain fever. After some time had elapsed the man stated that his name was Daniel Roxburgh, residing at 123, Grafton-street, master shipwright. He was conveyed to the dispensary. Mr. Pollock was not in any manner injured.

Two servant girls have drowned themselves at Maidstone, one eighteen, the other nineteen years of age. The first had been detected in flirtations with workmen, and had received warning from her master. Her grandmother had refused to receive her into her house, and the result was that a few days after the notice expired she was found drowned. The second had also been warned to leave on account of her apparent insanity. She had been engaged to a young man, named John Ladham, of Hutton, but about a year ago the engagement was broken, and she was not able to forget it, as the event showed. On the evening of the 15th she went out, without asking leave, and meeting a female acquaintance asked her to go down the street with her, and in the course of conversation told her she was going to drown herself, and asked her to get a stone to tie round her neck. Her friend remonstrated with her, on which she bade her good-bye and ran off. Having watched her over the bridge, her friend hastened home and stated what had

occurred to Mr. Gibson, her employer. Two of the police immediately went in search of her. They found her bonnet and shawl on the river side opposite Tovil, and her body was found in the water at some distance about an hour afterwards. A letter was in her bonnet, from which the following is an extract:—"Dear father and mother,—I now must say farewell, likewise my dear sisters and brothers. As it must happen, I shan't ever see any of you again on earth, and if ever you or any of you should happen to see John Ladham, give my best love and respects to him, and I hope he will live happy; let it be how it may, married or single, hope he may be happy and loving. . . . I cannot say anything more at present. Dear mother, you will excuse it as it is wrote with a trembling hand and aching heart."—Verdict, Temporary Insanity.

Shortly after one o'clock on Tuesday a lady named Norton was standing on the Stanhope-street of No. 8 bridge, which crosses the North Western railway near Mornington-crescent, looking at the Liverpool portion of the day mail coming in down the incline, when she suddenly observed an elderly gentleman cross from the up line and deliberately lay his neck across the down rail on which the incoming train was approaching, and which instantly passed over him. The screams of the lady, who fell fainting, instantly brought several persons to the spot, and the body was then seen from the bridge decapitated, and the head lying about two feet away from it, in the centre of the line, between the rails. The railway authorities of the station were informed of what had happened by the guard of the Liverpool mail, who saw the unfortunate man cross from the up line at the same moment as the lady on the bridge, but the train was too close to admit of its being stopped. Inspector Sibsey, of the railway police, proceeded up the line, and the decapitated body was found as described. The unfortunate man's cloak was torn off and carried by the wheels of the train, which consisted of twelve carriages, some distance, and his hat was several yards from the body. On searching his pockets a receipt for the payment of poor-rates for £1 18*s.* from Mr. Murphy, the collector of the northern division of St. Pancras, was found in the name of Mr. Young. Application to Mr. Murphy immediately led to the identity of the unfortunate gentleman, who turns out to be Mr. James Young, of 35, Augustus-street, Regent's-park, a gentleman of fortune, and possessing a large amount of house-property in the neighbourhood. The spot selected by the suicide is within a few yards of the rear of his own residence. He left home about 11 o'clock in the morning for a walk, and it appears called on Mr. Murphy, and paid his poor-rates. The curious part of the business is how he came on this portion of the line, which is in a deep cutting, bounded by a high wall of brickwork, as the gates at Camden station have always policemen stationed at them, and no one recollects seeing any one answering his description pass them. Mr. Young, who was 72 years of age, and an Irishman by birth, is well known in the parish of St. Pancras. He was eccentric, and some time ago had a fall, since which he had not had good health, and exhibited a great dislike to being left alone. The mutilated remains were conveyed to the dead-house of St. Pancras Workhouse.

William Day, accused of carrying off Harriet Newman in a cab for villainous purposes, has been condemned to twelve months' imprisonment. Day attempted to prove an alibi, but failed.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

Mr. Hutt and Mr. Adderley have prepared and brought in a bill to make property situate in the British colonies a qualification for a seat in Parliament. The bill provides, that from and after the passing of the act, a life interest in property, of which not less than thirteen years shall be expired, in any of the colonies or territories of the East India Company, of the annual value of £600 per annum, shall be a good qualification for a county, and the same of the value of £300 for a borough.

The Court of Common Council, on Thursday, passed the following resolution on the motion of Mr. Charles Gilpin, seconded by Mr. R. Taylor:—"That this court do present a respectful address to Lord Viscount Palmerston, her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, intreating that he will be pleased, promptly and energetically, to use his influence with the Government of the Sublime Porte, to procure the immediate liberation of the illustrious Kossuth and his companions, captives confined in the fortress of Kutaiah."

The Harwich Election Committee came to the following decision on Monday:—

"That Mr. Henry Thoby Prinsep, not being qualified according to the provisions of the act of Parliament 1*st* and 2*d* Victoria, 1848, entitled 'An Act to Amend the Laws relating to the qualification of Members to serve in Parliament,' is not duly elected a Burgess to serve in this present Parliament for the borough of Harwich.

"That the last election of a Burgess to serve in the present Parliament for the borough of Harwich is a void election."

The committee then broke up, after a protracted sitting of fifteen days, twelve of which were taken up with the scrutiny. The effect of the decision will be, that a new writ will be issued for Harwich, and it is understood that both Mr. Prinsep and Mr. Crauford will again contest the borough.

Sir Archibald Campbell, Baronet, of Succoth, has announced his intention of standing for the county of Argyll, now vacant by the promotion of Mr. Duncan M'Neill to the bench. Sir Archibald stands on Conservative principles.

Sir Henry Willoughby has declined to stand for Oxfordshire. There is no disposition in any part of the county to support either Lord Norreys or Mr. Harcourt at the next election.

A requisition was in course of signature at Lynn, on Tuesday, calling upon W. Bagge, Esq., M.P., and G. P.



Bentinck, Esq., to offer themselves as candidates for West Norfolk whenever a dissolution may take place.

Dr. Nicholl will not retire from the representation of the Cardiff borough; and Mr. Coffin declares that he will give the electors an opportunity of asserting the rights conferred by the Reform Bill.

It is said that the electors of Kendal on the Liberal interest have resolved to return Mr. George Carr Glyn, their present member, free of all expense, if he will allow himself to be again nominated upon the dissolution of the present Parliament.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England held their general May meeting on Thursday, at the society's house in Hanover-square, his Grace the Duke of Richmond in the chair. The country meeting of the present year will be held in the Home-park, Windsor.

A great meeting of the National Temperance Association was held on Thursday, at Exeter Hall. Mr. Horace Greeley addressed it, as did also a "man of colour."

Mr. Goldsworthy Gurney has succeeded in extinguishing the "burning waste of Clackmannan," a coalfield which has been on fire for thirty years, over an area of seven miles, by "forcing in a stream of carbonic acid gas."

The tide of emigration from Ireland is flowing on this spring as rapidly and largely as in any previous year. The quays of the principal seaport towns are crowded with emigrants, and the departures from Dublin last week far exceeded those of any other week during the spring.

The partisans of the Government and of the Customs-house have been unable to prevent Mr. Mitchell's committee on Customs Reform, from entering systematically into the whole of the questions which have been raised by the recent persecution of the dock companies. It seems to have been the intention of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and of the Commissioners of Customs to advance the fact of certain legal proceedings being still pending in the Court of Exchequer, as a conclusive reason why no inquiries should be instituted by Mr. Mitchell's committee into the transactions out of which those proceedings arose. This plea was deemed perfectly inadmissible. The consequence has been that the party opposed to a thorough investigation have been defeated; and there is now every probability that Mr. Mitchell will be enabled to render the inquiry he has undertaken of the greatest possible service in its results to the commercial community, both of the metropolis and the out-ports.

The sixteenth report of the inspectors appointed to visit the different prisons of Great Britain, which has just been presented to both Houses of Parliament, refers to the northern and eastern district. Mr. F. Hill, the inspector, states that efforts have been made to introduce useful labour into the prisons, and enlarged provisions have been made for instruction in reading and writing at several prisons. If the principle of using each prison solely for the confinement of male or of female prisoners were adopted, he supposes that, with a slight modification of the law, upwards of fourteen prisons might be at once wholly given up. The difficulty of guarding against escapes of prisoners employed in agriculture is reported to have been greatly over-estimated. The number of prisoners in the district in 1850 was less by 235 than in 1849, but the number of prisoners in confinement at the end of 1850 was considerably greater than at the end of 1849.

By the official Customs returns for the ports of Scotland, we find that the gross amount of duties collected during the year ending January 5, 1850, amounted to £1,953,486, against £2,038,886 in 1849, and £1,710,016 in 1848. As regards the foreign trade during the same period, it appears that the British tonnage engaged both ways in 1849-50 amounted to 971,920, against 875,349 for 1848-9. The foreign trade for similar periods stood thus:—323,453, against 225,724.

The past week has been one of great excitement at Holyhead, and a serious riot has taken place at the harbour works. For some time past the Welshmen engaged at the works have entertained very hostile feelings towards their fellow labourers, the Irish, on account of their prejudice against the country of the latter. On Saturday evening last an Irishman stabbed a Welshman in a drunken brawl with a knife. The latter narrowly escaped with his life, having received a dangerous wound in the neck. On the circumstance becoming generally known on Monday morning, a party of Welsh, engaged on the mountain, made a furious attack on a number of the Irish, and with much cheering forced fifteen of the poor men on board the Irish Express packet, leaving their wives and children behind. On Tuesday the excitement became still greater, business was suspended, and the shops were closed. All public-houses were ordered to be shut up and no liquor to be sold. A great number of workmen perambulated the streets all night. On Thursday, after much persuasion, the men resumed work, and it is hoped that the affray has ended.

The first report from the Australian Steam Navigation Committee, now sitting, is looked for with considerable interest by the parties connected with the Australian colonies. The committee have examined a great number of witnesses, and have succeeded in collecting together a large amount of evidence bearing upon questions relative to Australian trade and navigation. The preponderance of testimony is in favour of the Cape line as the main route between this country and Australia. The first report will be ready early in June.

The probable loss sustained by Sir H. H. Bruce, in the destruction of Downhill House, Downshire, on Saturday last, will be about £50,000. An investigation into the facts connected with the calamity was held by the district magistrates on Monday, and they came to the conclusion that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The accidents on the Derby day were serious. George Jackson, aged twenty-six, was returning from the races in company with several friends, when the cart in which

they were riding came in contact with a pleasure-van, whereby those in the former vehicle were thrown out on to the roadway. Jackson sustained a severe scalp wound and fractured ribs. A party of gentlemen in a dog-cart were proceeding at a rapid speed towards town, when they drove the vehicle on to an embankment, near Ewell, which capsized all of them, when one gentleman, named Tomlinson, was so much injured that he expired on the way home to Southampton-street, Camberwell. Charles Palmer, aged 42, cabman, was engaged by Jemmy Welsh, Barnash, and other pugilists, to convey them to Epsom and back. When near Sutton, Palmer was knocked off his seat, the wheel of a carriage passing over his left arm, seriously injuring his head and inflicting various contusions on his body. Faint hopes are entertained of his recovery. Several other accidents happened near the Elephant and Castle, where many thousand persons had assembled to witness the return of the company from the races. William Harcourt, aged forty, standing in the roadway near the Obelisk, was knocked down by a phaeton and four horses, and before the driver could stop, the off-wheels passed over his legs, causing compound fractures of both limbs.

In two instances within the week juries in the county of Limerick have found a verdict of "death from starvation and destitution."

The *Evening Mail* states that it is credibly assured "the bull for the suppression of the Queen's Colleges is actually in Ireland."

According to an Imperial rescript issued on the 18th, the Austrian Government paper money in circulation is restricted to 200,000*fl.* The National Bank will not be licensed to issue more notes than will suffice for the wants of the state. The measures for the gradual withdrawal of the Government notes will be expedited as much as possible.

Duke Saldanha published on the 9th an address to the "People of Lisbon," recommending calmness. He says:—"Let us reform the constitutional charter; let us have really free elections, in order that we may be enabled to have a truly national representation, and justice, liberty, morality, and economy, in the place of the immorality, corruption, and robbery that have been proclaimed as the theory of Government." The troops began embarking for Lisbon on the 9th.

Accounts from Rome of the 14th, state that the French general had ordered the surrender of all offensive weapons, including sticks, on pain of trial by court-martial. The Roman Minister of War had refused to remove all the Roman troops, but had removed the most turbulent. It was said that the French had demanded that the direction of the police should be placed in their hands.

The Treasury of Baden has brought a formal action against the widow of Böhning, one of the leaders of the insurrection, executed in 1849, to recover a sum of several millions of gulden, with a minimum of one million, as the amount of the damage sustained by the Treasury of the Duchy during the revolt. That the widow can pay any part of it is of course out of the question.

The political laws for Transylvania, and the ordinances relative to the organization of the law courts in that Crown land, have at length been published. The province, which is divided into five circles, will be under the government of a statthalter, who is to reside at Hermannstadt. In addition to this, another favour has been granted to the Saxon race. The president of their circle is to retain his title of "Count of the Saxon Nation." Clausenburg was formerly considered the principal city in the province. The new laws on the whole differ little from those *octroied* for the other Crown lands.

The new threepenny uniform postage gives great satisfaction in Canada; but the colonists complain that they pay more for Atlantic postage than the United States do. The *Toronto British Colonist* states, that for ocean postage they pay 1*s.*, while the United States pay only 8*d.*, and that as regards pamphlet and newspaper postage, the same difference exists.

Arrangements are about to be made for the withdrawal of a portion of the troops from Upper Canada. It is said that only one garrison will remain in the province, to be stationed at Kingston. A similar arrangement is to be made with reference to the military posts in Lower Canada, Quebec to be the only garrison town. These posts are to be maintained by the imperial Government as heretofore, while the province is to have the option of keeping up the present military establishments at its own cost.

The cholera has not entirely left Jamaica. When the last packet left it had broken out again, carrying off its victims, which fortunately were but very few, in about two hours.

It is confidently stated that the Cuban expedition is again abandoned, and a large number of men who had collected at Jacksonville, in Florida, had dispersed, and were returning to their homes. Gonzales, who it will be remembered, was one of the leaders in the first expedition, was reported by telegraph to have been arrested in Florida, which may in part account for the expedition being given up without even embarking.

The Convention of State Rights Association, numbering over 500 delegates, were in session at Charleston on the 6th instant, and a large majority was in favour of immediate secession. The temper of the delegates is such as to have alarmed the Charleston merchants very greatly, and to have induced the general of the United States army to visit all the military posts, and review the troops stationed there.

Orders have been despatched by the war department of the United States to the officers on the frontier, urging them to increased vigilance and energy in the suppression of Indian outrages, in compliance with the conditions of the treaty with Mexico.

A public meeting has been held in Quebec to take into consideration the proposal of the British Government to aid in the construction of the Quebec and Halifax Rail-

way. This meeting, from the accounts, was respectable and influential, so much so that it may be said to be the voice of Quebec.

A late colonial paper notices that the Irish exiles in Van Diemen's Land, wishing to have personal communication with Smith O'Brien, who was stationed at New Norfolk, had requested leave so to do; failing in obtaining which, M'Manus and O'Meagher took the responsibility on themselves and proceeded to New Norfolk; while there they were arrested, and each forwarded to his respective district. The magistrates gave them a very severe reprimand, but Sir W. T. Denison, on being made acquainted with the particulars of the case, ordered them immediately to be confined in barracks.

Letters from Sydney state that Sir Charles Fitzroy intends leaving the colony in August next, but no hint is thrown out as to his probable successor. It is also hinted that his excellency is anxious the Legislative Council should not assemble until after his departure, and that he will consequently endeavour to prevent its sitting before that time.

A meeting was held on February 3, at North Adelaide, to consider the propriety of proceeding to Canterbury in New Zealand. Several speakers addressed the meeting in favour of the measure. The discussion terminated in adopting a string of resolutions declaratory of the intention of those present to proceed to Canterbury, and suggesting the cooperation of all who intended proceeding thither.

The speculation of importing Coolies into the Sandwich Islands from the East Indies is now on foot, and arrangements have been made with captains of English vessels to land them at 50 dollars a head.

Another ship has been destroyed by fire in the Hooghly! The Kurramany, bound to Mauritius with Coolie emigrants, has been burnt to the water's edge. The Semaphore reports that the captain, mate, pilot, and twenty-eight others were saved by a steamer, but says nothing of the 348 emigrants.

The Sultan seems determined to create difficulties with the Pasha of Egypt. As head of the Mohammedan religion he has raised a claim to all lands and property appertaining to the mosques throughout the country, and which have been disposed of in various ways by Mehemet Ali. Objections are also being made to the railway between Alexandria and Cairo, which Abbas Pasha had declared his intention of carrying into effect.

It was supposed that the inhabitants of the hills flanking the Khyber Pass had been brought to terms by Lord Dalhousie when he was at Peshawur; but the supposition appears to have been ill-founded, for two thousand of our best troops have been ordered to enter the pass, to ravage and burn all the crops in the land belonging to the Khyberies, to hang all who are apprehended for theft, and to imprison all hill-men who may be caught within the cantonment. The Deejerat frontier still continues in a disturbed state; the hill tribes are collected at the mouths of various passes watching an opportunity for a foray, but the arrangements for their reception are so effective that they have not as yet ventured a descent.

It was lately stated that the Governor-General of Manila had left that settlement, with a force of about 5000 men, for the Sooloo Islands, in the Eastern Archipelago, for the purpose of destroying the pirates who infested those parts. The last accounts from Manila state that, on the 28th of January, an attack had been made by the governor-general on the forts at Sooloo, which resulted in their capture, together with 140 pieces of artillery and other munitions of war. The Sultan and many of the inhabitants had fled to the interior. The loss on their side is not stated; that of the attacking force was about 120 killed and wounded. The defences of the island have been demolished, and the surrounding country laid waste.

"Notes to the People," by Ernest Jones, is the word of an earnest man to his brethren, which we ought to have noticed earlier. Three numbers have already issued from the press, and they do credit, as literature, even if they had no other merits, to the democratic cause. Poems continuous, a political tale whose moral is very valuable just now, political articles on democracy and the doings of the democratic party, foreign information, and historical sketches make up the contents of this cheap and useful periodical. It is emphatically what it is called, "Notes for the People," and ought to be read by the people.

#### HEALTH OF LONDON DURING THE WEEK.

(From the Registrar-General's Report.)  
The rate of mortality that now prevails in London shows that scarcely any improvement in the health of the population has taken place during the last seven weeks; and it continues higher than is usually observed in the middle of May. In the week ending last Saturday the number of deaths registered was 1002; in the ten corresponding weeks of 1841-50 it was generally under 900; in the three instances in which it exceeded that number it was 978, 969, and 1033, and the average was only 881. This average, when corrected for increase of population, is 961; compared with which the present return exhibits an excess of 41. A comparison of the last two weeks will show that there is still an unusual mortality amongst persons of tender years, and that though zymotic or epidemic diseases have declined in their aggregate fatality from 233 deaths to 196, yet in the same period the class which comprises the several diseases of the respiratory organs, exclusive of phthisis and hooping-cough, has risen from 157 to 176. Two deaths were recorded last week, of which intemperance is stated to have been the cause; besides another case in which fatal disease seems to have been the fruit of habitual drinking. Last week the births of 752 boys, and 715 girls, in all 1467 children, were registered. The average of six corresponding weeks in 1845-50 was 1366.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.  
Several letters have been received by our publisher complaining of the non-receipt of papers, or the non-arrival of the *Leader*, until Monday. We have made inquiry, and find that the errors have not arisen in our office. The Country Edition of the *Leader* is published on Friday, and the Town Edition on the Saturday, and Subscribers should be careful to specify which edition they wish to receive. Complaints of irregularity should be made to the particular news-agent supplying the paper, and if any difficulty should occur again it will be set right on application direct to our office, 10, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

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 increases the difficulty of finding space for them.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 10, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

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

## Postscript.

SATURDAY, May 17.

The House of Commons went into committee on the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill last night; the Irish opposition having quite exhausted its obstructive tactics for the present. The amount of business actually done was small, consisting only of a committal of the bill pro forma, in order that it may be reprinted in the form to which Ministers will adhere. Lord JOHN RUSSELL stated that no understanding had been come to between the Attorney-General and Mr. Walpole, the mover of the stringent amendments. The next critical moment for the Whigs will, therefore, be the division on these amendments. Mr. DISRAELI distinctly stated his intention of voting for them, and any amendment which would render the bill more retaliatory and severe.

A small episode of some interest was enacted between Lord John Russell and Mr. Disraeli in committee, which explains the ostensible reason why he is for retaliation. Mr. DISRAELI said:—

"The noble lord had told them he had no hesitation in saying the rescript of the Pope and the appointment of Cardinal Wiseman were part and parcel of a great conspiracy against the civil and religious liberties of this country. (*Hear, hear.*) Did the noble lord correct him? He would be sorry to misrepresent what the noble lord had said. He could not believe that the Minister could make such a declaration without well weighing his words.

"Lord J. RUSSELL observed that what he did state was, so far as his recollection enabled him to say, that it was part of a conspiracy to prevent the extension of civil and religious liberty in Europe, and that the influence of this country was felt to be that of a country advocating the cause of civil and religious liberty. He certainly did not mean to say that there was a conspiracy against the civil and religious liberties of this country."

Mr. DISRAELI thought that statement materially altered the grounds upon which they were called upon to legislate. Would the bill before them baffle the conspiracy mentioned by Lord John Russell? It would not; for it only provided for petty religious persecution. The Government had not proposed a measure equal to the emergency, as estimated by the noble lord. And it was because the amendment proposed went far to vindicate the national honour, and protect civil and religious liberty, insulted and endangered, according to the Premier, that he should vote for them.

The bill was recommitted, after some discussion, for Monday.

Sir B. HALL called attention to certain irregularities in the keeping of their records and accounts, observing that he had never seen documents in any public department in so disgraceful a state. He recommended the abolition of the Commission as useless, extravagant, and irresponsible. Lord EBRINGTON denied some of the allegations of Sir B. Hall, gave explanations regarding the rest; defended the proceedings of the commissioners in their discharge of an onerous duty, and challenged Sir Benjamin to bring forward his charges in a tangible shape.—The House adjourned at a quarter to eight o'clock until Monday.

The following letter has been forwarded in reply to the John-street memorial:—

"Foreign-office, May 15, 1851.

"Sir,—I am directed by Viscount Palmerston to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing a memorial from certain inhabitants of the metropolis assembled at the Literary Institution, Fitzroy-square, praying the interference of her Majesty's Government in favour of the Hungarians detained in Turkey, and I am to request that you will acquaint the memorialists that this matter continues to engage the earnest attention of her Majesty's Government.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"H. U. ADDINGTON.

"Thornton Hunt, Esq., Broadway,  
Hammersmith."

The Queen held a Drawing-room on Thursday at St. James's Palace; and visited the Exposition yesterday morning.

A body of exhibitors met on Thursday at Crosby-hall, and passed the following among other resolutions:—"That this meeting of the exhibitors in the Exhibition of the Industry of All Nations views with regret the stringent course of policy which the royal commissioners have pursued, and are pursuing, towards the exhibitors. That this meeting feels that the free admission of all exhibitors would be just to the exhibitors, and highly conducive to the general success of the undertaking." They appointed a committee, and instructed them to wait on the commissioners with a copy of the resolutions.

The receipts from visitors rose higher than ever on Thursday. The 5s. contributions amounted to £2430; and the sale of season tickets, which still goes on prosperously, swelled the total sum taken to £3300. Professor Cowper gave his first lecture to the students of King's College on that day within the building. Yesterday the money taken amounted to £3230, of which £2554 was for daily visitors, and £676 for season tickets.

Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton's comedy, *Not so Bad as we Seem, or Many Sides to a Character*, written for the benefit of the Guild of Literature and Art, was performed last night by the amateurs—literary men and painters—at Devonshire-house, in the presence of the Queen and Prince Albert. The room was filled with a brilliant company. "The piece," says the *Times*, "is one more of character than plot." The *Daily News* tells us that it "is admirably constructed," and adds that "the curtain fell amid loud and prolonged applause, in which the royal party heartily joined." The *Morning Chronicle* writes that the "plot, embracing little action or onward progress, is not very clear in itself, and was made perplexingly hazy by the dim indistinctness with which, in the greater number of cases, the points were brought out." The scene is laid in the days of the booksellers Tonson and Curll, the characters range through all ranks, and a Jacobite plot is woven up with the action. Of course the principal character is a Grub-street hack. The performance will realize nearly a thousand pounds.

The following letter has been sent to the editor of the *Morning Chronicle*:—

"Sir,—The *Times* newspaper has just been brought me, and I see in it a report of Mr. Spooner's speech on the Religious Houses Bill. A passage in it runs as follows:—

"It was not usual for a coroner to hold an inquest, unless when a rumour had got abroad that there was a necessity for one, and how was a rumour to come from the underground cells of the convents? Yes, he repeated, *underground cells*; and he would tell honourable Members something about such places. At this moment, in the parish of Edgbaston, within the borough of Birmingham, there was a large convent of some kind or other being erected, and the whole of the underground was fitted up with cells; and what were those cells for? (*Hear, hear.*)"

"The house alluded to in this extract is one which I am building for the Congregation of the Oratory of St. Philip Neri, of which I am superior. I myself am under no other superior elsewhere.

"The underground cells to which Mr. Spooner refers have been devised in order to economize space for offices commonly attached to a large house. I think they are five in number, but cannot be certain. They run under the kitchen and its neighbourhood. One is to be a larder, another is to be a coalhole; beer, perhaps wine, may occupy a third. As to the rest, Mr. Spooner ought to know that we have had ideas of baking and brewing; but I cannot pledge myself to him that such will be their ultimate destination.

"Larger subterranean commonly run under gentlemen's houses in London; but I have never, in thought or word, connected them with practices of cruelty and with inquests, and never asked their owners what use they made of them.

"Where is this inquisition into the private matters of Catholics to end? Your obedient servant,

"JOHN HENRY NEWMAN.

"Oratory, Birmingham, May 15."

General Durrien, Government candidate, has been elected representative of the department of the Landes. He obtained 17,000 votes, and his competitor, M. Daclerc, moderate Republican, 10,000. The Democrats abstained from voting.

A draught petition from the University of Oxford is in circulation, praying that the Royal Commission may be revoked and cancelled.

The *Times* publishes a long declaration, signed by a large proportion of the Roman Catholic laity, apropos of the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill.

Mr. Bethell and Mr. Tindal have been requested to withdraw from the Conservative Club. Mr. John Walter protests in a letter to the *Times*.

William Pamplin, the unfortunate "ill-looking man," supposed to be concerned in the gold-dust robbery, was yesterday brought before the Lord-Mayor; nothing new elicited, except that a wrapper with peculiar folds was found in Pamplin's possession; but the Lord Mayor would not admit him to bail.

A shocking charge of cruelty and starvation of a young girl, sixteen years of age, named Christina Carpenter, was preferred against her father and stepmother, Robert and Louisa Carpenter, yesterday, at the Bristol Police Court. Her appearance excited the utmost commiseration among the auditors, and caused a thrill of horror to run through all who saw her. Her frame was wasted to the utmost degree; her face, haggard and careworn, with nothing more than skin to cover the bones, was truly ghastly; and her legs, which were not one third the natural size, were covered with sores, the evident marks of neglect. The accused were remanded.

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, MAY 24, 1851.

## 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.

### THE REAL AGGRESSION ON LIBERTY, AND ENGLAND.

It is surprising that Lord John Russell, with so distinct a conception of the conspiracy existing against "civil and religious liberty," should so totally misconceive the nature of the aggression on this country. We heartily sympathize with his anxiety on the subject, and rejoice to see that his vigilance is awakened; though he has not yet turned his eyes upon the true point of danger. The country owes him much gratitude for the announcement which he made the other night, officially recognizing the conspiracy; but he never was more mistaken than when he proposed the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill as the means of resisting that conspiracy. He would easily understand the nature and extent of his mistake if he would survey the actual conduct and progress of the movement.

That Rome has some expectations from the success of the scheme we can well imagine; but the man who can discern any formidable revival of power in the Pope or his Government, must be able to see through a thousand millstones. It is quite evident that, so far from being the originator and master of the enterprise, the Pope is nothing more than an expectant, an unconsulted dependent; nor is the conspiracy in his branch of it making any decided progress. His latest attempt to subdue Spain was effectively rebuked by that most backward of Liberal Governments. Even in faithful and favoured Ireland, the attempt to prohibit the Queen's Colleges was a failure, because it was not accordant with the views and feelings now entertained by the great body of educated Catholics in that country. In England, the same description would apply still more strongly. There is no fear, therefore, of aggression from the conspiracy through Queen Victoria's Roman Catholic subjects. The very history of Lord John's exertions shows how difficult it is for him to define an enemy in this direction. The Bill with which he followed up his Durham letter has been abandoned by himself—proving that his first idea of the enemy is also abandoned; since he is not the man to surrender to popular clamour any measure which he considers essentially needed. That bill has been abandoned in favour of the totally new Bill, which is now mellowing under a course of adjournment by the House of Commons. In fact, Lord John had been induced to approach the subject with a preconceived notion, and thus he was really operating as a diversion in favour of the conspiracy.

He has been set to resist the impotent; and, thus disposed of, he leaves the way unobstructed for the potent. Yet, if he could be induced to take it, a moment's glance at the condition of Europe would display the real danger and its progress. What power is it which, as the patron and companion of Austria, has restored Absolutism in Hungary, in Italy even down to the very toe of the "Boot," in Bohemia, in Germany? What power continues to menace the Christian provinces of Turkey, and vindicates its authority, even in Constantinople, by forbidding the release of Kossuth? What power, against the first advices of England, has given back Schleswig-Holstein to Denmark, henceforth to be held by a new tenure advantageous to the new donor? What power has brought Frederick William to his senses, and restored him to Absolutist councils? What power has suppressed constitutionalism, even where it lurked, so harmless and so tranquil, in Hesse-Cassel? What power is understood to have its man of straw engaged, with the best chance, in the gambling of French parties for the ultimate reversion of the Republic? Lord John Russell can answer these questions as well as we can: he knows what power was the head of the conspiracy which he denounced, and which has made such striking progress against civil and religious liberty.



Four foreign powers are understood to have sent their functionaries to this country. One is the Pope, who sent Cardinal Wiseman and his Bishops; but that was done openly, and we all know that not a man of them possesses any actual authority. The other three powers are, Austria, Prussia, and France, who are said to have sent over here their Police. If this has been done, it was *not* done openly. Now the Police of those three countries are not in the habit of exercising merely speculative or spiritual authority; they are the direct and practised agents of Absolutism; and their presence in this country can serve no useful purpose. They cannot help any English interest, or any Liberal interest: they can only endanger both. It is an alarming feature in the rumour, that they are described as being the "assistants" of our Police—the teachers, it should be said. And it has been asserted that these agents come at the express desire of Lord Palmerston!

Reviewing, then, this startling progress abroad, and this no less startling intrusion upon our own land, is it difficult to understand the real nature of the conspiracy denounced by Lord John Russell? Here is the real "aggression," here the real "insult to the Sovereign." It is evident that while his Ecclesiastical Titles Bill is neither demanded by the exigency nor suited to it, another sort of measure is urgently needed. He should make one more sweeping change in the text, follow up his denunciation of the foreign conspiracy by a direct measure, at least to repel the encroachments of that conspiracy on our own country; and alter his bill so as to make it one "for preventing the intrusion of foreign Police into England, or the assumption of any constabular titles or power based on the authority of any foreign Prince." We can imagine that such a measure might entail Cabinet dissensions not less embarrassing than the original bill; we can imagine that the whole power of the conspiracy, and all the consummate ability which it can command in this country, would be arrayed against Lord John; but it is not danger that will make a Russell flinch from his duty—on the contrary, if anything can make him vacillate, it will be the perfect ease and obvious expediency of the requirement. Of all times, however, the present is the one when he ought least to hesitate in taking his long-appointed command of the Channel Fleet.

#### A COLONY AND ITS GOVERNORS.

"WHY did you say that we should not be inundated with felons?" cry the people of Van Diemen's Land to Sir George Grey. His reply is affecting: "I uttered the language of hope rather than experience"! Poor little George! he had not been long in public life, and, a year or two back, he entertained youthful delusions, as to the perfectibility of Van Diemen's Land! But he now confesses his fault—the youthful indiscretion of "inexperience"; and who will not forgive him?

It was a pardonable error—pardonable, we would fain trust, even in Downing-street; but he is obliged to confess that he uttered "the language of hope"—and to the Colonies! It was indeed dangerous. How dangerous, the plain Englishman may scarcely perceive without some explanation.

There is not a group of colonies in the empire without some serious grievance. The relation of the North American colonies to the Mother country received a great shock on the completion of free trade; that revolution, patronized in Downing-street as it was, left to those colonies very little that could be considered decidedly advantageous in the connection with the Mother country; especially as the Government at home did nothing to warrant that connection by keeping up a supply of capital and people—the very life of new countries. But "colonization," however beneficial to colonies, to our pauper-ridden districts, and to the emigrants themselves—however feasible with the resources that Government can command,—is *troublesome* to the Office at the bottom of Downing-street; and so it is not pressed upon that genteel bureau, except by colonists, country gentlemen, public-spirited persons at home, and other remote classes. The proposal of a great colonizing railway [which we shall explain in our next number], offered an opportunity for proving the utility of the connection; but Ministers hesitate and are rather cool! Again, the West Indies, injured by Negro emancipation, are hampered, slighted, thwarted, vexed, injured, and disaffected. The Australian colonies, growing full of people and wealth, as they have always been intelligent and energetic, are outraged at the continuance of the convict nuisance; and Van Diemen's Land is really sinking into the position of—but

we do not like to carry our plain speaking to such excess, just here, as to describe the state of Van Diemen's Land: it is the state which New South Wales, by peremptory threats, has recently escaped; the state which the Cape of Good Hope would not in any manner permit; the state which is exemplified in the doomed cities, abandoned by Lot, and sunk under the Dead Sea. Only it is *worse* in modern times; as you can well imagine, when twenty thousand and more of picked reckless felons, without women, are turned loose in a colony, containing about twenty thousand children. *What you shudder to think of, Van Diemen's Land is now actually enduring—in her children,—in her maidens, we were going to say; in her youth. Do you understand? As Dante says,*

"Non ragioniam di lor, ma guarda e passa:"

Talk not of them, the felons; but look, and pass them by.

To the colony, thus oppressed, Sir George Grey had addressed "the language of hope." It was dangerous; especially as the colony had been in despair before, and is now remanded to that despair.

He had gone further, he had "expressed views which were right in the abstract": this shows how inexperienced he must have been in the office. But he is getting on: he has now learned "the practical difficulties in their execution"—the true slang of your old offender in office; who finds that all things "right in the abstract" are,—in office, though only there,—"practically difficult."

He throws doubts on the wishes of the colonists to get rid of the convicts—a large portion of whom are *made* friends by miseducation and misgovernment at home, and an *impossible* existence in the colony; he doubts, because the colony is growing "wealthy" by help of convictism. The man does not perceive that New South Wales, which also grew wealthy in that way, has repelled the nasty, revolting, inhuman aid; but it is difficult to make your thorough political economist, your "practical man," and especially your Whig, understand that a community can revolt from a system which creates human fiends, and exposes your children, boys and girls, to be the playmates of those fiends, if it also "creates wealth." Evidently poor "inexperienced" George Grey has not got so far in his studies as that. What is more, the House of Commons is not beyond him; and the House of Commons "represents" the English people; so that, in sober sadness, what the colonies can do to escape being governed by inexperienced George, with such appalling consequences as we have indicated, is not at all clear—unless they cut the matter short, by cutting the connection?

#### PHILLIPS'S FIRE ANNIHILATOR.

It is astonishing how inclined men are to hug evil, and how slow to avail themselves of good. Many an ill—universally admitted—remains unredressed, because people not only choose to doubt the remedy, but even refuse to look at it. The amount annually paid for insurance against loss by fire is an evidence that men consider their goods and chattels to be in constant jeopardy; but property is not more valuable than life, and many a man who has just paid his last quarter's premium, to insure his property, goes trembling to bed as he considers the receipt will avail him nothing if the fire-escape arrive too tardily, or if he be suffocated in his sleep.

It is a horrible thing to be burned to death. Barbaric nations know no more deadly torture. The Inquisition, in its most refined cruelties, used fire as its climax. The world is foretold to be thus destroyed; and the idea of eternal torment is most graphically described as "everlasting fire." Human nature shrinks with instinctive horror at the thought of being consumed alive. We know instances of persons enduring nightly torture through fears of this description. They will await the departure of the last guest, order their servants to bed, and then with trembling steps will they search through the house in the dark, the better to discern the minutest trace of fire.

All this is so miserable that one would imagine men would clutch at anything that promised a reprieve from such a state of anxiety. It is not so, however. Of the thousands who so suffer, but a few hundreds are to be found wending their way to the Vauxhall Gas Works to witness the weekly experiment which proves fire to be no longer a master. By a singular circumstance a vapour is discovered in which flame cannot exist; an instrument is invented which promises the most perfect immunity from fire to life and property; and yet all

mankind do not rush in a body to avail themselves of the advantage!

The "Fire Annihilator" consists of a very simple machine, similar in appearance to a watering-pot, and equally portable. In this is a block of composition, in the centre of which is a bottle containing a mixture of chlorate of potash and loaf sugar; and in the centre of that again is deposited a very small phial containing a black mysterious-looking fluid. When charged, the instrument is perfectly safe and harmless, and may be kept in any convenient part of the premises. When it is required for use, the phial is broken by an instrument provided for the purpose, and immediately a vapour is generated, which, according to the size of the machine, is competent to put out a fire in the grate, or to extinguish the flames that fill a dwelling-house or a ship.

It is well known that water has no power whatever over flame. The most it can do is to damp the adjacent buildings and so prevent their catching fire, or to reach the seat of the inflammable materials and render them unfitted for combustion. But, while water in millions of gallons may be poured through a body of flame without producing the slightest effect upon it, the power of the "Fire Annihilator" is peculiarly exhibited in its mastery over flame.

The experiments at Vauxhall, which we have now witnessed four times, have convinced our own mind of the perfect efficacy of this agent. A small model of a ship filled with shavings, resin, and turpentine, is fired. Water is thrown plentifully upon it, with no result. But on the application of the "Annihilator" the flames are instantly subdued. The principal experiment is on the model of a three-story dwelling-house, erected at the end of one of the gashouses. This building is filled with the most inflammable materials, such as shavings steeped in resin and pitch, pine planks, and other timber. It is amusing to see how close the spectators approach before it is fired, and afterwards how they rush to the furthest extremity of the building. The flame wreathes up the pillars of the model, crackles furiously, and rushes with awful rapidity half way along the roof of the gashouse. The alarm-bell rings. People begin to be frightened, and are half enraged for having trusted themselves within the building. The smoke envelopes every object: you can scarcely see your neighbour at your elbow; it chokes you, and you prepare to rush out at the door. Suddenly a furious crackling in the neighbourhood of the model tells you that something has happened—the flame recedes—it is extinguished. The air is more breathable, and the smoke rushes in torrents through the pigeon-holes at the top of the building. The ground floor is now comparatively clear, people rush towards the smouldering embers, and an enthusiastic cheer tells that they appreciate the invention.

One more experiment is given to show how the "Annihilator" will purify a room of smoke in order that firemen may search for half-suffocated bodies. In the open air a large tub is filled with gas tar, and the top covered with shavings. When this is set on fire, the whole yard is filled with a smoke so dense as to baffle description. The machine is brought to bear upon the burning mass, the flames are immediately extinguished, the smoke changes to the colour of steam; and one more cheer is given by those who had hitherto doubted the powers of the "Fire Annihilator" in the open air.

There are, however, persons who grant that the invention is successful on this scale, but they doubt its efficacy in the case of "a genuine fire in a dwelling-house." Such persons are neither just to the inventor nor to themselves. They are perfectly warranted in doubting, but not in leaving their doubts unresolved. The matter is too serious to admit of careless indifference. It is an affair of life and death as well as of salvation and destruction of property. If the "Fire Annihilator" be but a toy, let it be proved and used as such. But, if it be really what it pretends, let it be instantly provided in all parishes, and let it be used in all dwelling-houses. Let it be found side by side with the fire-escape and the engines of the fire brigade. If it is not a fraud or a delusion, to forego its proffered security is nothing less than suicide.

But as everything in England—even life—must be brought down to the commercial standard, we may remark that there is in almost every dwelling-house, independently of human life, that which no policy of insurance can possibly cover. The family pictures and plate, handed down as heirlooms from generation to generation, what insurance-office can

replace these? Have not hotel-keepers also that in custody which never can be restored by a mere money-payment? When the theatrical wardrobe in the theatre is consumed, though insurance money to the full value be paid, what can reimburse the lessee or proprietor for the loss of time and profit? And when a large factory becomes a heap of ruins, though all be covered by the policy, where is the machinery to be obtained again on the instant? Where the premises for the conduct of the work? Where is employment to be found for the thousands suddenly launched upon the world to starve?

We conceive parties thus indicated should call on Mr. Phillips to afford them a full, entire, and satisfactory solution of all doubt on the subject of this important invention. He may go on for ever at Vauxhall, or elsewhere in a house of his own construction, and he will not set the question at rest as to his power over what objectionists term "a genuine fire in a dwelling-house." Let, then, the parties to whom we have referred provide a house as large as they please—there are plenty to be obtained just about to be pulled down, and they would only have to indemnify the owner. Let this house, in addition to its already dry and inflammable materials, be filled with all sorts of combustibles; let a committee be appointed who shall hold the key of the building until it be fired. Then, when the fire is blazing, let Mr. Phillips be invited to put it out with his "Fire Annihilator." If he fail, he will have shown that his invention is unequal to great occasions; but if he succeed, as we verily believe he would, then he will have proved himself one of the greatest benefactors of mankind.

#### AN APOLOGY FOR CAPTAIN SOMERSET.

CAPTAIN SOMERSET'S case is a hard one, in spite of the sound views and the general concurrence which have supported Mr. Hardwick's judgment. It is a hard one, because there appears to be no sufficient reason why *he*, Paulet Henry Somerset, should be singled out as the living sacrifice to justice. The constant practice of an opposite kind was odious and barbarous; still, taking the body of our police-law in such matters, and interpreting its intent by the long-established usage of the police bench, it did imply a sort of right for the individuals. Whatever the purpose of the law which gave the alternative of imprisonment or fine, unquestionably it was open to the interpretation that the rude excesses of the vulgar were to be repressed by the stringent alternative, but that a discreet indulgence was to be allowed for the excesses of the well-connected; and that interpretation was the one given in judicial practice. The rare and signal exceptions just sufficed to keep the usual interpretation steadily in mind. The Somerset class, therefore, were endowed with a full right to count upon a usage so long established, and fortified by a very intelligible rationale. For, observe, to be well connected is to be connected with the magistrate-appointing class.

Now it does not appear that the new case presents anything so extraordinary—so cruel, so wanton, or so surmounting precedents of the same kind—as to make it, *ex facto*, the suggester of a new law. Quite the reverse; it does occur to our memory that there have been far more outrageous cases in the annals of noble families—a wrenching of knockers altogether uncalled for; a sowing of wild oats on the heads of policeman in a manner most injurious to the blue-coated health; a sportive obtrusiveness in gaming-house; "shindies, or a kissing of Cockney's wives and sweethearts in the streets at midnight—all of which might be deemed to constitute precedents so distinct and strong, that Captain Somerset may be said to have kept, most creditably to himself, far within the licence conceded to his class by the tact and courtesy of the bench. We discern no malevolence in his offence; if there was some aristocratic insolence on his part, it is within the bounds of imagination to conceive an insolence not aristocratic among those lords of the creation who are dressed out in blue coats and brief authority, and whose breasts are dilated with the desire to fulfil their duty and to fill out coats cut on the military pattern. It does happen sometimes that ambition of this sort assumes a very offensive shape, particularly when it threatens to involve an antagonist in the ridicule of an overthrown cabriolet and the mulet of an injured horse. Somerset's case, therefore, was not one of those clear, unmistakable, surpassing and monstrous outrages which manifestly transgress the bounds of judicial indulgence.

Then why single him out? You may say that the incidents of the Crystal Palace had made it peculiarly necessary to enforce order without respect of persons; but you can only urge that plea by confessing that heretofore justice among the great body of the People and the feelings of the humbler classes have been less precious than the glass house. Admitting the plea, too, does not mitigate the hardship to Somerset; it only means, that, instead of being a living sacrifice to justice, he is a living sacrifice to the safety of the Crystal Palace. Nor, it is to be feared, will his castigation stop with the completion of his sentence: it is said that his undergoing a punishment with common offenders, will oblige him to leave his regiment; and there is only too much probability in the representation. It would seem that the chivalry of the mess is not outraged by conduct which renders "an officer and a gentleman" deserving of the House of Correction; but to incur the penalty is an unpardonable offence; and Captain Somerset expects to be cashiered by the inexorable judge whose tribunal is the dining table. Now this is manifestly going beyond the record; and those who support Mr. Hardwick's upright judgment, are bound to see that no ulterior tyranny be inflicted upon the transgressor.

How prevent it? There might be various modes of prevention. For example, Captain Somerset might have the distinct permission of an official "understanding" to challenge any brother officer who should allude to his residence in Coldbath-fields. Or if there is some repugnance to opening a series of duels, the difficulty of his case might be met by neutralizing its singularity: let him have leave of absence for a year, and, in the interval, let the new law proclaimed by Mr. Hardwick's decision be enforced with uniform rigour; and thus, by the time Captain Somerset returns from his travels, he would find so many companions in the new illustration of equity, that no question would be raised at the mess table as to the tenure of his commission.

#### LIMITATION OF THE MALTHUSIAN CONTROVERSY.

CERTAIN correspondents, all of manifest ability, and one of such qualities as command our most earnest affection and deepest respect, raise special questions on the conduct of the Malthusian controversy; and we cannot withhold a reply, which may aid in forwarding a discussion so useful. In what we say let us not be understood as attempting to exhaust, or settle, or in any way determine the question; that cannot be done in a newspaper, and we must refer the reader to the next truly great book touching on the subject—John Mill's expected *Sociology*, or Herbert Spencer's sequel to *Social Statics*. We scarcely attempt even to "reply," in the sense of settling the special points. That is not the function of passing controversy; but rather to suggest some considerations for adversaries as well as friends in future for the working out of points. What we say is addressed to all collectively.

E. R. is too wide in his assumptions. It is not necessary to be assured that Government would altogether repudiate the business of production; indeed that function is already included, *now*, in the prevalent idea of Poor-law reform, as it is upheld by numbers of practical men in all parts of the country; and it is included in the most intelligent views of prison reform. E. R. should also bear in mind that no adherent to the principle of Concert would recognise Competition as a healthy or just measure of value. The acts of modern civilization have not been tried in accordance with the principle of concert, and therefore we cannot judge from the past to the future. We see, at this moment, millions toiling the whole day, to effect work which, under an economical distribution of industry, a few hours would suffice to accomplish; we see millions of square miles of fertile land, within "the possessions of her Britannic Majesty"—nay, are there not millions of acres in this land of England unused or half-used? Now while the world is thus disorganised, we say—There is no question of too many; but the question is of work undone, or ill done. Do your work better, and there is no question of "surplus population." Therefore the *practical* precept, for the public writer, is not to get the number reduced, but the work better performed. In a boat, with one bag of biscuit, a great voyage to go, and too many to feed, it may be justifiable to keep down the population; but with lands untilled, or half tilled,

and empires unpeopled, such projects are, at least, ill timed.

If, in the distant future, philosophy discerns some inevitable collision of organic laws, let her devise the means of avoidance; but *that* is a question for discussion, not practice. If, under existing social arrangements, a man "cannot support a family," he has no business to marry; but that is a question for practice not theory; and to admit *such* a dilemma as the expedient of a fundamental truth is empiricism, not philosophy. It is necessary, in practical administration, to follow out great truths into their working details, before we make laws; but actual details, however urgent they may seem to us as individuals, however tyrannical and inexorable, do not prove the truth or justice of the system that permits them. A Hindú ryot cannot escape from the horrible system that binds him to the earth and grinds the faces of his class; but *his* inevitable duties, under the circumstances, no more establish the soundness or truth of the Indian social system, than the incapacity of a Paisley youth to find employment repeals the law that makes the story of *Paul and Virginia* a school book in every human family.

The Malthusian appears to us engaged in an impracticable enterprise. Water will not turn back, up the backbone of Lincolnshire, however much there may be in the fens; and it appears to us as idle to attempt a change in the essential instincts of human nature, as to revoke the attributes of water. The Malthusian's "success" is attended by evils worse than the evils which he deprecates, worse than war and famine—in degeneracy of men, prostitution of women, and discord of class with class. Thus far in the march of mankind, we have come to no such thing as a genuine "surplus population;" if industry is debarred its fruits, it is by lack of intelligence to expend its labour upon a proper field, or by unjust laws, which divert the fruits of industry to the pampering of indolence, and to that end *prevent* the organization of labour. The seasons come round for man, as for the inferior animals; the land is always here, and its produce, rightly cultivated, more than spans the cycle of these seasons; man's industry is in his own hands; and thus far, we say, if he were true to himself, he needs not to take thought of the morrow, since God *has* always provided for that morrow. Are we to doubt that he will continue to do so?—nay, to presume that he will not?

Or if, in the immensely distant future, some time shall arrive when the limit of that provision shall be reached, and the human race shall cease, as other races have ceased and passed away, then, as we have said before, we have not the shadow of a fear that that future will be any such miserable abortion of a millennium as crude Malthusian notions are helping to make the present. The error of the Malthusian lies, first in supposing that the cardinal point of their doctrine is proved to be a fundamental truth, whereas it is a fact still in question; next, in assuming that, if it be true, they have discovered the remedy; thirdly, in assuming that *their* "truth" is the active cause of evils manifestly arising from imperfect regulation of labour—that the divorce of idle paupers from the idle or half-idle lands of scant-pursed farmers, or insolvent landlords, is an example of evil arising from "surplus population." They mistake the time for their drama: their discussion bears upon the distant future; but there is something else which presses just now, better understood for not being mixed up with that ulterior question.

#### "AUSTRIA" AT THE EXPOSITION.

"SOLDIERS, the contest will be short!" Such is the sentence recorded from Radetzky's address to his army, and inscribed on the statue which stands, like a sentinel, at the entrance of the Austrian department, in the Exposition.

You enter "Austria," thus guarded, to see what it contains, and what is it that you find? Where is "Austria"? The first thing that you encounter is an assemblage of sculpture, but the name of Monti, Fraccaroli, and Pierotti are not *Austrian*! Milan has chiefly peopled this room. Bohemia, too, is represented there, but the Bohemian repudiates Austria. If there is a genuine Viennese name in the place, the work attests the miserable inferiority of the small section which gives a title and government to "the Austrian empire." You go into the glass room, and find that you are still in a department alien from Austria: that manufacture, which has peculiar beauty, which has excelled Venice—Venice also is merged in "Austria"—and has given a type to modern Europe, is Bohemia.



If you want to know what Austria Proper has contributed, you will find that it is principally furniture—even that is in great part due to her Italian slaves; but she seems to offer with a less doubtful title nicknacks, pipes, and linendrapery. At the Exposition, Austria appears decked in the borrowed plumes of Venice, Bohemia, Milan, and her subject states. We doubt whether she can exhibit, as a home manufacture, even the tools of her tyranny. Seeking for her arms, unless we overlooked them, we discovered nothing worth notice. Arms indeed we did find, but we had passed the border of "Austria" on the one side into "Belgium," and on the other into the "Zollverein."

Even her living tools of the first class are not indigenous: Radetzky, if we mistake not, is the blot upon a Polish pedigree.

"The contest will be short," was a prophecy for the moment only: the contest is enduring. An empire thus constituted, with parts greater than the whole, cannot keep together. The greater imprisoned within the less must incessantly struggle until it bursts its prison. The Exposition of Austria is the shame of the nations tied to her chariot wheels; it is for them an humiliating exposure; but it may suggest the moral: if those subject Peoples were brought together in council, as they are here in the great sample-house, the crowned and official conspiracy at Vienna would no longer be able to hold them down. If Austria had exhibited her true resources, the instruments by which she holds down the subject provinces, it would have been the conscripts of those subject provinces used the one against the other. She should have shown "the machine for holding down Bohemia"—an Italian soldier; "engine for reducing Hungary"—a combination of recruits from Germany and Italy; "the Italian screw"—formed of Hungarians and Croats. If the provinces were in council, if they understood in each other's interests their own, they would see, collectively, that they are lending their own power to a State lower than themselves in the scale of nations; that to be free, in fact, they have but to revoke themselves. That lesson they must sooner or later learn; but, whenever it comes about, that victory alone can be the end of "the contest."

#### POOR LAW PROGRESS IN COVENTRY.

COVENTRY must be added to the list of places moving in the right direction, and moving well. The Directors of the Poor have taken steps towards establishing schools for the children. Industrial training is to the young what industrial employment is to the adult, and we look forward to the time when Coventry shall have both halves of sound Poor Law management; the more so, since there resides in the place the power to enforce the true doctrine with pen and tongue, in the best style. To that fact indeed must we attribute the progress of the ancient city—not yet ended.

#### A RESTORATION WITHOUT A REVIVAL.

It is done. We read in May, 1851, the astounding intelligence that the old Germanic Diet is again sitting in Frankfort. Restored, but assuredly not revived, this effete body has stepped over the chasm of three years, and meets again to work the will of the plunderers of Poland, the usurpers of Hungary, and the oppressors of Italy. The rising and gibbering of skeletons is not a resurrection of those who died. Germany cannot accept this solution of the Unitarian question. No deeds of a galvanized corpse can efface the facts of '48 and '49, nor, in the long run, keep the German People from enjoying the fruits of their suppressed insurrections. So let the Diet sit in peace, and let "Lord Cowley, armed with full powers from England," hover around it. In its heart is the canker of rottenness, and the iron has entered into its soul. Retribution is but delayed—not averted.

#### THIERS A SOCIALIST.

Who will believe it? We have been accustomed to read, "Thiers on Socialism;" but it would be novel to meet with the phrase, "Thiers for Socialism."

And yet we have before us a circumstantial account of an alleged interview between M. Thiers and the Presidents of the Working Men's Associations at Paris. M. Thiers himself solicited the interview, at his own house. He was struck by their polite behaviour and well thought out plans. M. Thiers, in fact, is said to have told the story to a numerous company of friends, and finally to have expressed himself as follows:—"I am decidedly convinced that, these associations existing, you could never accomplish the destruction of the workmen's societies, nor snatch from them the Republic." The result of the interview, it is as well to state, was that M. Thiers expressed a desire to be present at a meeting of the Associations, and to take part in the discussion; and that a special meeting was to be arranged for that purpose.

Whether he is sincere or not, "Thiers for Socialism" would create a panic in "the party of order."

## 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.*

THE Exposition, which empties theatres, lecture rooms, dioramas, and is to force Parliament, they say, to give up its hopeless efforts—the Exposition, which seems to prosper beyond all calculation, and to defeat all calculation in the "ruin" of other speculations, keeps Literature of course unusually dull. MACAULAY himself might publish his two next volumes and only find a few famished critics to read him; TENNYSON might pour forth the wail of another sorrow as deep and as persistent as that which gave eternal substance to the volume *In Memoriam*, not a tear would moisten the page unless it were from a reviewer's eye. (Did you ever see the tear of a reviewer?) The indifferent public gads away to the Exposition, and leaves Genius to fling its clamorous *ai! ai!* upon the air, without pausing even to listen to these woes. Hence our office of Literary Jackal—or Gossip provider to his Leonine Majesty the Public—becomes extremely onerous, and not at all successful! If one could but invent a few facts now! Or, in default of the requisite invention, if one had the requisite credulity to believe all that is reported! Thus JULES JANIN, who has fallen in love with our fog and kindliness, announces to all France the joyous news that there will be no Waterloo banquet this June: the flag of France floating over the Crystal Palace suggests to the Duke that the banquet would be a breach of hospitality, because it would recal such "cruel souvenirs!" JANIN believes that report; or at least prints it, which is to give journalistic credence to it. We are sorry to think how "cruelly" France will be disappointed; and we are amused at the excessive pre-occupation of Frenchmen with this said battle of Waterloo. It is the ineradicable belief of every Frenchman that we in England are in a perpetual self swagger about Waterloo. We are prodigal of the word upon omnibus, shop, street, and road, because we wish to humble France at every corner. Waterloo-house is an insult! Waterloo-bridge a defiance! Wellington boots an outrage! Every step you take you trample on the national pride of France, for with "insular arrogance" you walk in boots named of Wellington or of Blucher! We are intoxicated with our success at having beaten the French; never having drubbed them before, from the times of Cressy, Poitiers, and Agincourt, down to the Peninsular Campaign! This one success of Waterloo—which, after all, was not a success, as France clearly gained the battle, only she quitted the field in disgust!—we cannot forget; we cherish it, we riot in it; we blazon the name everywhere to flatter our national pride and humiliate the foreigner. And, curious enough, the foreigner is humiliated! He turns his head away as he passes Waterloo-house; he declines crossing Waterloo-bridge, or crosses it in a passion; and even his national dread of rain cannot induce him to ride in a Waterloo omnibus.

Of all the many profound misconceptions of English society current in France, none, we venture to say, is more completely baseless than the belief in the English feeling about Waterloo. Though it would be impossible to persuade a Frenchman that omnibus proprietors, hotel-keepers, and builders were guilty of no national swagger in using the offending word "Waterloo."

GEORGE SAND seems decidedly to have turned to the stage. Another drama, signed with her illustrious name, has appeared at the *Gaité*. Its title *Molière* suggests a new sphere for her artistic power; but the piece disappoints that expectation. Instead of an historical drama we have the ideas and quarrels of the day under the masks of historical personages; and she has so completely falsified the real position of *MOLIÈRE* and the two *BEJARTS*, that one wonders why she did not take

fictitious names for fictitious characters. One sentence in the critique on this play by HECTOR BERLIOZ will probably amuse those readers who have heard GEORGE SAND always libelled as an immoral writer—it is the complaint that all the persons in this piece are so virtuous they become tiresome: "*Ils sont tous vertueux et ennuyeux à faire frémir.*"

It has been a painful reflection that the various Mechanics' Institutions throughout the country should have fallen so low as they have generally fallen, not because they were superfluous, but because they were ill-managed. The main cause of failure has universally been a want of thoroughness. They have been turned into concert-rooms and lounges, instead of preserving the austerer dignity of educational institutions. From the report of the fifth annual meeting of the *Edinburgh Philosophical Institution*, we observe with pleasure that the affairs of this body are unusually prosperous, leaving a balance of more than six hundred pounds, and giving the directors fresh courage for the future. The new arrangement of lectures is calculated to produce a more permanent influence than the old system; it admits of equal variety in the choice of subjects, yet gives something like coherence to the whole.

On Thursday the great satiric painter of social life—the FIELDING of our times—commenced at Willis's Rooms the first of those *Lectures on the English Humourists of the Eighteenth Century*, which many months ago we announced as in preparation. We have never heard a lecture that delighted us more. It was thoughtful and picturesque, with some wonderful traces of pathos and far-reaching sentences. Dwelling upon the moral aspects of SWIFT's position and career, rather than attempting a criticism on his works, THACKERAY held his audience from first to last. He gave a vivid picture of the early life and loneliness of the great satirist amidst the exasperating servilities and insults endured from TEMPLE's household, as also of the turbulent political bravo coming up to London to carve for himself a pathway among lords whom he despised. In this part of the lecture it was felt that, while satirizing that condition of political corruption which made SWIFT a bravo and used him as such, the censor still touched upon living foibles—at the allusion to the South Sea Bubble, with its Railway parallel, we observed some fair shoulders wince! Nor were religious cant and formalism untouched in the admirable picture of SWIFT's sacrifice of his life to an hypocrisy. The audience was of the élite—THOMAS CARLYLE, MACAULAY, MILMAN, MILNES, Sir ROBERT INGLIS, the Duke and Duchess of ARGYLE, the Duchess of SUTHERLAND, Lady CONSTANCE LEVESON GOWER, Lady LICHFIELD, with many others, not a few lovely women, and several men well known in Literature and Art.

#### COMPANIONS OF MY SOLITUDE.

*Companions of my Solitude.*

Pickering.

A MORE thoroughly charming companion for solitude than this volume we cannot readily name. It made the whole day happy when we opened it, read every sentence, marked a great many, and finally closed it with the feeling of regret similar to that accompanying the close of some solemn yet dulcet strain of music. Wherein specially consists the charm of this book we cannot say—probably in the mingling of thoughtfulness and humour, with a certain pensiveness tinging the experience of a man of the world—probably, also, in the style—or it may be in the rare qualification of being perfectly free from nonsense, paradox, wilfulness, over-acuteness, affectation, or good downright stupidity!

The book is as peculiar in form as it is in spirit:—

"When in the country I live much alone: and, as I wander over downs and commons and through lanes with lofty hedges, many thoughts come into my mind. I find too the same ones come again and again, and are spiritual companions. At times they insist upon being with me, and are resolutely intrusive. I think

I will describe them, that so I may have more mastery over them. Instead of suffering them to haunt me as vague faces and half-fashioned resemblances, I will make them into distinct pictures, which I can give away, or hang up in my room, turning them, if I please, with their faces to the wall; and in short be free to do what I like with them."

Hence we meet here with no set discussion, no elaborate essay, but the noting down of those thoughts and trains of thought which frequently solicit the writer's attention; sometimes they expand into the length of an essay, but generally they preserve the form of reverie. These are relieved by a pleasant narrative of the day's incidents, or the aspects of the walk—some of which are touched with a most delicate pencil. *E.g.*—

"Thus I thought in my walk this dull and dreary afternoon, till the rising of the moon and the return from school of the children with their satchels coming over the down warned me, too, that it was time to return home: and so, trying not to think any more of these things, I looked at the bare beech trees, still beautiful, and the dull sheep-ponds scattered here and there, and thought that the country even in winter and in these northern regions, like a great man in adversity and just disgrace, was still to be looked at with hopeful tenderness, even if, in the man's case, there must also be somewhat of respectful condemnation. As I neared home I comforted myself, too, by thinking that the inhabitants of sunnier climes do not know how winning and joyful is the look of the chimney-tops of our homes in the midst of what to them would seem most desolate and dreary."

Again (and we call attention to the beautiful image in the sentence printed by us in italics):—

"Such were my thoughts this wet day which I had made up my mind was to be a dreary day throughout, but I had hardly come to the end of what I had to say, when, may it be a good omen that the chapter itself may bring some cheer to some one in distress, the sun peeped out, the drops of rain upon the leaves glistened in the sunshine like afflictions beautified by heavenly thoughts, and all nature invited me out to enjoy the gladness of her aspect, more glad by contrast with her former friendly gloom."

And this:—

"I went down again upon the bridge, looked up at the solemn sky, for the moon was clouded now, and beneath me at the dim waters, being able to discern naught else: and still with some regard to what I had been thinking of in the church-yard, hoped that, in a future state at least, we might have some opportunity of loving and making our peace with those whom we have wronged here, and of seeing that our wrong, overruled by infinite goodness, has not wrought all the injury which there was in it to do."

"So I walked on, having those dim apprehensions and undefined feelings which are yet, perhaps, the unfashioned substance of our sincerest and most exact afterthought, until darkness and the cold and the thought of to-morrow's journey drove me homeward—the home so emblematical for man in his pilgrimage—the home of an inn."

In consequence of this novel form the essays have a quite individual character, and stand out from the class to which we might otherwise refer them. Those who remember the author's previous work, *Friends in Council*, will be prepared for the admixture of wisdom, sympathy, humour, and searching analysis of motive; but the form of *Companions of my Solitude* is even more agreeable. It admits of infinite variety. It is made various. An epigram sparkles amidst a grave discussion; a touch of humour quaintly illustrates a serious thought; an aphorism generalizes a page of observation; a period vibrates with the resonance of honest indignation; and then a bit of landscape soothingly reposes the mind. Our old friends Ellesmere, Dunsford, Lucy, and the dog Rollo are introduced, and are welcome, and conversation breaks the monotony of the old man's talk.

Criticism runs into panegyric. We have nothing to question, nothing to disapprove. The few extracts we are about to make will convey no accurate idea of the work, but they will amuse the reader, and perhaps send him to the source:—

POPE AND PURITAN.

"The pendulous folly of mankind oscillates as far in this direction as it has come from that; and an absurd Puritan is only a correlative to a wicked Pope."

GIVE A DOG A BAD NAME.

"Moreover this censoriousness is not only a sin, but the inventor of many sins. Indeed the manufacture of sins is so easy a manufacture, that I am convinced men could readily be persuaded that it was wicked to use the left leg as much as the right; whole congregations would only permit themselves to hop; and, what is more to our present point, would consider that, when they walked in the ordinary fashion, they were committing a deadly sin. Now I should not

think that the man who were to invent this sin would be a benefactor to the human race.

"You often hear in a town, or village, a bit of domestic history which seems at first to militate against what I have been saying, but is in reality very consistent with it. The story is of some poor man, and is apt to run thus. He began to frequent the alehouse; he sought out amusements; there was a neighbouring fair where he first showed his quarrelsome disposition; then came worse things; and now here he is in prison. Yes, I should reply, he frequented with a stealthy shame those places which you, who would ignore all amusement, have suffered to be most coarse and demoralizing. All along he had an exaggerated notion of the blame that he was justly liable to from his first steps in the downward path: the truth unfortunately is, that you go a long way to make a small error into a sin, when you mis-call it so. I would not therefore have a clergyman talk of an alehouse as if it were the pit of Acheron; on the contrary, I would have him acknowledge that, considering the warmth and cheerfulness to be found in the sanded parlour of the village inn, it is very natural that men should be apt to frequent it. I would have him, however, go on to show what frequenting the alehouse mostly leads to, and how the labourer's home might be made to rival the alehouse; and I would have him help to make it so, or, in some way to promote some substitute for the alehouse."

SMALL MISERIES.

"It is a strange fancy of mine, but I cannot help wishing we could move for returns, as their phrase is in Parliament, for the suffering caused in any one day, or other period of time, throughout the world, to be arranged under certain heads; and we should then see what the world has occasion to fear most. What a large amount would come under the heads of unreasonable fear of others, of miserable quarrels amongst relations upon infinitesimally small subjects, of imaginary slights, of undue cares, of false shames, of absolute misunderstandings, of unnecessary pains to maintain credit or reputation, of vexation that we cannot make others of the same mind with ourselves. What a wonderful thing it would be to see set down in figures, as it were, how ingenious we are in plaguing one another. My own private opinion is, that the discomfort caused by injudicious dress worn entirely in deference, as it has before been remarked, to the most foolish of mankind, in fact to the tyrannous majority, would outweigh many an evil that sounded very big."

"Tested by these perfect returns, which I imagine might be made by the angelic world, if they regard human affairs, perhaps our every-day shaving, severe shirt-collars and other ridiculous garments are equivalent to a great European war once in seven years; and we should find that women's stays did about as much harm, i. e. caused as much suffering, as an occasional pestilence—say, for instance, the cholera. We should find perhaps that the vexations arising from the income tax were nearly equal to those caused amongst the same class of sufferers by the ill-natured things men fancy have been said behind their backs: and perhaps the whole burden and vexation resulting from the aggregate of the respective national debts of that unthrifty family, the European race, the whole burden and vexation I say, do not come up to the aggregate of annoyances inflicted in each locality by the one ill-natured person who generally infests each little village, parish, house, or community."

"There is no knowing what strange comparisons and discoveries I should in my fancy have been led to—perhaps that the love, said to be inherent in the softer sex, of having the last word, causes as much mischief as all the tornadoes of the tropics; or that the vexation inflicted by servants on their masters by assuring them that such and such duties do not belong to their place, is equivalent to all the sufferings that have been caused by mad dogs since the world began."

In touching upon the necessity for amusement, he says the man must have some of what the child is so greedy of:—

"Do not imagine we grow out of that; we disguise ourselves by various solemnities; but we have none of us lost the child nature yet."

COMMON-PLACES.

"But indeed all moral writings teem with this remark in one form or other. You cannot have inconsistent advantages. Do not shun this maxim because it is common-place. On the contrary, take the closest heed of what observant men, who would probably like to show originality, are yet constrained to repeat. Therein lies the marrow of the wisdom of the world."

There are some serious and noteworthy passages in the essay on the great sin of great cities—that which haunts in our streets, ruins thousands in body and soul—that which no sophist can palliate, yet which few have the courage to speak openly about in our fastidious society. Having named poverty as the primary cause, the author next adds:

"The next great cause is in the over-rigid views and opinions, especially as against women, expressed in reference to unchastity. Christianity has been in

some measure to blame for this; though, if rightly applied, it would have been the surest cure. 'Publicans and sinners!' Such did he prefer before the company of pharisees and hypocrites. These latter, however, have been in great credit ever since; and, for my part, I see no end to their being pronounced for ever the choicest society of the world."

"The virtuous, carefully tended and carefully brought up, ought to bethink themselves how little they may owe to their own merit that they are virtuous, for it is in the evil concurrence of bad disposition and masterless opportunity that crime comes. Of course to an evil-disposed mind, opportunity will never be wanting; but when one person or class of persons is from circumstances peculiarly exposed to temptation, and goes wrong, it is no great stretch of charity for others to conclude that that person, or class, did not begin with worse dispositions than they themselves who are still without a stain. This is very obvious; but it is to be observed that the reasoning powers which are very prompt in mastering any simple scientific proposition, experience a wonderful halting in their logic when applied to the furtherance of charity."

"There is a very homely proverb about the fate of the pitcher that goes often to the water which might be an aid to charity, and which bears closely on the present case. The Spaniards, from whom I dare say we have the proverb, express it prettily and pithily:—

"Cantarillo que muchas veces va a la fuente,

"O dexa la asa, o la frente."

"The little pitcher that goes often to the fountain, either leaves the handle or the spout behind some day."

The dainty vase which is kept under a glass-case in a drawing-room should not be too proud of remaining without flaw, considering its great advantages."

"In the New Testament we have such matters treated in a truly divine manner. There is no palliation of crime. Sometimes our charity is mixed up with a mash of sentiment and sickly feeling that we do not know where we are, and what is vice and what is virtue. But here are the brief stern words, 'Go, and sin no more;' but, at the same time, there is an infinite consideration for the criminal, not however as criminal, but as human being; I mean not in respect of her criminality, but of her humanity."

"Now an instance of our want of obedience to these Christian precepts has often struck me in the not visiting married women whose previous lives will not bear inspection. Whose will? Not merely all Christian people, but all civilized people, ought to set their faces against this excessive retrospection."

"But if ever there were an occasion on which men (I say men but I mean more especially women), should be careful of scattering abroad unjust and severe sayings, it is in speaking of the frailties and delinquencies of women. For it is one of those things where an unjust judgment, or the fear of one, breaks down the bridge behind the repentant; and has often made an error into a crime, and a single crime into a life of crime."

"A daughter has left her home, madly, ever so wickedly if you like, but what are too often the demons tempting her onwards and preventing her return? The uncharitable speeches she has heard at home; and the feeling she shares with most of us, that those we have lived with are the sharpest judges of our conduct."

"Would you, then, exclaims some reader or hearer, take back and receive with tenderness a daughter who had erred? 'Yes,' I reply, 'if she had been the most abandoned woman upon earth.'"

"A foolish family pride often adds to this uncharitable way of feeling and speaking which I venture to reprehend. Our care is not that an evil and an unfortunate thing has happened, but that our family has been disgraced, as we call it. Family vanity mixes up with and exasperates rigid virtue. Good Heavens, if we could but see where disgrace really lies, how often men would be ashamed of their riches and their honours; and would discern that a bad temper, or an irritable disposition, was the greatest family disgrace that they possessed."

We will conclude with an excellent protest against the unreasonable demand with which reformers are always met when they have only a doctrine, but no system, to suggest:—

"One of the kind of reproaches that will ever be made with much, or little, justice (generally with little justice), against any men who endeavour to reform or improve anything, is that they are not ready with definite propositions, that they are like the chorus in a Greek play, making general remarks about nature and human affairs, without suggesting any clear and decided course to be taken. Sometimes this reproach is just, but very often, on the other hand, it is utterly unreasonable. Frequently the course to be taken in each individual instance is one that it would be almost impossible to decide, still more to lay down with minuteness, without a knowledge of the facts in the particular instance: whereas what is wanted is not to suggest a course of action, but a habit of thought which will modify not one or two actions only, but all actions that come within the scope of that thought."



## KELLY'S CALIFORNIA.

An Excursion to California over the Prairies, Rocky Mountains, and Great Sierra Nevada. With a Stroll through the Diggins and Ranches of that Country. By William Kelly, J. P. 2 vols. Chapman and Hall.

(Second Notice.)

IN returning to these spirited volumes for more extract, the only difficulty is where to stop, and what to omit. Here is a peep into

## THE GAMBLING-HOUSES.

"But the establishments that commanded the largest and steadiest trade, and where the circulating medium beat with the strongest pulsation, were the pandemoniums, which were crowded morning, noon, and night, and certainly with the most mixed and motley congregations I ever before witnessed—whites, half-castes, copper, mahogany, and blacks—delegates from every nation that takes any part or interest in the commerce or intercourse of the world, their features more varied than their colours, and their costumes representing the fashions of their several countries. The jargon of voices, mutters, and exclamations of those votaries of fortune, made a most strange medley of sounds, and you could pretty well discover the various national characteristics of the players in the progress of the game; the cool indifference of the Russian or the Turk, the latter placidly stroking his beard under the frowns of the fickle goddess; while the Frenchman at his elbow was sibilating his sacrés, and the Yankee opposite cursing and thumping the table with boisterous vehemence; Paddy down at the end consoling himself with the philosophic reflection, 'that the worst luck now the better again'—'Come my hearties, send round the ball—a faint heart never won a fair lady—hurroo!' the cloaked Spaniard and the phlegmatic German laying down their stakes mechanically from the outside; the Scotch chiel poking in his head from the same region, just so see how the chances ran 'afore he risked his siller;' while Italians smoked and hummed, and Chinese looked as innocent as if tricks were no part of their training. All the new-comers staked coin, the miners dust, some of them putting down large purses at a single venture, exclaiming, 'Now for it—home or the diggins?' 'The diggins by Heaven!' as the president raked the bag into the infernal coffers; and up got the miner to go dig another fortune, and again to have it charmed from his grasp."

## A GLIMPSE AT SACRAMENTO.

"There was one peculiarity about the city, then containing about 10,000 souls, that could not fail striking a stranger immediately, which was the total absence of women and children. Native Californians were constantly coming to and fro, galloping, as is always their custom, at full speed, even through the most crowded thoroughfares; but they manage their horses with admirable skill, and can rein them up in an instant, from the tremendous severity of their bits. Numbers, too, of the native Indians were constantly strolling about, too idle to hire themselves out, even at the high rates offered, engaged in groups, gambling, not with cards, but a kind of thimble-rig, in which one man takes a small ball, and, after shuffling his hands, so as to puzzle the sight; then holds them out for the parties to guess in which the ball is, each taking their turns at hiding it. I was greatly amused standing over them as they were squatted under a large tree at the end of one of the main streets, swaying their bodies about and grunting during the progress of the game."

## DON'T SLEEP IN A FORESAIL.

"We weighed anchor by moonlight with a fine breeze; but just as we hove in stays on our first tack, we had reached on to a bank, getting fast aground, and, as the tide rose, kept thumping and drifting for some hours. Although the sea did not run very high, our situation was attended with danger, as our bark was one of those frail craft got up hurriedly to meet the demand for river navigation, and was neither timbered, fastened, or found substantially, without even a keedge on board to bouse her off. However, as the wind sets steadily from the same point from February till October, we knew she would forge in the same direction all night, and probably stagger into deep water ere morning's tide. The air was very sharp, but sleep or comfort was not to be obtained, for she would be awhile on her larboard beam-end, bumping and thumping, then suddenly rising on even keel in deeper water, as suddenly fall down on her starboard beam, huddling passengers, furniture, and all odds and ends in the cabin into a kaleidoscopic heap, inflicting several serious cuts, wounds, and bruises. The deck was altogether unsafe, for the bulwarks were so low they afforded no protection from a sharp list; but as her sails were lowered and not furled, I bethought me that probably the bag of the foresail might afford a tolerable hammock. So crawling forward during an interregnum, I made fast the boom of it securely, and, dropping myself down, was soon swayed into a profound sleep, which was broken in upon in the middle of the night by the noise of the crew and the shouting of the captain to hoist the sails. I could not instantly bring to mind my situa-

tion, and made no effort to arise till I found the canvas slipping sensibly in folds from under me, and the boom swinging violently, when I became conscious of my situation and danger, roaring with might and main without making myself heard. I then endeavoured to get upright, but every lift of the sail upset me, and as it was fast getting chock up, I felt the peril of my position: grasping at the reef-points, two of which I got hold of, and, being in the second row, they just enabled me to reach my toes to the boom; however, as I was to leeward, the bagging of the sail to a stiff breeze made my hold very insecure and fearfully dangerous, being wholly unperceived in the dark, and the vessel going free, full eight knots. I tried again to attract attention, but my efforts were drowned by the rushing of the waters and the whistling of the wind through the cordage. My hold and footing now got more difficult and uncertain, rendering me dreadfully nervous and exhausted. Just as I was about abandoning all hopes, the man at the helm, suffering her to take a yaw to leeward, the sail jibed, and, as it passed over the deck, I dropped down almost in a state of insensibility."

Mr. Kelly's experience of the Indians is very various. He finds them squalid, degraded, noble, generous, treacherous, base, cowardly, revengeful. His chapters are enlivened by many episodes of Indian friendship and Indian warfare. We will quote one:—

"We pitched our tents on a high bank overhanging the ford of the river, from which we had under our gaze a large Indian village below it, on the opposite side; there was a sort of half-shaded dell near our camp, where we drove the animals, the grass being tall, but of the tinge and nature of old hay; however, for want of better, they eat it with a good appetite. We were not well settled when a party of Indian visitors waited upon us—good-looking fellows, and well-limbed: they both talked, and understood a little Spanish, promising us fish, and giving us all assurances of friendship, which, nevertheless, they soon after attempted to betray. Two of our party, having gone out in pursuit of deer, parted company, each attended by a few Indians, who, the moment 'D.' discharged his rifle, seized hold of it by the barrel, endeavouring at the same time to pinion him and extract his bowie-knife from the sheath: he was fortunate, however, in having a revolver in his belt, with which he soon put them to rout, the savage who wrested the rifle from him dropping it in his flight. The other deer-stalker did not happen to meet any game, and consequently escaped with his rifle and his scalp, for had he had occasion to shoot he might probably have been minus both, not having any side-arms."

"Some short time after our men returned to camp, the chief and his squaw, with four attendants, approached, evidently with the intention of explaining away the affair, and apologizing for his subjects' conduct; but we resolved they should not come again into our quarters. So I went forward, beckoning them back in rather an angry mood, at which I could see the old potentate was nettled, but, like a good tactician, who understood and appreciated the seductive influences of female interposition, he brought forward his royal partner, both making soothing and conciliatory gestures. However, by an unusual effort, my duty overcame my gallantry, and I resisted the soft blandishments, repeating my repulsive motions with a growl in the unknown tongues; upon which the old chief flared up with great rage and savage dignity, rushing forward a few steps, and shouting out, in a voice of madness, 'Arra, arra, arra!' at the same time swinging the back of his hand very violently towards us, which one of our friends understood was tantamount to warning us off his territory in the most peremptory manner. He then retired, and we had sufficient light to see, when he returned to the village, that he mustered all his men around him, gesticulating violently, all looking in the direction of our camp."

"I felt so satisfied they would attack us before morning, that I arranged a general watch of all hands for the night, carrying all the arms we could stick around our persons, which we previously shot off, for the double purpose of loading them anew and letting the enemy know the strength of our armory. Between rifles, revolvers, double and single-barrelled pistols, and double-shot guns, we came up to the formidable number of fifty-three discharges—a pretty fair amount for a cohort six strong, which produced a very warlike effect, fired in quick but regular succession. We then picketed our horses in a crescent form, hemming in the oxen between them and the steep bank, on the edge of which stood the waggon, distributing ourselves at equal intervals, marching and counter-marching, without exchanging a word for a few hours, or being able to notice any strange or hostile movement."

"At length the uneasiness of one of the horses put us upon the alert, and the next moment some arrows whizzed past us, upon which Mr. S——e fired a load of buck shot in the direction he supposed them to come from, which elicited a perfect shower, one taking effect in his shoulder, others wounding three of the oxen and one of the horses. The discharge

was followed by a quick movement, rendered audible by the crushing of dried leaves and branches, which guided us, in some measure, in our aims, as we fired one round; soon after which all noise was hushed for the night. Mr. S——e's wound was slight and superficial; but there was one of the oxen rendered unfit for present use, thus reducing our team to two yoke. We could not ascertain if we wounded or killed any of the assailants, as, if at all possible, they carry off their dead to prevent their being scalped, which next after death they are most fearful of. But when morning broke we saw them mustered in all their forces on the bank above the ford; from which position, I suppose, they calculated to intercept our crossing and enjoy perfect security, while we would be altogether exposed to their arrows and missiles."

"Their numbers, as closely as we could compute them, were from ninety to one hundred—rather an overmatch for six; but our fire-arms counted largely, the balance; for had we hesitated or wavered in the least, it would have given those savages a confidence which might have completed our destruction before we could check it. So, after a very early and simple in our favour; and our prompt determination turned breakfast, we commenced preparations as if nothing occurred, or nothing was apprehended, another and I going to the edge of the bank, with two rifles of the largest calibre, that would carry well over to our opponents—a distance of five hundred yards—which I believe they conceived impossible; for when I raised my gun to cause them to retire, they set up a hideous yell of derision, which was soon lulled by the fall of one of them. My companion, an excellent marksman, also fired, and hit the chief, who reeled, but did not fall; after which a hurried and general movement in retreat took place, that stayed us from repeating our discharges, showing them all we required was a free and unmolested passage."

"After some little delay in tending their wounded, they planted themselves in about equal numbers on the tops of their huts, which are formed by excavating the earth in a circular form, about twelve feet in diameter and four feet deep, then bending over them, in a semiglobular form, stout saplings and binding and twining them closely with vine tendrils, over which they put a coating of adhesive clay, that renders them impervious to rain, an opening large enough to admit of entrance in a crawling posture being left in the side, on a level with the ground. In external shape they resemble a mound; consequently, at a distance, the village has the appearance of a number of little tumuli, and the Indians on their crowns, armed with all their primitive weapons, produced a strange picture, entirely in keeping with the locality. They took up their position with a quiet but determined air, showing they were resolved to repel our apprehended assault, and defend their 'household gods' to the death. As soon as we observed their determination, my companion and I crossed over, leaving two others in our old position, and under cover of our guns the waggon commenced crossing—a task of doubtful completion, owing to the steepness of the banks, the crippling of our team, and the absence of manual assistance, as we were otherwise employed; however, after a multitude of pauses, and a large expenditure of wattles, the thing was accomplished, and our march continued, with all our arms in requisition, having for despatch made cartridges for all our guns and rifles."

"As we receded from the village the Indians descended, but did not attempt following; nevertheless, we bore in mind the rule of Indian retribution, which is two lives for one, and resolved to keep a vigilant look-out while in their territory. It is a deplorable circumstance that, even after the offending party have passed on, they satiate their unquenchable revenge on the first white-skin they catch in their power, which often hurries an innocent and unsuspecting victim to a premature death."

The hardships undergone by Mr. Kelly and his companions are something terrible even to read of; but the moment they were passed the elastic spirits of the adventurers converted them into pleasurable reminiscences. We shall close our fragmentary notice of this *Excursion* by a passage which recalls the famous shipwreck in *Don Juan*.

"By a very early start we calculated on reaching the river in one day, and did accomplish it a few hours after sunset, accompanied most attentively by a deluge of rain. We brought the men on the opposite bank to hail, by discharging our rifles, but they declined attempting the ferry until morning; so we had no shift but to sit down supperless in the tempestuous torrents; and when morning came, we found the river had risen far beyond any of its former limits, still rising and roaring with terrific import, the heavens sending down their liquid contents in actual streams, giving rise to a feeling of nervousness at the idea of crossing in a crink little canoe; but men supperless over night, shaking in soaked clothes, and with extra stowage for breakfast, were satisfied to risk a little in getting to comfortable quarters. However, we were soon relieved from all anxiety about our personal safety, by the information that no one

on the other side would undertake the hazard of ferrying us over.

"Placed in this dilemma, there was no resource by which we could procure food but by killing a deer; so out we all sallied, and after a good deal of tiresome beating succeeded in wounding a large buck, but not so as to deprive him of the powers of locomotion. The consequence was, he led us a chase, in which we easily tracked him by his blood, until from hunger and fatigue we were compelled to desist, and labour back to the river bank—a much longer stretch than we had any notion of—where, far from any comfort or relief awaiting us, we were met by the surly thunders of a swelling torrent, fed and pampered by the deluge from above. Hunger, now overmastering all other sensations, gnawed with torturing importunity, until it produced an actual disinclination for sustenance, by the morbid anguish it caused in the realms of appetite, when lassitude supervened in shivering sleep—not so profound as to render us insensible of the pelting storm that pattered unpityingly over our miserable unsheltered beds; still it was after sunrise when we awoke from this horrible repose, so completely were all the physical energies numbed and prostrated; and although the rain had become perceptibly lighter, the river was as certainly higher, rushing, roaring, and boiling up with a maddened fury that shut out all hopes of a crossing for the day.

"Famine and starvation now began to conjure up dreadful ideas of a wretched death, as, from weakness, we were incapable of going in quest of game; and even supposing we could retrace our steps to the camp we left, we knew that the slender stock of provisions which remained at our departure would have been entirely consumed, and that the probability was they were almost as ill off for food as ourselves—a conjecture which was confirmed in the course of the day by the arrival from thence of two more of our comrades, to urge the despatch of the supplies, as their store had become entirely exhausted. Our gaunt and altered appearance amazed and alarmed them; and as they had not yet become enervated by long fasting, they left us next morning to try the chances of the forest, first gathering some herbs and cresses, to endeavour to allay the pangs with which we were afflicted. The rain ceased soon after daybreak, and we spent the day in a state betwixt sleep and stupor, in an agony of suspense as to the success of the hunters; but in the early afternoon, when we saw them coming down the hillside without any game, we abandoned all hopes, as the river could not in the nature of things be practicable, ere exhausted nature should have sunk into the repose of death.

"I lay down on a gentle slope, from which I never expected to arise, breathing, as I imagined, my last prayers to the throne of Divine grace, my saddened memory at intervals carrying back my thoughts to my native land. Home, friends, and early associations, at times dreamily weaving themselves into groups and pictures of happiness and enjoyment, in which, for a moment, I would fancy myself participating—a gleam of delight flitting through my distempered imagination, too soon, alas! to be dispelled by the gloomy reality, the melancholy transition deepening my emotions of misery into a keen thrill of utter despair that would have been maddening, were they not sweetly soothed by the consoling hopes of Divine mercy and a glorious eternity. I prayed for sleep, to come and relieve me from the anguish of my physical pains and sufferings; but that fitful slumber, which was unable to subdue consciousness, would alone visit me.

"While lying in this state on the morning of the fourth day, with my faithful dog at my feet, I overheard the men, who last joined us, discussing the necessity of killing him, as that, with proper economy, his flesh would sustain us until the river so far subsided as to render a passage practicable. It added to my wretchedness, while revolving the expedient in my mind, that I was constrained to coincide in its policy; but as my comrades aroused me to communicate the suggestion, and extract my consent, I gazed upon my dumb friend with a tearful eye and sickened heart—the more so, as I fancied he looked wistfully in my face, standing in an attitude of dejection unusual to him, with drooped tail and hanging ears. I was unable to assent in words, but gave them silently to understand that I would interpose no obstacle; and no sooner had I done so, than poor "Sligo" (so I called him), instead of coiling himself beside me as was his wont, slunk away to some distance, sitting in a mournful attitude, and watching our movements with a grievous steadiness that perfectly unmanned me, impressing me with the steadfast conviction that his intuitive sagacity forewarned him of our cruel intentions.

"It was clearly perceptible to all that his attachment and confidence were altered into fear and distrust, for no calling or coaxing would induce him to come nearer us; while, if any approached him, he receded slowly, but declined to run. S—, who was the steadiest shot, and had the best rifle, agreed to do the deed; and as he commenced loading, the poor brute betrayed increased uneasiness, moving and shifting restlessly as if about to run off; but

finally sitting firmly still on a little mound, as if he came to the determination of yielding himself up as a victim for the salvation of his master, the warm tears trickled freely down my cheeks, and I felt a disposition to go and embrace him when looking at him for the last time. As S— raised the rifle to his shoulder, the poor animal at the same moment fairly confronted his executioner, throwing back his ears with a low piteous whine, awaiting his doom like a hero."

#### BOOKS ON OUR TABLE.

*The Poems of Schiller Complete: including all his early Suppressed Pieces.* Attempted in English. By Edgar Alfred Bowring. J. W. Parker.

One merit this volume has—completeness. For the first time a translator has been found with the courage to reproduce every one of Schiller's poems, including those printed in the *Anthology* for the year 1782—crude indifferent verses which his better judgment afterwards suppressed—and giving also the songs scattered through his plays. To many this completeness will be an important feature. The translation is such as may be expected from the avowal in the preface of the ten thousand verses having been translated "in the course of a few months in hours snatched away from more engrossing pursuits." Is Mr. Bowring at all conscious of the insult to Literature implied in such an avowal?

*Retired from Business.* A Comedy in Three Acts. By Douglas Jerrold. Bradbury and Evans.

This comedy reads far better than it acts. The affluence of wit is delightful in reading; and we were astonished to see how many "good things" passed unnoticed on the stage—simply, we presume, from the actors not knowing how to deliver wit, so rarely is it given them to deliver!

*The Comic History of Rome.* By the Author of the Comic History of England. Illustrated by John Leech. Bradbury and Evans.

We have a very serious protest to make against the modern tendency to make history "comic"—thus desecrating, in the minds of youth, the past life of humanity which should be held sacred—but it is impossible to resist laughter at this monster burlesque of Rome. We do not think our laughter mollifies our objection, or the contrary rather intensifies it; but we are bound to regard the aim of author and artist, and to say that they have terribly succeeded. Leech's mimicry of the modern moustache and Joinville tie with the Roman toga is immensely ludicrous—indeed, most of the illustrations are instinct with fun; and the text crowded with puns—often of that execrable order which rises into a kind of sublime badness, the equivalent of excellence in puns—contains a very good substratum of historical exposition. It is history in motley; but it is history.

*Logic for the Million; a Familiar Exposition of the Art of Reasoning.* By a Fellow of the Royal Society. Longman and Co.

We may call this an important work with a catch-penny title. It is really an able, intelligible, and even entertaining exposition of all that in books of logic can interest the mass of people. That which demarcates it from other works known to us is the union of solidity with familiarity—the complete renunciation of all scholastic technology—and the examples by which the rules are illustrated; instead of the dull generalities usually considered worthy of showing logic in action, the author has made abundant quotations from various sources—the Board of Health Reports and Mrs. Caudle's Lectures—Sydney Smith and Chambers' Journal—the Times and the Pilgrim's Progress. When we reflect upon the repulsiveness of works on logic, we must applaud this "Logic for the Million," unless we condemn the study as altogether frivolous.

*Chemistry of the Four Ancient Elements, Fire, Earth, Air and Water.* An Essay founded upon Lectures delivered before her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen. By Thomas Griffiths, Professor of Chemistry in the Medical College of St. Bartholomew's Hospital. Second Edition. J. W. Parker.

*Chemistry of the Crystal Palace.* By T. Griffiths. J. W. Parker. These two little volumes contain popular expositions of the chemistry of familiar things. The *Chemistry of the Crystal Palace* is an instructive companion to the thousand and one books written about that building and its contents; but the title is somewhat equivocal, and we must explain that the work simply pretends to furnish information respecting the chemical properties of the chief materials employed in the construction of the Palace, and contains elaborate chapters on iron, zinc, tin, lead, glass, copper, gold, silver, wood, and other organic materials. Both works are creditably executed.

*Christian Charity, considered in Relation to the Love of God.* A Sermon delivered at the Octagon Chapel, Norwich. By Philip Bland, Perpetual Curate of St. Martin-at-Oak, Norwich. Wertheim and Co.; Norwich, Musket.

Whatever may be thought of the policy of Mr. Bland's proceeding in preaching this sermon in a chapel belonging to the Unitarians, no one can deny him the credit of boldness in the enunciation of his views, and of sincerity in the endeavour he has made to vindicate the "liberty of prophesying," or, in other words, the right of the clergy of the Church of England to preach in places of worship other than those of the Establishment. Social inconvenience,

in the shape of exclusion from a local literary institution, and of alienation from the "influential," among his former friends, appears to have already befallen this champion of extended Catholicity, while his mild and tolerant diocesan is taunted with having adopted towards him no stronger measure than a recommendation to resign his living; which recommendation Mr. Bland, being desirous, as it would seem, to test the law upon the subject, has declined to follow.

Whatever the result of an appeal to the ecclesiastical tribunals may be—and we confess that we are apprehensive such would be adverse to Mr. Bland—the reflection is forced upon us of the necessity of so far modifying the laws of exclusion and division, as to permit the interchange of friendly offices of this kind between the teachers of different religious opinions. It does not follow that they should, in visiting and addressing one another's congregations, do so with a view of making proselytes. Judgment, taste, and temper would convince them, on the contrary, that they had done enough if they showed how much in common was held under apparently opposing systems, and the oneness of their aim in practice in spite of their diversities in points of faith. As the case is now, congregations are, like individuals, isolated, and ignorant of each other's peculiarities, except, for the most part, from hearsay. Objections are magnified by misconception; and excellences, which would draw the hearts of multitudes together like the heart of one man, are without influence because they are unknown. As toleration is more fully understood, these hindrances to good feeling and harmonious action will be removed. Of the present discourse we have only to say that, avoiding, as was proper on such an occasion and in such a place, discussion on doctrinal differences, it sets forth, in accordance with its title, and in eloquent and flowing language, the great religious principle from which alone adequate results can flow—love to God and good will towards mankind.

*The Works of Plato.* A new and literal version chiefly from the text of Stallbaum. Vol. IV. By George Burges, M.A. (Bohn's Classical Library.) H. G. Bohn.

After the long article we devoted to Mr. Burges's *Plato* (vide No. 36) it is unnecessary to say more of the present volume than that it contains fourteen of the minor dialogues, and the pseudo epistles, executed in the same style as the former volume.

*Peter Little and the Lucky Sixpence; the Frog's Lecture; and other Stories.* A verse book for my children and their playmates. Second Edition. Ridgway.

A second edition of these pleasant little verse stories called for in six weeks fully bears out what we said of them; and the delight manifested in our nursery by the appearance of the volume is the best criticism we can offer. They have an easily appreciated moral, and are told in true childlike simplicity.

*Introduction to the History of the Peace, from 1800 to 1815.* By Harriet Martineau. C. Knight.

*Not so Bad as We Seem; or, Many Sides to a Character.* A Comedy in Five Acts. By Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton, Bart. Chapman and Hall.

*The Law as to the Exemption of Scientific and Literary Societies from the Parish and other Local Rates; with Practical Directions to such Societies, Mechanics' Institutes, &c., thereon, and Comments on the Policy of the Law, and of Exemptions from Rateability.* J. Crockford.

*Violentia.* A Tragedy. J. W. Parker.

*The Crystal Palace; its Architectural History and Constructive Marvels.* By Peter Berlyn and Charles Fowler, jun. J. Gilbert.

*Soft Spring Water from the Surrey Sands.* By the Hon. Wm. Napier. Smith, Elder, and Co.

*The North British Review.* No. 29. Hamilton, Adams, and Co.

*The Public Health a Public Question.* First Report of the Metropolitan Association. Longman, Brown, and Co.

*Plan and Description of the Original Electro-Magnetic Telegraph; with Preparatory Notes to the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition, and Relative Documents.* By William Alexander. Longman, Brown, and Co.

*The Decimal System, as applied to the Coinage and Weights and Measures of Great Britain.* By Henry Taylor. Groombridge and Sons.

*Le Petit Rimew.* Being French and English Words and Sentences in Rhymes. Groombridge and Sons.

*Introductory Lessons in the French Language; with a Series of Exercises.* By C. J. Delille. Groombridge and Sons.

*An Inquiry as to the Essential Nature of Phenomena or Perceptible Existence, or as to the General Agency and Law of Perception on which such Existence depends.* Parts 1 and 2. J. McGlashan.

*Knight's Pictorial Shakspeare.* Part 14. (Much Ado about Nothing.) C. Knight.

## The Arts.

### FIDELIO.

Lovers of music and opera-goers are by no means of the same class. You go to the opera for everything but the music. You go because it is the opera; because the Queen and the graceful forms of our lovely women are to be seen there; because there is a ballet and spectacle, and you nod to acquaintances in fop's alley and the crush room; or else you go because—an order has been given you! My dear sir, that is the crude truth: you do not care for music, you do not understand a word of Italian, you do not know a good singer from a



bad one; the utmost stretch of your musical appreciation is "a tune." When Titania asks Bottom if he will have sweet music, the self-sufficient clown sublimely answers, "I have a reasonable good ear for music: let us have the tongs and bones!" The opera has its Bottoms.

Still there are lovers of music among that crowd: men who know and men who feel. These have been nobly treated of late: *Donna del Lago*—*Der Freischütz*—*Don Giovanni*—and *Fidelio*—thus in an ascending scale of excellence, until the opera is given which appeals more to the musician and less to the tunelover than any known work, and—thanks to the numerous genuine lovers of genuine art, aided by the profound hypocrisy of that large class which knowing nothing of art, affects rapture as it swallows the caviare—*Fidelio* was triumphant, entirely, unreservedly triumphant!

If you are unacquainted with this opera let me urge you to become forthwith acquainted with it—on the supposition, of course, that you care for something besides warbling and waltz tunes; and, in order that you may go fitly prepared, let me hint where the beauty lies. It is not tuneful, it is not vocal. Singers complain cruelly of it, and with justice. But, if instead of placing singers in the foreground, and allowing the symphonies and accompaniments to play the subsidiary part, you transpose the general order, and consider the voices almost as a subsidiary accompaniment to the orchestral grandeur and significance, then you will feel how great a work it is, how true in its dramatic expression, how matchless in melodic invention and intricate harmonies. It is the complete contrast to a ballad opera,—and ballad lovers will have nothing to say to it. Written at the period when Beethoven was most blissfully unhappy, when he was tormented by his passion for Julia, and when the deepening shadows of his coming misfortune—deafness—rendered him more gloomy and more irritable than ever—this single opera, which the grand Titan of harmony composed with sublime indifference to the demands of managers, singers, or public, but with absolute and absorbed devotion to his own instinct of dramatic art, remains one of the marvels of composition, to be studied and to be revered. If I ask you to throw the voices somewhat into the background, it is from no indifference to the noble expression Beethoven has confided to them, it is simply because I think if you do not pay unusual attention to the orchestral part the peculiar magic of the work will escape you. I am somewhat of a fanatic about Beethoven. He moves the heights and depths of my soul as no other artist—poet, painter, or musician—ever moved them; and I warn you, therefore, to take my enthusiasm with due allowance for the fanaticism of love. I will not swear that you do not find *Fidelio* heavy, perhaps "slow." But if you care for anything except simple melodies, do attend to the accompaniments of this opera, and then decide.

But I have other business than to criticise *Fidelio*. On Tuesday it was produced at Her Majesty's for the debut of Sophie Cruvelli. The overtures—for there are two—were played with a delicacy and expression surprising at this house. Since Balfe has held his baton he never wielded it so effectively in my hearing. There were points to which I should take exception, but on the whole his orchestra did him credit. Let me also add a word of praise for the way in which he supplied the recitatives. But the chorusses were uncertain and comparatively ineffective: singularly enough, that wondrous piece of choral writing, where the prisoners are allowed for a moment to breathe the fresh air, was so inadequately sung as to secure its encore only after great opposition.

Now for the singers: the opera has but one great part, *Fidelio* herself, and Mr. Lumley has been fortunate in securing one of the very few living singers who can fill it. Mademoiselle Cruvelli makes ample amends for the feebleness of Balanchi, who is totally ineffective as the gaoler, and for the mediocrity of Sims Reeves as Florestan. It was a bold thing for a debutante to select so trying a part; but the greater the stake the greater the triumph, and Mademoiselle Cruvelli unquestionably played the part with immense spirit and intelligence. She never let the character slip through her fingers; from first to last she was absorbed and absorbing. She is an actress of genius, and being still very young—only three-and-twenty I hear—will probably become a great actress in time. As a singer she is gifted with an astonishing voice, having a compass of three octaves: rich and sympathetic in the lower register, weak and indifferent

in the middle, exquisitely sweet and bell-like in the upper tones. I suspect she had originally a contralto, and that it has been forced upwards, like so many other voices; in which case it will soon give way, for Nature is inexorable, and, womanlike, permits no caprices but her own! About her proficiency as a singer I have some doubts which I reserve till another hearing or so clear them up. Meanwhile, I will say this of her, that she does seem to me a woman of genius of whom the highest hopes may be entertained. You know the story, perhaps, of the young actress who was excusing her coldness to Voltaire, and wound up with remarking that if she acted as he wished her people would say the devil was in her. "Precisely!" replied the poet; "you must have the devil in you to play properly." Mademoiselle Cruvelli is not unacquainted with the gentleman in black.

#### IL BARBIERE.

At last we have crowded houses, and so genuine are the crowds that Mr. Lumley announces his intention of opening the theatre five nights a week. Not the best news for us unfortunate critics!

On Thursday—a very "long Thursday"—we had the second and third acts of *Masaniello*—coldly received, as fragments necessarily are, though well executed. Pardini sang the barcarole and the duet with Pietro in a manner that made me hope he would fulfil the expectations he raised by his first appearance; but his voice was fatigued at the close of the act, showing that his failure really is, as I suspected, owing to want of stamina. *Il Barbiere* followed, and set one's blood in a gallop with its joyous, animated, impulsive, graceful music. Sontag sings Rossini almost to perfection—the grace and playfulness of the part could hardly be better. She gives a German, not a southern version, of the character: a blonde, careless, coquettish Rosina, very unlike the Spanish maiden with eyes of languor and pulses of fire, whom Rossini created; but taking her view of the part, and allowing for that ambition of being a *human flageolet*, which seems the apex of Sontag's artistic imagination, I must say she was altogether charming. "Una voce" was a triumph of vocalization; "Dunque io son," of coquettishness and grace; the singing lesson, of *tours de force*. She was in excellent voice, and seemed to play with it like a young lark rising from the waving corn fields.

Ferranti is hard, impudent, and ineffective; nothing can make him more than a third-rate singer, but if he would attend somewhat more closely to his music and somewhat less to the stalls it would be agreeable. For Figaro he lacks every qualification. The censure is sweeping; I believe it deserved. Calzolari sang charmingly in the great sextet of the finale, but he shouted the serenade, *Ecco ridente il ciel*, so as completely to mar its effect. Basillo was ludicrously misrepresented. Bartolo, in the person of the great Lablache, was the most amiable and admirable of domestic tyrants. He omitted, however, the grand air *Signorina un'altra volta*; but omitted no opportunity for fun. Altogether it was a delightful performance.

#### ONLY A CLOD.

Did you ever read Charles de Bernard's novelet, *Un Gendre*? No? Then do so, if you care to see the tables turned upon the dandy lover, who, on the strength of well-oiled whiskers and irreproachable boots, utterly despises the plain unpretending husband—a mere clod, not worthy to be mentioned. It is not often in French literature that the husband plays the heroic part. After all one must admit that a husband is awfully prosaic! Legal happiness is so utterly respectable! It is that keeps me a bachelor! But, prosaic or not, the poor devil is a husband, and doesn't like his domestic arrangements multiplied by well-oiled whiskers and scented manners; and I have enough compassion in me to feel rejoiced when I see him rise out of the prosaism of his part and turn the laughter against the lover. This you may see done in Charles de Bernard's tale; this you may see still more pleasantly done in Palgrave Simpson's little comedy at the Lyceum, *Only a Clod*, which gives Charles Mathews a new opportunity of showing what a perfect comedian he is—how, with dress, tone, gesture, and smallest details, he fills up his conception of a part, till it becomes something entire, *living*. In the gentleman farmer—quiet, manly, hearty without coarseness, accomplished without affectation—he is really loveable. Indeed I overheard a lady exclaim—"I should like to kiss him!" and I applauded

her desire. Nothing can be more life-like and unexaggerated than his fencing scene with Roxby—the sort of careless unswaggering confidence of his bearing, the left hand dangling in his breeches pockets, his whole attitude disdaining the *salle d'armes* elegance. Only those who compare Charles Mathews with all other actors on the stage, or who know the art which is implied in natural acting, can form an idea of his peculiar excellence. It is what we see in all French comedians of eminence, but rarely get a glimpse of in England.

*Only a Clod* is essentially an agreeable piece. The subject is amusing, the dialogue sprightly and neatly turned, the tone healthy and unforced. Miss Oliver makes a charming farmer's wife. Roxby is an excellent actor, but is not sufficiently the man of fashion to bring out in contrast the rusticity of the "clod;" still less so is Mr. Bellingham. This want of due proportion injures the picture. As a foil to Charles Mathews's rustic one ought to have consummate elegance.

#### THE CHEVALIER BOSCO.

I have seen some wonderful conjuring in my time, but never anything equal to that of Bosco, whom I met at a small breakfast the other day. In the first place, the wonder was enhanced by the improvised nature of the materials he used; instead of the conjuror's apparatus, he took the knives and forks, the cups, the eggs, the bread, and the radishes that came on the breakfast table, and while we sat opposite and beside him, he accomplished his tricks under our very noses. In the next place he had no accomplice, no mechanism. Sleight of hand enabled him to do all but the clairvoyant tricks. He was among strangers, his only friend present being the greatest living violinist. If you imagine the difficulties under which he laboured in being thus deprived of all ordinary means of deceit, you will see at once that Bosco is not of the ordinary race of conjurors. I will relate one or two of his tricks.

He gave our host a cup to hold in which the green end of a radish was placed; this cup had a cover which our host was told to place on the cup, having satisfied himself that the radish was there. Bosco, observe, stood at a distance of two or three yards, and did not touch the cup. When it was covered he asked if the radish were positively in the cup; then—still preserving his distance, he bade us remark a large ring on his finger. No sooner had we done so, than presto! the ring was invisible—the radish was in his hand, and when our host lifted the cover off the cup there was the ring! A burst of astonishment greeted this; and we begged him to repeat it, which he did—this time with a ball instead of a radish.

He then went up to our host's portrait; looked steadily at it for some time, wrote something on a piece of paper, gave the paper folded up to our host, and desired him to put it in his pocket. He then took a pack of cards, requesting our host to tell him when to cease dealing the cards on the table. At the ninth card the word "stop" arrested him. He then bade us read what was written on the paper, and we found, *Monsieur will stop me at the ninth card!* Talk of clairvoyance after that! Another sample of thought-reading was given.

He told four of us to think of any number we pleased, but not to name it. I thought of seven; my neighbour of ten; the other two of numbers which I forget, but they were not the same as ours. Bosco then took a pack of cards, and made each of us select one, and each selected a card having the number each had chosen!

Many other wonderful tricks he showed us, for some of which we could imagine a process, but these three were completely beyond even the scope of guessing; and we were told by his friend that when he exhibits in public we shall see things still more striking. What peculiarly delighted us was the elegance and ease with which the adroitest sleights of hand were accomplished. In that quality he is formidable. At Vienna the waiters in the café refused to take his money unless he placed it on the table, for he paid them and whipped the money from their hands without their being aware of it, till they looked and found their hands empty.

I have given this hasty notice of the Chevalier Bosco to direct attention to him when he appears in public. Had he been a Robin or a Houdin I should not have gone out of my way; but at a time when there are so many Wizards in the field, a man to gain attention must have a peculiar talent, and such a talent Bosco has.

VIVIAN.

## Portfolio.

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

TO ELIZA LYNN,

Author of "Azeth," "Amymoné," "Realities," &c.

Eloquence often draws the mind awry  
By too much tension, then relaxes it  
With magic fires, round which the Passions stand  
Crazed or perverse: but thine invigorates,  
By leading from the flutter of the crowd,  
And from the flimsy lace and rank perfume,  
And mirror where all faces are alike,  
Up the steep hill where Wisdom, looking stern  
To those afar, sits calm, benign; the Gods  
But just above, the Graces just below,  
Regarding blandly his decorous robe.  
There are, my lovely friend, who twitch at thine.  
Suffer it: walk straight on: they will have past  
Soon out of sight. The powerfulest on earth  
Lose all their potency by one assault  
On Genius or on Virtue. Where are they  
Who pelted Milton? Where are they who rais'd  
Fresh furies round Rousseau? Where, outcast vile,  
Thrice a deserted, thrice a fugitive,  
Always a dastard, who by torchlight shed  
A Condé's blood? His march the wolf and bear  
Most signalized: he gorged them till they slept  
And howl'd no longer; men alone howl'd there,  
Under sharp wounds and Famine's sharper fang.  
He ridged the frozen flats of Muscovy,  
And bridged the rivers, paved the roads, with men,  
Men in the morning, blocks of ice at noon.  
Myriads of these are less than one he threw  
To death more lingering in a dungeon's damp,  
The sable chief who made his brethren free.  
What profited these crimes? what followed them?  
A gang of galley-slaves, each ancle chain'd,  
A troop of felons sergeanted by priests.  
Away from such foul imps! look straight elsewhere,  
Malevolence, in guise of Flattery,  
Will bow before thee. Men I know of old,  
In whose wry mouths are friendship, truthfulness,  
And gentleness and geniality,  
And good old customs, sound old hearts. Beware  
Lest they come sideling, lest they slyly slip  
Some lout before thee whose splay foot impedes  
Thy steps, whose shoulder hides thee from thy friends.  
Leave such behind: let pity temper scorn.  
With this encouragement, with this advice,  
Accept my Christmas gift, perhaps my last.  
Behold *Five Scenes*: scenes not indeed most fit  
For gentle souls to dwell in; but the worst  
Lies out of sight, dark cypresses between,  
With hideous monsters everywhere around:  
Another dared pass through them; I dared not.  
Askest thou why none ever could lead forth  
My steps upon the stage? I would evoke  
Men's meditation, shunning men's applause.  
Let this come after me, if come it will;  
I shall not wait for it; nor pant for it,  
Nor hold my breath to hear it, far or nigh.  
Orestes and Electra walkt with me,  
And few observ'd them: then Giovanna shed  
Her tears into my bosom, mine alone.  
The shambling step in plashy loose morass,  
The froth upon the lip, the slaver's tongue,  
The husky speech interminable, please  
More than the vulgar, tho' the vulgar most.  
How little worth is fame when even the wise  
Wander so widely in our wildering field!  
Easy it were for one in whose domain  
Each subject hath his own, and but his own,—  
Easy it were for him to parcel out  
A few more speeches, filling up the chinks.  
Difficult, far more difficult, to work  
Wards for the lock than hinges for the gate.  
I, who have skill for wards, have also strength  
For hinges; nor should they disgrace the door  
Of noblest temple Rome or Athens rear'd.  
Content am I to go where soon I must;  
Another day may see me, now unseen;  
I may perhaps rise slowly from my tomb  
And take my seat among the living guests.  
Meanwhile let some one tell the world thy worth,  
One whom the world shall listen to, one great  
Above his fellows, nor much lower than thou!  
He who can crown stands very near the crown'd.

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR.

## THE FALLACY THAT HARMLESS ERRORS SHOULD BE LET ALONE.

It passes as a kind of maxim, that it is a pity to disturb a harmless belief in which people find comfort, even though it should be false. This opinion is as old, at least, as the days of Cicero, who silences all questioning upon a point by declaring:—"Si in hoc erro, erro libenter"—If I am wrong in this, I prefer being wrong.

Consequential thinkers, it is to be suspected, are hardly satisfied with this. They can hardly admit that error is ever harmless. And yet the difficulty, in most cases, of showing wherein the harm lies is so great that the maxim is allowed to pass unquestioned, rather than expose one's self to the imputation of wantonly breaking a cherished idol.

The readers of the *Leader* may be presumed, as a class, to lean rather to the Iconoclast side; and, therefore, it may not be uninteresting for some of them to see how one of those so-called "harmless delusions" is exposed by the hand of a master. It is with this view that the following translation from Lessing's *Nathan the Wise* is offered.

For the better understanding of the extract it may be necessary to give some notion of part of the plot.

The scene is laid in Jerusalem, in the age of the Crusades. Nathan, the rich, the wise,—whose capacious mind can harmonize all beliefs,—has just returned from a mercantile journey in the East. In his absence he had left Recha, his daughter (so reputed), under the charge of her governess and friend, Daja. Shortly before his return the house catches fire, and, Recha's chamber being enveloped by the flames, she is given up for lost. Suddenly there appears among the crowd a stranger of foreign aspect, wrapt in a white mantle, who learns the danger, and, regardless of life, darts through the flames and brings out Recha, enveloped in his mantle and unscathed; then, depositing her in safety, he disappears as suddenly as he came.

The alarm over, and the fire extinguished, where is the deliverer? No one can tell. Some days after, the two women see him from the windows, walking under the palms near by. Daja hastens to beg him to the house that Recha may thank him. He wants no thanks—repulses her—seems to shun human contact. All things taken, he is a mysterious being,—an angel-deliverer perhaps! It cannot be otherwise—it was an angel. And there they rest.

The mysterious deliverer was, in fact, a Templar, who had been taken captive, and whose life had been spared by some caprice of Sultan Saladin. Bereft of honour, without friends in a hostile city, he was reckless of life; and, though without resources, he was too proud and in too bitter humour to ask or accept a favour.

Daja and Recha are relating the events to Nathan, and are in raptures about the angelic deliverance.

*Nathan.* Why trouble, then, an angel in the matter?

*Daja.* And what's the harm, if I'm allowed to speak,

In thinking that an angel rescued you

Rather than a man? Do you not feel yourself

So much the nearer to the primal cause,

The incomprehensible, of your deliverance?

*Nath.* Pride!—nought but pride! The foot of iron chooses

To be lifted from the fire with tongs of silver,

That it may deem itself of silver too.

And what's the harm, you ask? What harm?

What is the good? I need but ask in turn.

For thy "To feel one's self thus nearer God"

Is either nonsense or else blasphemy.

But there is harm—yes, harm unspeakable.

Come! listen to me. The being that rescued thee—

Be it an angel or a man—to him,

I know, you long—and thou, child, specially—

To make requitals, O how great and many!

Is it not so? Now, to an angel, think

What service, what great service can so well

Be done to him? You may return him thanks;

May sigh to him, pray to him; you may melt

In raptures over him; upon his festival

May fast, give alms. All, all is naught. For ever

It seems to me, that you yourself and neighbours

Reap far more profit from these acts than he.

He grows not fat because of your poor fasting;

Becomes not rich because of your expending;

Nor yet more glorious through your raptures;

Nor grows he mightier because you trust him.

A man now!—

*Daja.* Ay, doubtless, a man had furnished

Some opportunity of doing him service,

And God knows how prepared we were to do it!

But, sooth to say, he would accept from us,

Indeed required so absolutely nothing;

In himself, with himself was so contented.

As only angels are, as only angels can be.

*Recha.* In short, as from our view he vanished quite—

*Nath.* Vanished! How, then, vanished? Among the palms

No more appeared? How was it? Or have you,

Indeed, made any further search for him?

*Daja.* In truth, I cannot say we have.

*Nath.* What! Daja,

Made no more search? There, see now, what's the harm!

Ye cruel enthusiasts! If this angel, now,

Should—be fallen sick!

*Recha.* Sick!

(After sufficiently alarming them by a vivid picture of the stranger's possible circumstances)—

*Nath.* He lives!—come to thyself!—is, likely, not

Even sick!

*Recha.* For sure?—not dead?—not even sick?

*Nath.* For sure, not dead!—Go. But perceivest thou

How much devout enthusiasm is lighter

Than acting well!—how men the most remiss

Will gladly be devout enthusiasts,

With the sole view—although at times, perhaps,

Not clearly conscious of the inward motive—

To be absolved from the need of acting?

## Progress of the People.

### ADDRESS TO ROBERT OWEN.

The following address to Robert Owen was unanimously adopted at a soirée of the Manchester Social Society, on the 14th of May:—

"It is with feelings of no ordinary pleasure that we hail the anniversary of the day that you were born unto the world. We congratulate you also on the attainment of your eightieth year, in possession of the physical and mental powers which still enable you to labour in disseminating the glorious, the world-renovating truths, 'That man's feelings and convictions are independent of his will;' 'That man's character is formed for him, and not by him;' and, consequently, that he neither deserves praise nor blame, reward nor punishment, for his belief, his feeling, or his character, thereby laying the foundation of a system which shall banish ignorance, error, disease and crime, and introduce the reign of truth, intelligence, happiness, charity, and love.

"The fact that all classes, sects, and parties are now turning their thoughts, and, to a certain extent, applying their energies to ascertain whether pauperism can be made productive leads us to hope that your experiment at New Lanark, the Leeds report thereon, and your Dublin lectures, coupled with your present exertions, will be a means to incite them to abolish the competitive system, supported as it is by force, and fraud, and superstition, producing incalculable misery to all; and to show them the necessity for adopting coöperation in labour and community of goods, 'Each for all, and all for each.'

"The great interest you have manifested, and the discoveries you have made in practical education, the establishment of infant-schools, in connection with the new system, and your unwearied working to well form the youthful character, are now being ably supported by the National Public School Association, the leading minds in which have been formed in the new school, and give us well grounded hopes that the time is not far distant when an ordinary education will be given to every child that is born.

"In conclusion, let us remind you that reformers in all ages, and at all times, have for the most part been 'Men of sorrows, and acquainted with griefs,'—hated, contemned, and insulted by those they sought to serve, they have been 'despised and rejected of men' while living, and very often finished their career on the cross, the gibbet, or the block.

"We glory, then, that your honoured head has been spared to see the realization of some of your views, and those most opposed to them in theory running to apply them in practice. Continue, then, by precept and practice to instruct us how to live in accordance with knowledge, morality, and virtue; and when you shall be no more, the writings you leave us shall be 'a light to our feet and a lamp to our paths.'

"That such an event may be far distant, and that your valuable life may be still further lengthened, is the sincere wish of

"Your children in the truth,

"(On behalf of the Social Society,)

"Of Manchester),

"WILLIAM PRICE, Chairman,

"WILKINSON BURLAM, Cor. Sec."

A few of Mr. Owen's disciples residing in Brighton also met on the 14th to commemorate his eightieth anniversary, and to make arrangements for more frequent intercourse in future amongst the advocates of Social Reform. "The meeting had simply the character of a family party united by one common feeling of respect and affection for the great man, who, more than any other perhaps, has experienced the gratification of promoting the happiness of his fellow creatures in a judicious and enlightened manner, who, with the steadiness of the mariner's compass, has continued for the last fifty years to point out to society its only sure 'harbour of refuge.'"

In Paisley the friends of Mr. Owen celebrated the day in the Wilson-hall. Though the hour of assembling was eleven p.m., yet the tables were filled. In Dundee the celebration was held between twelve and one o'clock at night. On May 17 a numerous party—Mr. Dodds in the chair—met for the same purpose in the Communist-hall, Glasgow. The celebration was very animated.

### SECULAR EDUCATION IN GALASHIELS.

A public meeting was held in Galashiels on the 16th, in the large room of the Commercial Inn, with a view to initiate a movement in that town on behalf of secular national instruction. Mr. Simpson of Edinburgh was to have been the principal speaker, but indisposition prevented him. Mr. George Combe was then invited, but his engagements obliged him to decline. Mr. G. J. Holyoake was then solicited to attend and address the meeting; and after the following petition was moved by a gentleman, who preaches in the Baptist Connection, Mr. Holyoake, in a speech of an hour or more, supported its prayer. The room was crowded to excess by the most intelligent portion of the population. There were many reasons not to expect unanimity, but only one dissentient, in the end, held up his hand against the petition. There was a chapel in the town, usually employed for moral objects, which was refused for this meeting; but there is reason to believe, at least we hope it was so, that the refusal was owing to some misunderstanding. The chief expense of the meeting was defrayed by Mr. George Combe, from funds munificently placed at his disposal by Mr. Loomes.

The following petition of the working men and other inhabitants of Galashiels and vicinity was the one passed, which

"SHEWETH,—That the peace, prosperity, and moral and intellectual progress of the community, demand that



education should be made as nearly universal in its application as possible.

"That the mass of ignorance which still prevails demonstrates the insufficiency of existing efforts—public and private—to educate the people.

"That the crime which also still prevails, being obviously, to a great extent, the result of that ignorance, would be most effectually removed by the abolition of the cause which produces it; while, at the same time, the anomaly of punishing breaches of morality, without inculcating its precepts, would become unknown.

"Your petitioners, therefore, respectfully trust that your Honourable House will seriously consider these statements, and provide the means of education which the condition of the people appears to demand.

"As important contributors to the taxation of the country, your petitioners feel that education is an universal want which ought to be universally supplied; and that, therefore, all matters upon which discord exists in the public mind ought to be avoided.

"The education which your petitioners would prefer, and submit to your Honourable House as preferable, is one in which the requisite schools shall be placed under local management, guided, but not controlled, by a trustworthy central authority.

"Your petitioners further submit, that in these schools secular instruction only should be given, free from any intermixture of sectarian theological doctrines, which they hold it to be the province of parents and pastors to impart to the young of their respective denominations.

"May it, therefore, please your Honourable House to take the premises into your consideration, and pass a law for the establishment and support, by local rates, and under local management and central guidance, but without intermixture of sectarian religious instruction, of such number of elementary schools as shall be deemed necessary for the secular instruction of the people of Scotland; or to do otherwise in the premises as to your wisdom shall seem meet."

#### THE EBENEZER, NEAR THE NIAGARA FALLS.

The following passage from the pen of Park Goodwin, of New York, relates to a recent instance of Associative experience:—

"An associative village has been established about seven miles from the city of Buffalo, and not far from the Niagara Falls, called Ebenezer. It is a colony of some one thousand Germans, who, about four years since, emigrated from Germany, where they were not allowed so free an opportunity as they wished for carrying out their peculiar plans. They were not driven to the undertaking by any civil or religious oppressions, nor actuated by any peculiar fanaticism, but simply by the desire to live a pure, spiritual, and happy life. Many of them were able to contribute from three to fifteen thousand dollars to the common stock, while one put in fifty, and another as high as a thousand dollars. With a portion of these funds they came to America, and purchased about seven thousand acres of Indian reservation land.

"They have cleared completely, and put up in the best order, nearly five thousand acres of their land, erected a great many miles of durable fences, planted twenty-five thousand fruit-trees of various sorts, settled three compact villages, about one mile apart, each containing one hundred large and commodious dwelling-houses, some thirty or forty barns of the largest size, and most substantial structure, four saw-mills, which are kept constantly running, one flour-mill, one oil-mill, one large woollen factory, calico printworks, a tannery, a variety of workshops for mechanics, public-halls, and several school-houses. Besides these, they possess extensive herds of cattle and swine, their sheep alone numbering above two thousand head. Indeed, their property, with its improvements, is estimated to be worth more than a million dollars, which, if divided, would give ten thousand dollars to each man, woman, and child on the domain. Such are some of the internal advantages of unitary labour.

"Their gardens, yards, and fields, display refined taste, and the highest state of cultivation. All of a suitable age, both male and female, are required to work at such business as either their taste, genius, or habit may render fit. And whenever, from any cause, such as change of weather, or sudden ripening of a crop, an extra number of hands are needed, they can bring fifty or a hundred hands into the fields at once, with any requisite number of teams; and thus enjoy great advantages in cultivating and securing their crops. Their cloth and other manufactured articles are made in the best manner; and their farm operations are crowned with the highest success.

"Separate barns, spacious and well ventilated, are provided for horses, oxen, cows, yearlings, calves, and sheep. So that they are all sheltered in the most comfortable manner during the winter, and apartments for the sheep are thoroughly whitewashed four or five times a year. Then there are a series of barns, say 150 by 40 feet in size, standing in a line, eight or ten rods apart; some with hay, others with wheat, others with oats, barley, &c.; and then again other ranges of buildings enclosing hundreds of swine; and others still, to accommodate all the poultry belonging to the community.

"They have not yet erected any unitary mansion, most of the families preferring separate dwellings and households; but their cooking, washing, and other domestic operations, are done by divisions of ten families each, so as to avoid the confusion of a large number on one hand, or waste and trouble of an extreme isolation of families on the other. The plan is found to work pretty well.

"The children are required to attend the schools, where they are instructed in all branches of useful knowledge, and in the English and German languages. They are carefully instructed in their moral duties, though I believe no specific forms of religion are taught. The larger portion of the community are attached to the Lutheran church, but do not insist upon others."

**THE NATIONAL REFORM LEAGUE.**—Mr. O'Brien presided over the quarterly meeting of this League, at the Eclectic Institute, on the 23rd of April. The report of the Council alluded to the Chartist programme as one of the encouraging proofs of the advance of the doctrines of the League. It decidedly protested against the "untried and problematical theory of Communism being put forward as the sole means by which society can be regenerated." The report congratulates the members on the advancement of the principles of the League.

On Tuesday evening last a concert was given at John-street Institution, in aid of the "National Charter Fund." The services of the singers were volunteered for the occasion—a handsome tribute to the popular cause. Mr. H. T. Holyoake conducted the concert, which was greatly applauded, most of the songs being encored; and the evening passed off in a manner which must have been highly gratifying to the promoters. We understand that concerts will be given monthly.

**REDEMPTION SOCIETY.**—One of the propositions to be submitted to the coming Congress is the creation of a Propagandist fund; another is the engagement of a paid secretary. The growing importance of the society now demands such an assistant, yet he cannot be paid out of the funds collected for the Communal objects of the society. A general Propagandist fund from all the branches would supply the requisite funds without being felt by any. His labours will be of the utmost use to the society generally. Of course we calculate upon his being an efficient lecturer, and able to furnish paragraphs and articles to the press. We cannot well undervalue the services of a good secretary, who will make himself useful. We trust the various branches will well weigh this matter. It is expected that the first camp meeting this year will be held on Long Moor, near Dregglington. It is a central position, not far from Bradford, Birstall, Birkenhead, Clackheaton, Heckmondwike, Geldersorn, &c. Monies received—Leeds, £1 5s. 7d.; Manchester, per Mr. Bloomer, £1 14s.; Burnley, per Mr. Utley, £1 3s. 6d.

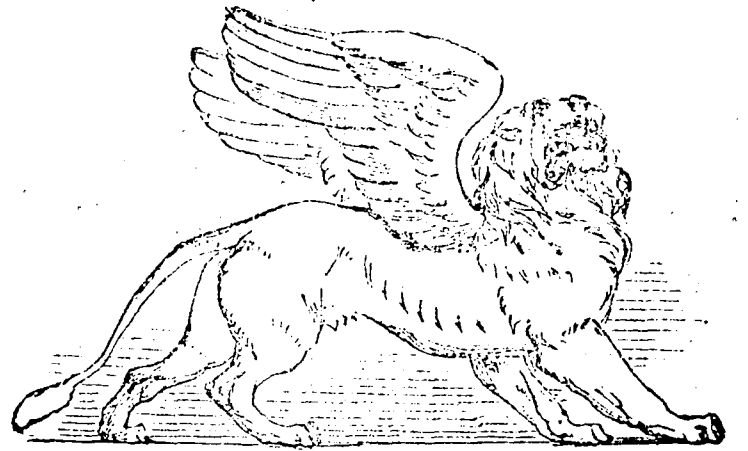
At a meeting of the committee appointed by the Bury Coöperative Conference, held on the 11th, at Rochdale, it was resolved to call a conference, to be held in Manchester on the Friday in Whitsun week, at ten o'clock in the morning. The place of meeting will be made known before that time. Societies numbering more than twelve members, and less than 112, to send one delegate, and one more for every additional 100 members. Messrs. Hill, Greenwood, and Bell were appointed a committee to prepare a programme for the guidance of the conference, get it printed, and send a copy to all the coöperative concerns they know of. The committee recommend the establishment of a general depot in Manchester for the sale of all kinds of grocery goods and provisions; to raise a capital of £2500 to start the coöperative stores, on private individuals, and pay interest at the rate of five per cent.; and they particularly request societies to get guarantees from their officers, as parties entrusted with sums of money or goods, through the medium of some guarantee society, in order to avoid losses. Stores are requested to purchase such articles, as they can buy best from the London store, Charlotte-street.

**HALIFAX.**—On Sunday last two exceedingly effective lectures on the question of Coöperation were delivered in the large room of the Odd-Fellows Hall, by Dr. F. R. Lees, of Leeds. The audience on each occasion was good.

**DUNDEE RAGGED SCHOOL.**—Among other useful institutions of modern date in Dundee is an industrial ragged school, in which a considerable number of children are well housed, wholesomely fed, and moderately taught; and, in addition to rudimentary knowledge, there is the practice of trades imparted. The average cost is about £5 per child per annum. The boys go with the male teacher to his church on Sundays, and the girls go to where the female teacher worships. The teachers are selected according to fitness, and not according to religious views. Lord Kinnaird is opening coffee-houses in Dundee, which is a piece of praiseworthy consideration for the working men.

**MR. CAMERON.**—We have to lament the death of one of the fathers of Communism. Mr. William Cameron died in Leeds, of inflammation of the lungs, on Monday night, April 28, in his fifty-ninth year. He commenced an active Communist life with Mr. Mudie, in London, in 1823. He went to Orbiston by the recommendation of J. M. Morgan, Esq., and had the management of the tailoring department there till the final break up. He has taken an active part in every communal and co-operative attempt which lay in his way since he joined the Redemption Society, when residing at Hounslow. Last year he removed to Leeds, and soon after became a member of the board of directors, at which his attendance was unremitting.

**THE MORMONS' CITY ON THE SALT LAKE.**—Three years ago the Mormons arrived in Salt Lake Valley, in the "Rocky Mountains," and their progress in laying out a city, buildings, fencing, farms, &c., is truly wonderful. The city is laid out in about twenty different wards, and covers an area of three square miles. It already contains about 1000 houses, nearly one story and a-half high, built of adobe, or sun-burnt brick. A fine stream of cold water rushes down from the mountains, which is distributed in ditches through every street in the city, through the gardens, and to the doors of the dwellings, where it is used for culinary and other purposes. The ground whereon the city is built is sloping, which affords a great fall for the water, and keeps up a continual supply of fresh water from the mountains. The valley where the city stands is handsome, running east and west. The city is situated about three miles from the Timpanagos mountains on the east, within five of the Utah outlet on the south-east, and within twenty miles from the range of mountains on the south, within twenty-two miles of the Great Salt Lake. Its population is about 5000, that of the valley 10,000, exclusive of the city.—Quoted in the *Glasgow Sentinel*.



## Open Council.

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

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

## THE MALTHUS CONTROVERSY.

THOUGHTS ABOUT MALTHUS.

April 22, 1851.

SIR,—I have waited in quiet anticipation of a renewal of the Malthusian discussion in the pages of your Open Council. Disappointed in my expectation, I unwillingly occupy the space which should be accorded to more able and more experienced writers. It is not so much my object to defend the original position of Malthus, or the modified statement of Mill, as to make such suggestion and explanatory remarks as occur to me. That there is an excess of power in the principle of population over the principle of subsistence, is a theorem that would appear at present to be incapable of positive demonstration. It is, indeed, undeniable that the history of the past shows us, in most, though not in all, instances a deficiency of the means of subsistence. The quantity of food which the natural fertility of the earth, aided by the skill and industry of its cultivators, has hitherto furnished, has been unequal to the adequate support of mankind. There is, however, no actual proof in this case, that what can be affirmed of the Past will apply to the Future; or that what can be predicated of man, selfish and ignorant, can be predicated of man, social and scientific. Under new arrangements, the productive power of the land, assisted by the combined industry and intelligence of society, and stimulated by the organizing genius of the predicted Watt of agriculture, may be so increased as to keep subsistence always in advance of population. Emigration armadas, an united Europe, a confederate world, will facilitate the operations of the marts of industry, and transfer redundant population to uncultivated lands, and redundant production to the more sterile soils. While I acknowledge the possibility of such events, I cannot consider the following observations quite superfluous:—

1. Since the dimensions of the earth are limited, and the productive principle of population is not limited, we shall, in a few centuries, if the present rate of increase continue, have reached the term at which population must remain stationary; or, since all further addition will be absolutely impracticable, without such fatal consequence, must return to a phasis of misery and crime similar to the present. If population remain stationary, society will, at one stage or other of its progress, adopt a check of some kind. One of these alternatives must be admitted. The extent of land is limited; the amount of population depends on the space which it has to occupy. Either the principle of population must be regulated, or society, after it has attained its maturity, will resort to the deplorable condition of its childhood.

2. Allowing that the human race is destined to realize that supremacy over the earth and over the instruments of production which will for long ages make subsistence commensurate with population, yet there will always be exceptional periods, when the demand will exceed the supply. For the perpetual improvements of which we suppose the soil to be capable depend on fresh discoveries and new resources, which cannot be commanded at will, or at any rate will not be so commanded, until the complete formation of social and agricultural science. Again I say, a check must be employed during every such interregnum, whether it arise from deficient science, from exhaustion of available land, or from purely accidental causes; or, if a check be not employed, the ills that desolate our mortal life will continue.

3. While it is true that the means of subsistence, that is, the vegetables and animals that serve as food for man, may increase in a ratio more rapid than that in which the consumer himself increases; yet these means of subsistence are limited, not only because science is imperfect, and land not always available, but because the earth that produces them has no accommodating power of expansion. If we increase

the number of our sheep and oxen, we take so much corn land and so much building room from man, to convert into pasture land and standing room for cattle.

4. Instead of having recourse to metaphysical arguments and theological standards of right and wrong, let us observe how the instinct of population acts when reason never interferes with the process. "Wherever there is liberty, the power of increase is exerted; and the superabundant effects are repressed afterwards by want of room and nourishment." In a crowded plantation the trees are stunted in their growth and die. In a garden, seed too thickly sown springs up only that one half of the crop may destroy the other half. In the insect world an excess of life is attended by a countervailing destruction. "The race of plants and the race of animals shrink under this great restrictive law."

5. There is no way in which man can evade it; at least no method of evasion has yet been discovered; and till it is discovered, the "barbarous checks of fire, famine, and slaughter" will not cease to operate. Men will live in vice and misery; children will die young, or be "dragged up" in squalor and criminal ignorance; women will be the victims of the tyranny and passion of man. Prostitution will be the necessary consequences of a condition, in which subsistence is below population, while appetite is uncontrolled by intellect and self-denying love.

6. There is only one method of meeting the evil. To keep population down to a level with subsistence. And this can only be done by subordinating instinct to reason. Until man can learn to be virtuous, he cannot be free; until he can practise self-control, he cannot be happy. The progress which the human race has made, justifies us in entertaining the belief that it will make still greater progress. Yet it is visionary to expect that men without discipline, without self-knowledge, without clear perception of duty and sympathy with humanity, will voluntarily submit to the continued practice of any moral obligation. Only benefits of the most palpable character, only hopes that invite, coupled with fears that compel, can actuate those who are necessarily and excusably the slaves of sensation. Happily, however, it is in the power of society to try the only remedy which can be suggested. A large margin of subsistence yet awaits us. The extinction of poverty for a whole generation, and the introduction of social reform, will give us ample room and verge enough. For awhile subsistence may even outstrip population, and opportunity will thus be afforded for the diffusion of these scientific truths, which should be the heritage of all men. This difficult problem will then be universally appreciated, and when population again overtakes subsistence it may receive a proximate solution. Distinctions will of course be recognized. Those who are able to lead a celibate life may be encouraged to do so. Those, on the other hand, in whose case the disastrous consequences of improvident marriage form the preferable alternative, must be left free to follow their own inclination. It should be remembered that at the utmost matrimony need never be precluded, but only deferred. There can be no doubt that with the general progress of mankind, the voluntary restraint upon population will be brought into action. Experience shows that the elevation of the standard of living, the development of intellectual and moral wants, the possession of property, and the diffusion of education, unquestionably act as limiting forces. If, indeed, Mr. Newman be correct in his statement that the offspring of late marriages is more numerous than that of early marriages, it is evident that the simple postponement of matrimony will not furnish a remedy. Statistical information on this subject is still a desideratum. Supposing Mr. Newman's statement to be correct, we must conclude that no parent should allow his family contingent to exceed that number for which in the normal state of society he would be able to make suitable provision.

7. I admit that while selfish and ignorant Legislation refuses to the majority of men their social rights, it would be as impolitic, as it would be useless, to preach the doctrine of restraint. I have no wish to enlarge the empire of Mammon at the expense of my suffering brothers. But when, in enforcing every man's duty, society shall proclaim every man's right; when the wealth that science and industry have accumulated, shall be fairly and universally distributed; when ancient love shall return to mellow and brighten the severities of modern law; then the truth about Malthus must be told, must be accepted, must be practised.

Yours, &c., M.

#### LAND AND NUMBERS.

Birmingham, May 15, 1851.

SIR,—Can you find room in your next paper for one or two comments upon the article headed "La Terre est aux Lords," which appeared in your last? If you can, you will oblige me.

In that article there are two subjects discussed which have very little connection with each other: the nationalization of the land, and the population theory of Malthus. You insinuate, rather than state, that the theory of Malthus, if true at all, is true only because land is held as private property; and that if it were once nationalized, whatever importance that theory may have had will pass away for ever.

I am ready to admit as fully as you, or any of your correspondents can do, that land can never become private property in the absolute manner that any other commodity may; that the grand title to property of all sorts, the right of the producer to what he has produced, fails when applied to land; and in addition to this, that the very existence of the community depending upon a right use being made of its land. The community must necessarily have the right to reserve (or perhaps it would be more correct to say take possession of) this common fund, from which every member is directly or indirectly maintained, whenever it shall be clearly proved to be the general interest to do so. The only question then to be determined is, under which system; that of admitting private property in land, or of nationalizing it, the greater amount of physical and moral good would accrue to the community. This is the question to which those of your correspondents who take an interest in this subject should confine themselves, and on which at some future time I shall be happy to make a few remarks; but my present object is to show that, under the present system, as well as under the existing one, the population doctrine would hold true.

Let us suppose the land nationalized, and the State the sole landlord. As I presume there are few, if any, who would wish the Government to add production to its other functions, I assume that the land would be let to individuals as it is at present, and as this Government would not be gifted with any higher kind of knowledge than previous ones, I assume, too, that the amount of rent paid by each tenant would be decided as it is now by competition. And, therefore, that the rent paid to the new landlord would be just what was paid to the old; and, consequently, that all the members of the community who are unable to compete now, would be equally incompetent to compete then. In fact, that the great mass of the people would be as effectually debarred from the land under the proposed system as they are under the existing one; and, therefore, that if Malthus's theory was true in his time, it will hold true in time to come.

But, in fact, if every man in the community had his piece of land, the populator's theory would even then be just as true as ever it was; the tendency to increase beyond the increase in the means of sustenance would be as strong as ever; and it is precisely in those parts of the world where the land is held by those who labour in it, that this tendency is kept down by foresight instead of starvation. To all who deny the tendency of organised life to increase beyond the means of subsistence, I would ask are there any other limits to the increase of any species of animal except the difficulty of procuring the food necessary to its existence, and its liability to be preyed upon by other species? If there are any other limits, what are they? If there are not, in what way does man differ from other animals in this respect, except that by foresight and prudence he can provide for his offspring before he increases and multiplies, instead of after or not at all.

In your article "La Terre est aux Lords," you were singularly unfortunate both in your illustration and your authority. You say, "Man alone is poor, the sheep gets all he nibbles." But man, too, gets all he nibbles; and do you mean to say that sheep never yet died of hunger? If they ever have so died, what does the sentence mean?

When you quote Him who said, "Take no thought for the morrow what ye shall eat, or wherewithal ye shall be clothed," you should remember that this command to His followers was joined to a promise that all their wants should be provided for. When you can make to the mass of our population a similar promise, and fulfill it, you, too, may cry aloud to them, "Take no thought for the morrow," without committing sin. Then, and not till then.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, E. R.

#### MALTHUS AMONG THE SHEEP.

May 20, 1851.

SIR,—Allow me to ask you one or two questions with reference to your article of the 10th of May on Malthusianism.

You say that, according to the received Malthusian theory, it is the poor man, or, as you call him, Poor-man (meaning, no doubt, to show that you are speaking of a class), who is to be diligent, orderly, and industrious, and that he is to leave the "affections" to the well-to-do classes.

I would ask—is it a maxim with the well-to-do classes, who are imbued with the Malthusian theory, to inculcate the utmost and earliest multiplication among themselves? Are the actual restraints upon increase in the higher classes other in kind or less severe than those which they desire to impose upon the poorer?

You say, "The sheep has all the nibbles, and the lamb is born without thought of the morrow." It strikes me that this may be predicated of human creatures without implying any great felicity. The Irishman undoubtedly has all he munches, and the Irish infant is born without any very effective thought of the morrow. But as you seem to present this as an ideal picture, I would ask—Are you speaking of

the sheep on a farm, or of the sheep in his aboriginal condition? If of the former, do you consider the law of increase that is enforced in the slave-breeding states of America as the truest expression of the Divine will on this point? If of the latter, is it by "competition," or otherwise, that the multiplication of numbers is checked? In other words, are you desirous of substituting for free obedience to moral law the total subjugation of the servile state, or the rude corrections of the savage state? D.

#### CHURCHES DEGENERATE.

London, May 6, 1851.

SIR,—The Reverend Mr. Larken has regarded with compassion the fiery immolation of the *Leader*, while he has beheld with a frown the "wet blanket" of *Terræ Filius*. This circumstance is to be regretted. Meekness, demureness, and soft words, when applied to what is wilfully erroneous and false, degenerate into mawkish complaisance, unprincipled conciliation, and at last into absolute hypocrisy.

It would appear that reprobation, rebuke, and every kind of antagonism are not found within the sphere of Mr. Larken's mental constitution. This is very singular! Why are they not? They formed an essential part of his great master's being. Where does literature supply terms of deeper contumely than were applied by the prince of philosophers to a people denounced and repudiated, as "of their father the Devil," &c.?

But Mr. Larken is horrified in a still greater degree at a sweeping condemnation of his whole order. No doubt he is. So also would have been the collective body of the Mosaic priesthood, when stepping forth in the form of godliness, and with the language of order and decorum in their mouths, they paid money to Judas to take the life of one whose bold assault upon their principles threatened with ruin the "tithe question," as well as their secular preëminence. And yet, while so engaged, they would doubtless have repudiated, as "mistaken zeal and offended prejudice," the imputation of universal error, pointing to the grand doctrine of Apostolic succession through Aaron and Moses up even to God himself! They would also, with characteristic modesty, have quoted and appropriated all the virtuous acts of their progenitors, exclaiming, "by whom was civilization fostered and learning kept alive, but by the priesthood? Who have stood between the noble and the vassal, the monarch and the people, the oppressor and the victim, and enforced the decrees of equity, but the priesthood?" And then, too, while the people were starving and the priesthood rolling in luxury, how complaisantly and triumphantly they would have added, "who are contending more manfully and generously," in our way (sops to Cerberus), for the rights of the poor (skilly nouritur) and the establishment of just relations between man and man—that is, between man and woman, in regard to the separation of the husband and the wife in the work-house. But Mr. Larken does not contemplate the possibility of an universally corrupt priesthood, especially in the Christian body; and yet he might have done so with propriety, seeing that the Saviour pointed out a period when Christianity should become a "dry" tree, and that (when for the purpose of again rescuing the world from destruction the Son of Man should appear) he would not "find faith upon the earth."

The practice of fostering evil and falsehood by blinking at both; the cry of "Peace, peace, where there is no peace," will never do in an enlightened age, when, as is witnessed in the downfall of existing Christian dynasties, and the general distress of nations, God is come to judge the earth. Conscience, that makes cowards of all the children of this world, will superinduce, as, indeed, it is already doing, a policy of mock forbearance, mutual flattery, and cautious interference. The "loaves and fishes are in danger;" the tithe question and secular preëminence (on the part of the ministers of one who "had not where to lay his head") are again mooted as of old. Hush! keep quiet; don't move, my dear fellows; never think for yourselves; eat skilly and pick oakum, while we, your "pastors and masters," will burn the *Leader* and look after the loaves and fishes. Such is very naturally the language of those who perceive their heaven and earth passing away, and yet, what is more terrible still, the word of God remaining.

Has Mr. Larken, while deprecating interference and collision of whatsoever kind, never reflected upon the fact that every regenerate man is a microcosm? But if each regenerate man is a microcosm, he was created, like the material cosmos, out of chaos. Therefore it was that darkness was on the abyss of his external being. But, in due course, God said let there be light, and what was the consequence? The light by its inherent virtue repudiated, scorned, scattered, and expelled the darkness. Now, if the doctrine of repudiation, reprobation, rebuke, and antagonism is manifested in each regenerate being as a microcosm, must it not be manifest also in a combination of beings, or microcosm, such as is represented by the *Leader*? Had the advocates of the *Leader* been silent when its pages were burned by an antagonistic power before a helpless multitude, their silence might



have been regarded as a mark of guilt. That a bold denunciation of an act of physical force, fire, and revenge should be degraded to the level of the act itself, could only occur to the mind of one who stands by "his order," and therefore participates in the evils and falses of that order. *TERRÆ FILIUS.*

## Commercial Affairs.

### MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

FRIDAY.

The English funds have been steady all the week. Consols closed on the first three days at 97½ to 4. On Thursday, owing to a prevailing impression that the next Bank returns will show considerable increase in the stock of bullion, they went 97½ to 4. This morning the opening price was 97½.

Consols have fluctuated during the week, from 97 to 97½; Bank Stock, from 210 to 211; and Exchequer Bills, from 41s. to 46s. premium.

Not much business has been done in Foreign Securities this week. The bargains in the official list comprised:—Buenos Ayres, at 57; Ecuador, 3½, 4, and 3½; Granada Deferred, 4; Mexican, for money, 34½; and for the account, 35; Peruvian, for account, 80½, 81½, and 81½; Portuguese Four per Cents., 32½; Spanish Five per Cents., for the account, 20 and 19½; Passive, 5½ and 5; Spanish Three per Cents., for the account, 39½ and 4; Venezuela, 33½; the Deferred, 12½; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents., 59½ and 4; and the Four per Cent. Certificates, 89½, 8, and 4.

### BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(Closing Prices.)

	Satur.	Mond.	Tues.	Wedn.	Thurs.	Frid.
Bank Stock....	210	210	210	210	210	210
3 per Ct. Red.	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 p. C. Con. Ans.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. C. An. 1726.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. Ct. Con. Ac.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
3 p. Cent. An.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
New 5 per Cts.	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16
Long Ans., 1860.	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16	7 5-16
Ind. St. 10½ p. ct.	63 p	63 p	63 p	63 p	63 p	63 p
Ditto Bonds	47 p	47 p	47 p	47 p	47 p	47 p
Ex. Bills, 10000.	43 p	43 p	43 p	43 p	43 p	43 p
Ditto, 5000.	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p
Ditto, Small	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p	44 p

### FOREIGN FUNDS.

(Last Official Quotation during the Week ending Thursday Evening.)

Austrian 5 per Cents.	96½	Mexican 5 per Ct. Aco.	35
Belgian Bds., 4½ p. Ct.	—	Neapolitan 5 per Cents.	—
Brazilian 5 per Cents.	—	Peruvian 4½ per Cents.	—
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cts.	57	Portuguese 5 per Cent.	—
Chilian 3 per Cents.	—	— 4 per Cts.	32½
Danish 5 per Cents.	—	— Annuities	—
Dutch 2½ per Cents.	59½	Russian, 1822, 4½ p. Cts.	—
— 4 per Cents.	89½	Span. Actives, 5 p. Cts.	19½
Ecuador Bonds	3	— Passive	5½
French 5 p. C. An. at Paris	90.35	— Deferred	—
— 3 p. Cts., May 22, 55.90	—		

### CORN EXCHANGE.

MARK-LANE, May 23.—The supplies of all grain are moderate. Wheat and Barley are firm. Oats 6d. to 1s. dearer, and Beans and Peas more in request at former rates.

	English.	Irish.	Foreign.
Wheat .. ..	2130	—	1910
Barley .. ..	350	—	220
Oats .. ..	710	3690.	9990
Flour .. ..	2090	—	—

### GRAIN, Mark-lane, May 16.

Wheat, R. New	36s. to 38s.	Maple .....	31s. to 33s.
Fine .....	38 — 40	White .....	26 — 27
Old .....	39 — 40	Boilers .....	27 — 29
White .....	37 — 40	Beans, Ticks ..	26 — 27
Fine .....	43 — 41	Old .....	27 — 29
Superior New	40 — 46	Indian Corn ..	28 — 30
Rye .....	24 — 25	Oats, Feed .....	17 — 18
Barley .....	22 — 23	Fine .....	18 — 19
Malt .....	25 — 26	Poland .....	20 — 21
Malt, Ord. ....	48 — 50	Fine .....	21 — 22
Fine .....	50 — 52	Potato .....	19 — 20
Peas, Hog .....	28 — 30	Fine .....	20 — 21

### GENERAL AVERAGE PRICE OF GRAIN.

WEEK ENDING May 15.

Imperial General Weekly Average.

Wheat .....	38s. 2d.	Rye .....	25s. 9d.
Barley .....	24 2	Beans .....	22 10
Oats .....	18 11	Peas .....	27 2
Aggregate Average of the Six Weeks.			
Wheat .....	38s. 9d.	Rye .....	24s. 11d.
Barley .....	24 1	Beans .....	26 6
Oats .....	17 5	Peas .....	25 2

### FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, May 16.

**BANKRUPTS.**—J. CERRITO, Mincing-lane, merchant, to surrender May 27, June 24; solicitors, Messrs. Williams, M'Leod, and Camm, Paper-buildings, Temple; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—S. GRAYSON, Brighton, victualler, May 27, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Rickards and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields; and Messrs. Bennett and Houseman, Brighton; official assignee, Mr. Groom, Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street—J. CLARK, Clarence-place, Camberwell, auctioneer, May 22, June 27; solicitors, Messrs. Guy and Reed, Cannon-row, Westminster; official assignee, Mr. Whitmore, Basinghall-street—A. TARRANT, High Holborn, bookbinder, May 28, June 27; solicitors, Messrs. Kingston and Shephard, Clifford's-inn; official assignee, Mr. Graham—W. H. AYLES, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, builder, May 31, June 26; solicitors, Messrs. Abbott, Jenkins, and Abbott, New-inn, Strand; official assignee, Mr. Bell, Coleman-street-buildings, Moorgate-street—G. DONSON, Neath, Glamorganshire, painter, June 3, July 1, at the Bristol District Court of Bankruptcy; solicitors, Messrs. Sewell, Fox, and Sewell, Old Broad-street, and Messrs. Whittington and Gribble, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Miller, Bristol—

C. BOND, Tiverton and Bath, tanner, May 27, June 24, at the Bristol District Court of Bankruptcy; solicitor, Mr. Bevan, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Acraman, Bristol—A. YOUNG, BARRETT, Horncastle, Lincolnshire, engineer, May 28, at the Leeds District Court of Bankruptcy, held at Kingston-upon-Hull; solicitor, Mr. Dunning, Leeds; official assignee, Mr. Carrick, Hull—J. HOLDEN, Salford, licensed victualler, June 2 and 23, at the Manchester District Court of Bankruptcy; solicitor, Mr. Taylor, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Fraser, Manchester.

Tuesday, May 20.

**BANKRUPTS.**—W. PAGE, Great Yarmouth, grocer, to surrender May 30, June 30; solicitors, Mr. Storey, Featherstone-buildings, and Messrs. Fillett and Co., Norwich; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—J. G. CASSAGNE, Salisbury-street, Strand, wine merchant, May 30, June 30; solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence, Plews, and Boyer, Old Jewry; official assignee, Mr. Johnson, Basinghall-street—J. F. FRAKE, Hampstead-street, Fitzroy-square, licensed victualler, May 30, July 4; solicitor, Mr. Rawlins, John-street, Bedford-row, and Romaine; official assignee, Mr. Cannan, Birch-lane—D. GIDRON, Minorities, and Uxbridge, clothier, May 28, July 1; solicitors, Messrs. Reed, Langford, and Marsden, Friday-street, Cheapside, and Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Stansfield—J. E. DOWSON, Oxford-street, furnishing ironmonger, May 31, July 12; solicitor, Mr. Cooper, Gray's-inn-square, and Old Cavendish-street; official assignee, Mr. Nicholson, Basinghall-street—J. E. M'CALL, late of Parliament-street, lithographic printer, June 3, July 1; solicitor, Mr. Phillips, Gray's-inn-square; official assignee, Mr. Edwards, Sambrook-court—C. BOND, Tiverton (and not Tiverton, as in last Friday's Gazette), near Bath, tanner, May 27, June 21; solicitor, Mr. Bevan, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Acraman, Bristol—R. and F. R. HAZARD, Bristol, victuallers, June 4, July 2; solicitor, Mr. Bevan, Bristol; official assignee, Mr. Miller, Bristol—R. BRISCOE, Liverpool, draper, June 3 and 23; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Cazenove, Liverpool—H. JONES, Gaerwen, Anglesea, ironmonger, June 3 and 23; solicitors, Messrs. Fletcher and Hull, Liverpool, and Mr. Jones, Bangor; official assignee, Mr. Morgan, Liverpool—J. M'NAMRE, Manchester, chemist, June 2, July 1; solicitors, Messrs. Sale, Worthington, and Shipman, Manchester; official assignee, Mr. Pott, Manchester—T. S. DOBINSON, Tynemouth, banker, May 28, June 16; solicitors, Messrs. Griffith and Crighton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Mr. Wheldon, North Shields; official assignee, Mr. Wakley, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

### BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

#### BIRTHS.

On the 11th of May, at Wolverley-house, Worcestershire, the wife of F. W. Knight, Esq., M.P., of a son and heir.  
On the 12th, at Brussels, the wife of Algernon William Bellingham Greville, Esq., of a son.  
On the 13th, at Teignmouth, Devon, the wife of the Reverend John Lawrence Prior, of a daughter.  
On the 15th, at Camden-terrace, Camden-town, the wife of J. C. Dale, Esq., of Glanvilles Wootton, Dorset, of a son and heir.

#### MARRIAGES.

On the 13th, at Beeston, Nottinghamshire, the Reverend Martin Henry Ricketts, M.A., of Exeter College, Oxford, son of Martin Ricketts, Esq., of the Ford, near Droitwich, to Susan, eldest daughter of the Reverend John Volley, Vicar of Beeston.  
On the 15th, at Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, T. Batchelor, Esq., chapter clerk to the Dean and Canons of Windsor, and registrar of Eton College, to Elizabeth Ann, daughter of the late Lieutenant Lorimer, formerly of the First Royals.  
On the 15th, at Trinity Church, Brompton, J. D. M'Andrew, Esq., Captain Seventy-eighth Highlanders, to Emily, youngest daughter of Joseph Cammilleri, Esq., Commander R.N.

#### DEATHS.

On the 15th of February, at sea, on board the Bucephalus, Captain James Robertson, Ninth Regiment of Madras Native Infantry, Assistant Commissary-General, third son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel David Robertson Macdonald, of Kinlochmoidart, N.B.  
On the 28th, at Foochowfoo, in China, William Connor, Esq., H. B. M. Vice-Consul at that place.  
On the night of the 27th of March, Joaquin Rodriguez, merchant of Truxillo, Central America, assassinated on entering his dwelling-house, aged twenty-eight, deeply regretted by the inhabitants of that town.  
On the 14th, at Castle Strathallan, James, eighth Viscount of Strathallan, in the eighty-fifth year of his age.  
On the 15th, in Saville-row, Major-General Sir Wm. Morison, K.C.B., M.P. for Clackmannan and Kinross.

**IN ORDER TO PREVENT MISTAKES** frequently arising from similarity of names, and to comply with some family arrangements, Mr. A. L. JULES LECHÉVALIER, of Martinique, established in Paris from 1826 to 1849, now living in London, and one of the partners in the commercial firm Lechavalier, Woodin, Jones, and Co., of 76, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, begs to intimate that, in the ordinary intercourse of life, he will henceforth adopt in full his late father's NAME, LECHÉVALIER ST. ANDRE, continuing to use the name of Lechavalier only for the business of the above-named firm.

**GREAT EXHIBITION CENTRAL AVENUE:** an Illustrated Priced-List of Church Furniture contributed by GILBERT J. FRENCH, Bolton, Lancashire. Transmitted free on application.

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### THE EXHIBITION OF 1851.

**VISITORS' RE-UNION and BUSINESS ADDRESS OFFICE,** 418, West Strand London, (over the Electric Telegraph-office, and opposite Hungerford-street). Established as a general and universal focus for mutual communication and general inquiry.

Messrs. JOHN HAMPDEN and Company, Patentees and General Commissioners for the promotion of British and Foreign Art and Industry, consulting Engineers and Draughtsmen, 418, West Strand, London. Maps, Plans, and Surveys made; Perspective, Plain, or Working Drawings executed with the greatest precision, punctuality and dispatch. Models, or working machinery of any description, copied on an enlarged or reduced scale, and built to order for home use or exportation.

### A CARD.

**C. DOBSON COLLET,** late of the Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden, Teacher of Singing. For Terms of Musical Lectures, Private Lessons, or Class Teaching, in Town or Country, apply to C. D. C. 15, Essex-street, Strand.

## HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

"DON GIOVANNI."

Grand Extra Night.

It is respectfully announced that a **GRAND EXTRA NIGHT** will take place on Thursday next, May 27, when will be presented Mozart's Chef d'Œuvre, entitled **DON GIOVANNI**. With the following powerful Cast:—Don Giovanni, Signor Coletti; Don Ottavio, Signor Calzolari; Masetto, Signor F. Lablache; Il Commendatore, Signor Scapini; and Leporello, Signor Lablache. Donna Anna, Mme. Fiorentini; Donna Elvira, Mme. Giuliani; and Zerlini, Mme. Sontag. In the Ball Scene, Mlle. Carlotta Grisi and Mlle. Amalia Ferraris will dance Mozart's celebrated Minuet; with various entertainments in the Ballet Department, in which Mlle. Carlotta Grisi, and Mlles. Rosa, E-per, Julien, Lamoureux, Allegrini, Esther, Pascales, Kohlenburg, Dantonie, Soto, Mlle. Amalia Ferraris, M. Charles, M. Ehrick, M. Di Mattia, M. Venafra, M. Gouriet, and M. Paul Taglioni will appear.

Application for Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets to be made at the Box-office of the Theatre. Doors open at Seven, the Opera to commence at Half-past Seven o'clock.

## ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

**LUCREZIA BORGIA—ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO.** Grisi, Castellani, Angri, Tamberlik, Mario.

The Directors have the honour to announce that **THIS EVENING** (Saturday, May 24), a grand combined entertainment will take place, on which occasion will be performed (for the second time this season) Donizetti's Opera,

**LUCREZIA BORGIA.**

Lucrezia Borgia, Madame Grisi; Maffio Orsini, Madlle. Angri; Don Alfonso, Signor Salvatori; Don Apostolo Gazella, Signor Rommi; Rustighello, Signor Soldi; Gubetta, Signor Tagliafico; Astolfo, Signor Polonini; Oloferno Vitellozzo, Signor Mei, and Gennaro, Signor Mario.

The grand Chorus of Masques in the prologue will be accompanied by a Military Band, in addition to the usual orchestra—the principal vocal parts being sung by Signor Rommi, Signor Mei, Signor Soldi, Signor Polonini, Signor Rache, Signor Tagliafico, Signor Ferrari, and Mlle. Angri.

To conclude with the second Act of Meyerbeer's opera,

**ROBERTO IL DIAVOLO.**

The principal characters by Madame Castellani, Sig. Stigelli, Sig. Branchi, and Signor Tamberlik—including the dance of the Nuns in the grand Cloister Scene.

Composer, Director of the Music, and Conductor, Mr. Costa. Commence at Eight. Boxes, Stalls, and Tickets to be had at the Box-office of the Theatre.

### FIDELIO.

In consequence of the continued indisposition of Herr Formes, **FIDELIO** cannot be performed until Tuesday next.

**CHURCH of ENGLAND SELF-SUPPORTING VILLAGE.**—The Annual Meeting of this society will take place at Exeter-hall, on Monday evening, May 26, at Seven o'clock.

### DEVONSHIRE HOUSE.

**THE SECOND REPRESENTATION,** by the Amateur Company of the Guild of Literature and Art, under the direction of Mr. Charles Dickens, of

**SIR EDWARD BULWER LYTTON'S NEW COMEDY,**

In Five Acts, entitled

**NOT SO BAD AS WE SEEM;**

or, Many Sides to a Character.

With (first time) an Original Farce, in One Act, called **MR. NIGHTINGALE'S DIARY.** Will take place in Devonshire House, on Tuesday, the 27th of May. Applications for Vouchers for the Tickets, price £3 each, to be made to Mr. Mitchell, 33, Old Bond-street, who will refer the same to the Duke of Devonshire.

There will take place, on the same Evening, a **BALL**, in the Great Saloon of Devonshire House, which, it is hoped, will be agreeable to those purchasers of tickets who, from the limited space in the Theatre, may not be able to procure convenient seats for the performance.

**WILLIAM HENRY WILLS, Hon. Sec.**

### PRIVATE TUITION.

**MR. J. SIBREE, M.A.** (of the University of London), wishes to take **ONE or TWO PUPILS** to educate with the Sons of a Gentleman residing in the neighbourhood of Stroud. The course of instruction will comprise all the branches of a complete Classical and Mathematical Education (including German and French), such as is required in preparing for a Professional Life, or for entering the Universities.

The house Mr. S. occupies is in a healthy and pleasant situation, in one of the most agreeable districts in England.

Terms £100 per Annum.

The Upper Grange, near Stroud, Gloucestershire. References to S. S. Marling, Esq., Ebley, Gloucestershire.

### GEORGE DAWSON, M.A., will LECTURE,

at the **HORN ASSEMBLY ROOM, Kennington**, on **THURSDAY, May 29**, on National Unity, its social and political consequences. In the course of the evening appropriate music (including the People's Anthem) will be performed by Miss Thornton, Miss Caroline Fenton, Mr. Seymour, and a select Chorus. Pianoforte, W. Thorold Wood.—Doors open at half-past seven, commence at Eight precisely. Admission 1s.; reserved seats, 2s. Books of the words, 2d.

### MR. THACKERAY'S LECTURES on the

**ENGLISH HUMORISTS of the EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.** WILLIS'S Rooms, King-street, St. James's.—MR. THACKERAY will deliver a **SERIES of SIX LECTURES** on the **ENGLISH HUMORISTS of the EIGHTEENTH CENTURY**; their Lives and Writings, their Friends and Associates. The course will contain notices of Swift, Pope, and Gay, Addison, Steele, and Congreve; Fielding and Hogarth, Smollett, Sterne, and Goldsmith. The First Lecture will be given on Thursday morning, May 22, to be continued each succeeding Thursday, commencing at Three o'clock. Tickets for the Course of Six Lectures, £2 2s. (for which the seats will be numbered and reserved); single tickets, 7s. 6d.; family tickets, to admit four, 21s.; which may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, 33, Old Bond-street; Mr. Sams' Royal Library, 1, St. James's-street; Messrs. Chapman and Hall, Piccadilly, and Messrs. Smith and Elder, Cornhill.

**ROSHERVILLE GARDENS, near Gravesend.**—**OPEN DAILY.**—Admittance Sixpence.—The **FIRST GRAND GALA** this Season will be given in honour of her Majesty's Birthday, on Monday, May 26.—Full Military and Quadrille Bands.—Dancing in the Gothic Banquet Hall, Baron Nathan, M.C.—The original Gipsy will attend in her Tent.—The Maze Archery Ground.—Rifle Shooting.—Hunters Games.—Tower on the Cliffs.—Mons. Andrea Duverno, the unrivalled Acrobat, will give his evolutions on the Double Rope, Feats of Strength, Poë Plastic.—Concluding with a brilliant display of Fireworks by Mortram, the renowned Pyrotechnist of the Royal Gardens, Vauxhall, in the finale of which Mons. Duverno will descend from the top of the Cliffs in a Shower of Fire.—Steam Boats call every Half-Hour at Rosherville Pier. Refreshments supplied in the gardens.

## NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION SOIREE.

The FOURTH MONTHLY SOIREE for 1851 will be held at the London Tavern, on MONDAY, May 26, at Six o'clock, when Mr. C. J. BUNTING, of Norwich, will deliver a LECTURE on "The Prevalent Objections to the Enfranchisement of the Working Classes."

The chair will be taken by Sir JOSHUA WALMSLEY, M.P., the President, at Seven o'clock, and the meeting will be attended by John Williams, Esq., M.P., the Treasurer, Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P., W. J. Fox, Esq., M.P., William Keogh, Esq., M.P., and other Members of Parliament.

Tea and coffee will be served on admission.

To avoid disappointment, members are requested to make early application for tickets at the rooms of the Association, 11, Poultry, price 1s. each. The Lectures are published as early as possible, and may be had of all booksellers. Those delivered by Mr. Hume, M.P., Mr. Fox, M.P., and Mr. Edward Miall, have been issued.

By order of the Council,

Z. HUBBERTY, Secretary.

Offices, 11, Poultry, May 12, 1851.

## THE QUEEN'S PARASOL, REGISTERED BY THOMAS EVANS AND CO., Feb. 19, 1851.

"Upon the highest authority—that is, fair authority—we are enabled to state, that the existing ne plus ultra is to be found in 'The Queen's Parasol,' which has this week exhibited itself at our office, 'and made a sunshine in that gloomy place.' It is admirable: brilliant, but not gaudy; light, but not fragile; commodious, but not clumsy. It is firm, without obliging the parasol to become an umbrella; light, without obliging it to become a wreck."—*The Leader*, April 19, 1851.

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In like manner it acts on the stomach to neutralise acidity, remove flatulence, debility, heartburn, nausea, restore tone, appetite, &c. In the same way it acts upon the kidneys, on the bowels, on the uterus, the ovaria, and all internal organs, and not less effectually on the glandular and lymphatic system, on the joints, bones, and the skin. It is by cleansing, enriching, and purifying the blood that old Dr. Townsend's SARSAPARILLA effects so many wonderful cures. Physiological science has demonstrated the truth of what is asserted in Holy Writ, that "the Blood is the Life." Upon this fluid all the tissues of the body depend for their maintenance and repletion. It carries to and maintains vitality in every part by its circulation and omnipresence. 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Now, if this important fluid becomes corrupt or diseased, and the secreting organs fail to relieve it of the morbid matter, the whole system feels the shock, and must sooner or later sink under it, unless relieved by the proper remedy. When this virulent matter is thrown to the skin, it shows its disorganizing and virulent influence in a multitude of cutaneous diseases, as salt rheum, scald head, erysipelas, white swelling, scarlet fever, measles, smallpox, chicken or kine pox, superficial ulcers, boils, carbuncles, pruritus or itch, eruptions, blotches, excoriations, and itching, burning sores over the face, forehead, and breast. When thrown upon the cords and joints, rheumatism in all its forms are induced; when upon the kidneys, it produces pain, heat, calculi, diabetes, or strangury, excess or deficiency of urine, with inflammation and other and disorders of the bladder. When carried to the bones, the morbid matter destroys the animal and earthy substances of these tissues, producing necrosis, i.e., decay or ulceration of the bone. When conveyed to the liver, all forms of hepatic or bilious diseases are produced. When to the lungs, it produces pneumonia, catarrh, asthma, tubercles, cough, expectoration, and final consumption. When to the stomach, the effects are inflammation, indigestion, sick headache, vomiting, loss of tone and appetite, and a fainting, sinking sensation, bringing troubles and disorders of the whole system. When it seizes upon the brain, spinal marrow or nervous system, it brings on the tic doloureux, or neuralgia, chorea, or St. Vitus' dance, hysteria, palsy, epilepsy, insanity, idiocy, and many other distressing ailments both of body and mind. When to the eyes, ophthalmia; to the ears, otitis; to the throat, bronchitis, croup, &c. Thus all the maladies known to the human system are induced by a corrupt state of the blood. With no general remedy on which implicit reliance can be placed as a purifier of the blood, disease and suffering, and consequent want, stalk unchecked and unsubdued in every land in all the world. If there is arrest of action in any of the viscera, immediately they begin to decay; if any fluid ceases to circulate, or to be changed for fresh, it becomes a mass of corruption, and a malignant enemy to the living fluids and solids. If the blood stagnates it spoils; if the bile does not pass off, and give place to fresh, it rots; if the urine is retained it ruins body and blood. The whole system, every secretion, every function, every fluid depend for their health upon action, circulation, change, giving and receiving—and the moment these cease disease, decay, and death begin.

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