

# The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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## Review of the Week.

THE news of the present week certainly does not improve the position of our Government. We cannot say of it, *Nihil tetigit*. The events which come before us are a painful commentary on the universal meddling and muddling. The Swiss settlement, which now seems to be settled, is arranged apparently much as our Government intended, but not *by* our Government. The arbitration has slipped out of our hands. The terms—the quasi-simultaneous surrender of the prisoners by Switzerland, the abandonment of King FREDERICK WILLIAM's feudal lordship of the Canton—are what Switzerland suggested some time back, and what our Government supported; while France rejected the proposal, as likely to be not accepted by Prussia. It dropped. It is now revived as an original suggestion by France, and accepted all round; thus our illustrious ally appears as the dictator and arbiter, England sinking to a second place. How much this is like the position into which England consented to be driven in the Crimea, where we did the work, and France marched in the van to take the glory.

Naples and Piedmont are contrasted commentaries on our intervention on behalf of Italy. With Naples we 'remonstrated,' and threatened actual interference: what is the effect? King FERDINAND cannot safely walk the streets, board his own war-ships, or go to the theatre. The war-ship almost explodes under his feet—he has scarcely left it before it does so; his powder magazine is rattled about his ears; one of his own soldiers raises the bayonet against him; it is only a system of *espionnage* that makes him feel safe in his army. Governed by a King Log, who oppresses without guiding them, the Neapolitans suffer, and run away; not because they are the cowards they are said to be, but simply because they have no guidance in the course to take. That is where we have interfered.

Piedmont asked us to support her in the Congress of Europe; we listened to her, and talked for her, and there it ended. But, as King VICTOR EMMANUEL tells his subjects, "the question of Italy has been brought before a European Congress by an Italian Power." His constitutional rule prospers. He has conferred a free press on Italy; he is carrying out reforms, and the thriving of the Sub-Alpine kingdom is an example which the other Italian provinces will not fail to emulate sooner or

later, especially if CAVOUR should be able to carry out that course of free-trade which is expected from him. But what have we done to help them?

Turn to the more distant part of the world—Canton. Our Hong Kong authorities have suffered themselves to be entangled in small questions about boat licenses, when the broad question of free intercourse with the Chinese millions was the one object which they should have kept in view. They are now claiming direct intercourse with the supreme authorities at Canton, as a treaty-right—the treaty-right having slumbered for thirteen or fourteen years. By a lucky chance, it is reported, three Americans have had their heads cut off in mistake for three Englishmen. The mistake was slight. No doubt if the men had been Englishmen, they would have suffered quite as much in the process; and the men who slaughtered them obtained exactly the same price for the Anglo-Saxons that they would have obtained if they had been Englishmen; but the mistake has had the effect of rousing Yankee indignation to take its place alongside of English indignation; and England and America are thus allied to break through the barriers which keep them out of the Chinese Empire. The fact that the Americans have been beaten off in the attempt to revenge another and more wanton attack, will but arouse their indignation to a higher pitch: it is a fact most fatal for China.

The East India and China Association of London makes hay while the sun shines, coming forth with propositions for a greatly extended enterprise in China. Direct intercourse with the authorities of Canton is not enough for them; they must have also direct intercourse, through an ambassador, with the Imperial Government at Peking; more ports opened, besides the five already allowed; freedom of trade for the Chinese at Hong Kong, and access to the great navigable rivers. And Lord PALMERSTON's Foreign Secretary appears, by the answer through Mr. HAMMOND, ready enough to take up these advanced principles. The Americans have already been observing that the Russians are before us in Peking and Chusan; and it is quite possible that these two members of the Anglo-Saxon race, who were not long since placed in hostility to each other by our official quibbling, may now be moving side by side against our recent enemy Russia in the region of China.

A formidable word has been boldly put forward by the *Times*. It is avowed that there is a great deal of *distress* in the country, notwithstanding the 'prosperity.' The fact is obvious. We leave po-

litical economists to explain how it can be—politicians to reconcile it with reasonable government. The unemployed working men of London have met to form a "National Association of the Unemployed." What an institution to exist in a civilized country, in the midst of 'prosperity!' Great merchants, great speculators, great contractors, even farmers, are making fortunes, while 26,000 of the building trade, in London alone, are out of work. The working men do not meddle with political or economical theories; they take the bull by the horns in a fashion thoroughly English and likely to be effectual. Not that we expect employment to be provided for them on the waste lands,—that would be too like a theoretically correct procedure for our Government. But when the leaders of the working men tell them to go to the Poor-law for present relief—to take the loaf which is given, and go back for another when it is eaten—they do seize hold of the lever which we have long since pointed out as the one which is offered for the use of the working man—a proper use of the Poor-law by the governed as well as the governors. The meeting shows that the working classes are beginning to move.

The Income-tax movement also goes on favourably. Sir JOHN PAKINGTON's declaration amongst his own constituents shows that leading men in the Opposition see the policy of connecting themselves with the movement; and the persons associated "for promoting the interests of trade" in London testify to the interest which the middle class take in the matter. There is to be a great metropolitan meeting on Wednesday.

The public meeting of the manufacturers in the boot and shoe trade at Northampton is another illustration of our 'prosperity.' Prices are rising in the markets of the world, and hence the raw material of boots and shoes becomes dearer and dearer. This dearth has been increased by the reckless destruction of beasts in Brazil, by the war with Russia, by the diversion of industry from cattle-breeding to gold-digging in Australia, and by some other causes. But there is a difficulty in raising the prices of the trade correspondently with the prices of the raw material. The intense competition which sets one trader against another has taught the public to expect its boots and shoes "at only" some round sum; and if bootmakers cannot provide Wellingtons for that price from leather, probably they will learn to do so with some other material, say paper; for that is the way of our trade, under competition.

Mr. KINGLAKE has seized hold of the true gist of all these questions. We see numbers unemployed in the midst of prosperity, trades kept down while prices are rising, our foreign commerce endangered by diplomatic bungling, all because our Government, on a professedly representative basis, avowedly represents only a class, only a seventh of the people, and practically leaves the rule of affairs to some few families in the state. Let the constituencies in the first place send better representatives of themselves into Parliament, let them insist upon extending the franchise to the real English people, and we should soon find out a way to manage matters rather more in accordance with English opinions and with the substantial interests of the whole body of the people.

As to commercial morality, society may view itself this week in the mirror of the court of law. The winds and waves have been ravaging our coasts, wrecking ships, destroying life. The Tyne is written down in the same list with the Northern Belle, the Violet, and many another fine vessel. Crews have been destroyed in a body—swept away; but the destruction of property, of happiness, of life itself, bears probably a small proportion to the destruction of property, happiness, and life through the vices of society—vices, in great part, let us note, maintained by the inverted justice and the inverted morals which are statutable law.

Take the case at Newcastle, where Mr. JAMES WATSON is prevented from recovering a lawful debt in a court of law because he will not take upon himself to say that there is a state of future rewards and punishments. Because he is not a liar and a hypocrite—concealing his real opinion, and asserting what few of us could prove in a court of law—he is outlawed. A mean plea is put in to bar his just rights, and the court, by an existing law, is compelled to give the award to meanness and lawlessness.

Sometimes a noble protest comes from the seat of judgment, as this week in sentencing PIERCE, BURGESS, and TESTER, when Mr. Baron MARTIN uttered words eloquent from their simplicity and their heartfelt truth. Our readers know the story of the great bullion robbery—how AGAR planned, the other men profited by it, and when he was 'lagged' for another offence, how PIERCE defrauded FANNY KAY, the mother of AGAR's child. PIERCE had left the employment of the South Eastern Railway Company, but TESTER and BURGESS were still servants. On them the sentence is fourteen years' transportation, on PIERCE—not technically a servant violating his trust—two years' imprisonment with hard labour, and some solitary confinement. "But I do declare," said Baron MARTIN, "that if I stood in that dock to receive sentence, I should feel more degraded to be in your place than in that even of either of your associates." AGAR gave 3000*l.* stock to be invested for the benefit of his child and its mother. "This you stole and appropriated to your own use. It is a worse offence, I declare, than the act of which you have just been found guilty. I would rather have been concerned in stealing the gold than in the robbery of that wretched woman—call her harlot, if you will—and her child. A greater villain than you are, I believe, does not exist." It is indeed bad for society when commercial men and the servants of commercial men learn trade to convert it into fraud. But far worse would it be, if men could look on and see a defenceless woman defrauded, a child and its mother despoiled, and not sympathize with the father, helpless to protect them, or with the noble protest of Baron MARTIN, who did not conceal his sympathy with the man or the woman, low as they stood.

REDPATH is transported for life,—a just punishment; while KENT, his weak tool, is acquitted, as many another tool of each master swindler would be if all could be put into the dock that have passively, perhaps unconsciously, subserved these frauds. But not REDPATH, nor ROBSON, nor AGAR, had equalled the cold villainy of PIERCE, and it is a healthy sign that Judge and audience know how to discriminate between their elaborate crimes against property, and his heartless revolt against human feeling.

#### ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

ISAAC CLIFFORD, a man employed at the brewery of Messrs. Russell and Martin, Reading, fell on Thursday week into a large reservoir of boiling liquor. He was on a ladder above this receptacle, into which he was about to let some cold water but, in reaching over to

get at the tap of the cistern, he lost his balance, and was precipitated into the scalding liquid. He was dragged out with all celerity, and conveyed to the hospital; but his head, face, and chest were so fearfully injured, that he died at night.—Another accident of a similar kind has occurred at Liverpool on the same day. A charity schoolboy was endeavouring to take a piece of beef, weighing fifteen pounds, from a copper, when the weight overbalanced him, and, falling in, he was so severely scalded that he died on Friday week.—Some other deaths from scalding are reported in the papers. An inquest has been held before Mr. Baker, at the London Hospital, on the body of a child, aged four years, who, during the absence of an elder sister, drank some boiling water from the spout of a tea-kettle, which caused its death a short time after. Two other inquests were held before the same coroner, on the bodies of children, aged three and five years, who were killed from the effects of scalding water. In each case, the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death.

The guard of a luggage train has met with a fatal accident at the Ilkeston Junction, eight miles from Nottingham. He was stepping on to the break before the train had stopped, when it was jerked, and the man was pitched over. He was frightfully mutilated, and died soon after his removal to the Nottingham General Hospital.

Sir Joseph Paxton has had a narrow escape at Sydenham. He was riding in a carriage drawn by two horses, one of which, a hunter, took fright and darted off. The driver was thrown from the box, and the wheels passed over his legs. The horses then ran against a gas lamp-post, which was knocked down. Sir Joseph here availed himself of the momentary stoppage to get out, after which the horses again ran off, and finally dashed against some iron railings, severely injuring themselves, and smashing the railings and the carriage to pieces. The animals were then removed to the Crystal Palace stables, and the coachman was provided with medical attendance.

A woman has died in Guy's Hospital from the effects of a glass of Burnett's disinfecting fluid, taken in mistake for gin. The liquid is white, like gin; but, being made of chloride of zinc, it caused ulceration of the stomach, and subsequently death.

A lamentable occurrence took place in Dorset-street, Spitalfields, about one o'clock, p.m., last Sunday. A large stack of chimneys gave way, and, falling through the roof, carried that down also, destroying the upper part of the house, and burying the inhabitants in the ruins. Two young children belonging to a poor sail-maker were dug out, shockingly mutilated, and were conveyed to the London Hospital; but one of them died on the road, and the other shortly after its arrival. An old man named Cuthbert escaped in a remarkable manner. He was found in the same room, but almost uninjured. He stated that while sitting in his own room, above and near the fire, the flooring sank beneath his feet, and he with it, through the intervening floors. All the other families were out of the house, or the loss of life must have been still more lamentable. The remainder of the building is shored up, and the thoroughfare stopped. A great many houses in Bethnal Green are in a dangerous condition, and the officers appointed by the building act are incessantly occupied.

A Mr. Whalley, of Welsh Whittle, fell down suddenly in the streets at Preston, and expired. Disease of the heart is supposed to be the cause. Upwards of 500*l.* in cash and notes were found in his pockets, besides a receipt for a deposit of 8500*l.* in a Preston banking-house.

A melancholy accident happened at Colmellie, in the upper part of the parish of Edzell, on Old Christmas-day, which is still kept as a holiday in the glen, and generally taken advantage of for out-door amusement. David Duke, youngest son of Mr. James Duke, farmer, Colmellie, and another boy, were amusing themselves shooting small birds; while passing through a fence, the gun went off accidentally, and the contents were lodged in David Duke's side. The wound proved fatal in a short time. The other boy is nearly distracted.

A perilous leap was taken a few days since during a hunt with Mr. Roch's hounds at Bolton-hill, in Pembrokeshire. The whipper-in, James Morgan, in taking a hedge jumped his horse into an unfenced coalpit thirty feet in depth, which lay unobserved on the other side of the hedge. Man and horse went down the shaft, at the bottom of which was a depth of eighteen feet of water. Fortunately, the sides of the pit had been made sloping, so that, before the horse was entirely submerged, he gained a footing on the slope, where he maintained his hold. The rider was thrown into the water, but on rising grasped the saddle, and thus held his head above water until assistance arrived, when he was safely drawn up, perfectly uninjured. The horse was next drawn out, also unhurt. They soon recovered from the accident.

#### THE VALIDITY OF OATHS.

THE folly of our present system of refusing a man's testimony in a court of justice on account of particular opinions in connexion with religion, was again evinced the other day in the Newcastle County Court, in the case of a Mr. James Watson, a bookseller, who brought an action against the treasurer of the Chartist News-rooms,

to recover 1*l.* 11*d.* for periodicals supplied to that institution. On the plaintiff appearing in the witness-box, the defendant's solicitor catechised him as to his faith. Mr. Watson said he believed in the existence of a God. "Whom we know as the Supreme Being?" interrogated the lawyer. Mr. Watson answered, "I cannot exactly tell what you know; but I believe in a Supreme Being." The lawyer then proceeded to the subject of "a future state of rewards and punishments." On this head, Mr. Watson said he was not prepared to give a decided answer; he hardly knew whether he did or did not believe. He wished the learned gentleman to explain to him what he meant by "rewards and punishments." The lawyer suggested heaven and hell as his interpretation of that phrase, and asked Mr. Watson if he believed in them. "I believe there are such things talked about," replied Mr. Watson; "but whether there are such things I can't tell." On this, the lawyer contended that Mr. Watson's evidence could not be received, and the Judge (Mr. Losh) concurred. There being no other witnesses in attendance to establish the claim, the plaintiff was nonsuited, and he was required to pay the costs of the defendant. In the course of the discussion, Mr. Watson said that, if the defendant had been called into the box, "he could not have taken an oath, and been honest in reference to the matter."

Mr. Story, the lawyer (who must assuredly consider that he has had a retaining fee from the genius of orthodoxy), made the following rampant exhibition of himself in the interests of his distinguished client:—"The man who would give such answers as these is infamous in the eyes of the law." The Judge: "It is not because he is infamous; but because he can't be believed." Mr. Story: "I say that the form used is 'infamous.' He cannot be heard in any court of justice." The Judge (addressing the plaintiff): "Suppose you are sworn in any particular way—do you consider that you would be in any way bound by what will take place hereafter in the way of punishments or rewards for it?" The plaintiff: "No, I don't, sir." The Judge: "Then I can't take your evidence." Mr. Story: "Your honour ought to direct that he should be removed from the court. A man who would give utterance to opinions of this sort—" The Judge: "He has a right to his opinion." This calm and sensible observation put a stop to Mr. Story's vulgar insolence, and the case ended. But with whom rests the sympathy? and what are we to think of the association which was reduced to such a defence?

#### THE ORIENT.

##### PERSIA.

THE Persian troops despatched into the province of Ferzah, of which the head-quarters are at Ferzah-Sabzar, have occupied (says the *Moniteur de l'Armée*, on the authority of accounts from Teheran) the fortresses of Gourian, Lach, and Djuweine, situate in Seistan and in Ferzah. The Shah's army has established itself without difficulty on all those points. There has been only a slight skirmish between the cavalry of Dost Mahomed and the Persians. The latter remained masters of the field. The Affghans appeared discouraged, and a great number of tribes, long opposed to Persia, were every day making their submission.

"The British fleet in the Persian Gulf," says a despatch from Marseilles, "is hastening its operations, in order to have them terminated before three months, the period of the excessive heats. The English are inciting the Governors of the provinces to separate from the Shah. The Shah is making great preparations for defence, notwithstanding the penury of his finances and the fear of revolt. The Persian army has taken possession of all the towns situate on the road to Candahar. The Russian flotilla in the Caspian Sea has already landed troops in the Persel Islands, alleging the ancient treaties of alliance between Russia and Persia. The Russian Ambassador, Annikoff, had quitted Teheran, it was said really charged with a mission to demand assistance for Persia at St. Petersburg."

The *Patrie* announces, on the authority of a letter from Kalisch, that the troops of the last Polish levy but one have received orders to leave immediately for the Caucasus. It is believed that they are to reinforce the corps of observation of 40,000 men which it is asserted is assembled on the extreme frontier of Persia. "It appears," adds the *Patrie*, "that serious operations are expected in the beginning of spring, to counterbalance the probable results of the English expedition to the Persian Gulf."

##### CHINA.

Accounts have been received from China a fortnight later than those by the last mail. The dates are to the 20th of November from Shanghai, and the 25th of November from Canton. From the latter place, the news is important. Fighting had recommenced, and the Americans had made common cause with the English. It is added that three Americans had been captured and beheaded, and that their heads had been stuck by the Chinese on the city walls. Business was, of course, wholly suspended, and a report was current that Shanghai had been attacked and taken by the rebels. This, however, is believed to be without foundation.—*Times*.

The members of the East India and China Association, London, have addressed a communication to Lord Clarendon, begging him to insist on the right of English-



men to free ingress and egress into and out of the city of Canton, and pointing out the necessity that exists for a new treaty, in which "it will be necessary to revise the tariff *ad valorem* rates for the assessment of duties, and it would be desirable to obtain permission to trade at any other in addition to the five ports, permitting in return Chinese vessels from all ports in China to trade with Hong Kong; and for British subjects to pass into the interior of the country, to which no objection seems to be made by the population in the vicinity of Shanghai." Lord Clarendon, through his secretary, has promised to give the subject every consideration.

A great deal of excitement prevails in Cochin, owing to the Rajah of Travancore having opposed the removal by the Konganies from his dominions of one of their idols which they took there in the year 1792, when the tribe emigrated to Travancore in order to avoid certain persecutions. They have recently returned to Cochin and carried the idol with them. The Rajah of Travancore denounced this act as a theft, and appealed to the Madras Government, and finally to the Court of Directors, who decided on the restitution of the idol, after which the Court would decide on the rival claims. The Konganies have memorialized the Madras Government against this decision; and in the meanwhile a riot has taken place, but happily with no loss of life.

#### IRELAND.

**MURDER IN CARLOW.**—A horrible crime has been committed in Carlow. A farmer, named Dyce, was returning home to Tullow, in company with his brother-in-law, when he stopped opposite the house of another farmer, named M'Lean, for the purpose of lighting his pipe. He knocked at the door, but was repulsed by the farmer's wife. On this he departed, making some insulting remarks on the woman, whose character is held in rather light estimation. Burning with rage, she went to her husband, who was at work in a field, and complained to him. The husband called on his brother to help him to avenge the insult; and they departed, armed with heavy sticks. Dyce, becoming aware of the pursuit, rapidly fled over some fields; but, after he had run about a mile, the M'Leans pounced suddenly upon him, and his brother-in-law (who were unarmed), and beat them unmercifully. Dyce only survived a few hours, and the other man had his head, ribs, and one of his arms broken. The murderers have left the country.

#### AMERICA.

We hear more by the last mails of the contemplated slave insurrection. Considerable excitement and alarm still prevail; numerous further arrests have been made, and plots discovered; and more negroes have been hung, either by law or by the mob. The Mayor of Louisville, has issued a proclamation stating that, in consequence of information which shows a disposition on the part of the coloured people to rise against the whites, all slaves are to be imprisoned during the holidays, who are absent from home after half-past eight in the evening. The law substituting confinement of free coloured seamen to their ships instead of imprisonment, has passed both Houses of the South Carolina legislature.

Some three hundred persons, most of whom are currently reported to be recruits for Walker's army, got safely off in the Tennessee on the 24th ult., bound for San Juan del Norte. They are described as the very scum of the city from which they departed.

The President has been preparing a message to Congress recommending the appropriation of a sum of money to enable the Atlantic Telegraph Company to lay down a cable between the coast of Newfoundland and Ireland, to the same extent as the English Government.

The *New York Tribune* says, it is a matter of certainty that New York has been for a number of years the centre of the trade in slaves between the coast of Africa and Cuba. The number of slavers despatched from New York within the last three years, though not easy to state with precision, did not fall short of twenty-five or thirty. But, though only one of the three vessels captured has been condemned, and only two out of forty-six persons held to answer have been convicted, the zealous and persevering efforts of the United States District-Attorney and Deputy-Marshals have not been quite thrown away. A number of the most active participants in the traffic have been driven out of the city, as well as several slave captains and persons who visited New York with the object of buying or of fitting up vessels. The Portuguese Consul has been suspended from his functions on suspicion of complicity.

A bill is before the Arkansas Legislature to compel all free negroes to leave the State, under penalty of immediate sale into slavery for life. A bill allowing negroes, Indians, and mulattoes to give evidence in cases where white persons are parties, has passed the Senate branch of the Iowa Legislature by a vote of 19 to 18. A bill "to encourage and promote matrimony" has been introduced into the Legislature of North Carolina.

Huntington, the forger (whose history we gave last week), has been found guilty, and sentenced to four years and ten months' imprisonment.

The New York commercial advices report increased activity in the money-market, the demand coming more especially from parties holding stocks.

#### A RUSSIAN SCHEME FOR REGENERATING EUROPE.

SOME curious comments on the assumed approximation of France and Russia are contained in a letter from St. Petersburg which has been received in Paris, and transmitted to the London papers. The writer remarks that Russia is thoroughly French at heart; that the upper classes prefer the language of France to their own; that the political institutions of the two countries are identical, as well as the character of the two Emperors; and that France and Russia, being placed at opposite extremities of Europe, with powerful states between, they have nothing to fear from each other, and everything to hope from a union. Europe, he says, has no reason to dread the Colossus of the North. "Russia has admitted that she could not any longer gain a single foot of ground without raising against her a general crusade. Henceforth it is towards Asia that the eyes of the Cabinet of St. Petersburg will be turned, and to which all her efforts will converge,—Asia, which must be tributary to Europe, and whose subjection to its civilization we ought to hasten by all the means at our disposal. But are we to conclude that Russia has the intention, at least at the present moment, to extend her possessions in these countries,—that she is doing her utmost, as some of the English papers pretend, to work her way to Calcutta? Certainly not: the apprehensions expressed on this point are simple nonsense. To convince ourselves of the fact, we have only to cast a glance on the map. Before reaching Calcutta, the Russians would have to traverse vast, unhealthy, and barren steppes, some of them scorched by the sun; and, for Russians, heat is the most formidable enemy. They would have to combat warlike tribes, against which so many powerful efforts have failed. They would have to sacrifice whole armies. For such an undertaking they should be richer than they are, and money, which is indispensable for war, would fail them completely. When, therefore, a systematic tendency towards the North Pacific Ocean is attributed to Russia, and a wonderful perseverance in shortening the distances which separate her from it, greater honour is paid to her policy than she deserves." After informing us that the only rivalry England has to fear from Russia in the East is one of industry and commerce, the writer proceeds:—

"The development of the productive powers of Russia impels her to open a passage to the tablelands of Central Asia, and Continental Europe ought to rejoice at seeing her take that direction. Europe has an essential and a paramount interest in preventing England from absorbing and monopolizing for her sole benefit the trade of Asia. Above all, France has an immense advantage in encouraging that expansion of Russia towards the extreme east. Her manufacturers can supply Russia with many things which she is still in want of, exchange them for her metals, her wood, and other primary articles the produce of Russian soil, and the products of India and Persia, which she receives every year in the greatest quantity; and these products can be advantageously purchased with French merchandise.

"This, however, you will understand, is but the weak point of the question. Its political meaning has far greater importance. Let us admit—and this supposition has nothing rash in it, I assure you—that tomorrow the union of the two nations was an accomplished fact; what should we then see? France, as the ally of Russia, could considerably reduce the expenses of her army and employ the surplus in giving to her industry, her commerce, and her navy all the extension of which they are capable. France, as the ally of Russia, would become a naval power of the first order—the centre and pivot of a great maritime confederation. The freedom of the seas would have nothing more to fear from the audacity of the British flag, whose relative superiority would then be effaced and its gigantic proportions lost. All chance of a struggle by sea would thus disappear, while by land an armed conflict would not be possible. Who, in fact, would dare to attack France and Russia united—Russia, moreover, having at her disposal the whole force of Prussia, when the aggressor would be most assuredly crushed? It is then, but only then, that the words spoken at Bordeaux, '*L'Empire c'est la paix*,' would be the truth."

The writer conceives that some modification must take place sooner or later in the Treaties of Vienna, which, in point of fact, were but the solemn confirmation of the absolute supremacy of Great Britain." He accuses England of having contrived, on the conclusion of the war with France in 1815, to remodel the map of Europe, and to introduce into every state "a cause of weakness, an element of dissolution, a principle of decay," in the shape of some incongruous nationality forcibly included within the limits of all the chief Governments, or some constitution unfitted to the people on whom it was imposed. Thus, Poland, Northern Italy, Sicily, Belgium, the Rhenish Provinces, Neuchâtel, &c., were distributed among Powers to whom they were naturally antagonistic; and France "was inoculated with the virus of a constitution à l'Anglaise." Thus, by the hand of England, were "the elements of disorder placed with infernal art under every throne of the Continent. All this was more than sufficient to occupy the sovereigns in their own dominions, and it condemned them for ever to the régime of an armed peace; but this régime is the augmentation, every year more onerous, of public expendi-

ture; it is the progressive discontent of populations, the permanent menace of trouble and of revolution, the decline and the decay of all the Continental Powers, the sentence of annihilation passed on their industry. One country only profits by all these internal embarrassments. That country is England, whom her insular position exempts from the maintenance of costly armies; England whose manufacturing industry enables her to profit by all the obstacles created by the armed peace against the development of every class of industry which could rival her own. Do people really know how much this system has cost Continental Europe for the last forty years? Nearly 60,000,000,000*fr.*, of which the greater part has entered the coffers of Great Britain! It is England only that has grown rich by the general disaster; and it is still England which is alone benefited by the treaties of 1815!"

But the writer thanks Heaven that "this abnormal system" is nearly at an end, and asserts that "notes have been drawn up on the question, overtures made, communications exchanged, and, in a word, negotiations are at this moment carried on in the silence of Cabinets." The contemplated alliance, we are told, is "to regenerate the face of Europe," and, moreover, it is "inevitable." The writer is said to be in some way connected with the Russian Chancellerie.

#### CONTINENTAL NOTES.

##### FRANCE.

The funeral of the Archbishop of Paris took place last Saturday at the Cathedral of Notre-Dame, in the midst of a large crowd of spectators, and with much religious and military pomp. The ground was occupied by troops; a battalion of the Line, with its band of music and muffled drums, escorted the procession; and several Ministers of State, members of the Senate, priests, the Papal Nuncio, and other persons of note, attended the obsequies. The cathedral was hung with black, which, together with the gloomy state of the atmosphere and the constant showers of hail and sleet which fell upon the half melted snow of the roadways, contributed to a very striking and mournful effect. "Crowds lined the streets," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "and the remains, borne slowly along, received marks of profound and, I believe, the most sincere veneration; every man bared his head and bowed; several knelt on the ground, all mud and melted snow as it was; and the women, some of them weeping, made, with every mark of devotion and sorrow, the sign of the cross, beat their breasts, and repeated aloud prayers for the repose of the departed. On its arrival at the entrance of the church, the prebends and honorary canons, and the parish priests of the diocese, preceded by the cross-bearer, went to the door to receive the remains of their late Archbishop, and, with the canons who had brought it from the palace, bore them to the catafalque before the high altar. Then rose from the choir the solemn music of the dead, and, after the mitre, crucifix, and crosier of the prelate were deposited on the coffin, the funeral service began. The solemn dirge of the *Dies Iræ*, which more than any other, excepting, perhaps, the *Miserere*, awakes with the thoughts of the grave those of atonement and redemption; the gloom of the old building, made darker still by the sombre atmosphere and the melted snow, which pattered against the high windows; the black tapestry, varied by the armorial bearings of the prelate; the funeral costume of the attendant bishops and clergy; the body beneath the altar before which the departed had so lately ministered; the pealing notes swelling through the lofty aisles, and floating along the vaulted temple; the consciousness that the man whose remains all were sorrowing over had not been removed from among them by mortal decay, but had been foully murdered while in the performance of his sacred office—all this seemed to make an appeal to the heart which it would be difficult to express, but which was told in many a moist eye." The Bishop of Meaux officiated. During the mass, salvoes of artillery were fired, and the bells tolled.

The Legitimist journal, the *Union*, publishes a letter of the Comte de Chambord to M. Pageot, formerly French Minister at Washington, directing him to convey to Madame de Salvandy and her children the deep regret of the writer at hearing of the death of Count de Salvandy, who was extremely influential in bringing about the fusion between the two branches of the Bourbon family—an event which, says the communication, "France is now right in regarding as one of the firmest guarantees of the future." The *Presse*, remarking on this letter, says:—"The note is of some interest, inasmuch as it contains the official notification of the fusion. It is a piece of news, but nothing more. It is certainly not an event. They must be clever builders, indeed, who could construct a solid vessel by the fusion of two wrecks."

"The affair," says *Galvani*, "relative to the autograph manuscript of the late King Louis Philippe, entitled, *Continuation de l'Histoire Généalogique et Chronologique de la Maison Royale de France, des Pairs, &c.*, which excited so much attention last summer, has come on again before the Civil Tribunal. It may be remembered that the late King, when Duke of Orleans, occupied his leisure hours in writing the continuation of the history in question, which, having been commenced by a monk named Father Anselme, was only brought down

to some years preceding the great revolution. After his accession to the throne, the King had little or no time to devote to the continuation of the work, but he carefully preserved the manuscript which he had prepared, and had it bound into three volumes. In the revolution of February, 1848, the volumes disappeared from the Palace of the Tuileries, and nothing was heard of them until last summer, when a person named Vallette offered on certain conditions three volumes of the King's manuscripts to the royal family of Orleans. He was called on to produce one of the volumes, and to say how they came into his possession, but he refused to do either. On the 7th of August, on the application of all the sons, grandchildren, sons-in-law, and daughters-in-law of the late King, authority to seize the volumes was granted by the President of the Civil Tribunal. The seizure was effected on the 9th, in the residence of Vallette. On the 21st, on the application of the advocate of the Orleans family, the volumes, which were in the custody of an officer of the Tribunal, were ordered to be given up to them. To this application, at the moment, M. Vallette made no opposition, but he subsequently put in an opposition, and it was to obtain a decision thereon that the matter came before the Civil Tribunal. The advocate of the Orleans family contended that M. Vallette could not have come by the manuscripts honestly. M. Vallette's advocate argued that the papers possessed by his client did not consist of the volumes taken from the Tuileries, but of the original rough notes, which had been put into some person's hands to copy, and so had come, in a perfectly honest manner, into the possession of M. Vallette. The tribunal postponed the case for a week, to hear the reply of the Orleans party and to give judgment.

Mohamed Sidi, chief of the Brachmas, in Algeria, and one of the most determined enemies of the French dominion, has died at Senegal, whither he fled last October. The French authority is now completely acknowledged in the Fouta, in the Oualo, and in the Cayor.

The purification of the church of St. Etienne-du-Mont, in which the Archbishop of Paris was assassinated, took place on Monday. The procession stopped at the entrance of the nave where the crime was committed, and the whole congregation on their knees, chanted three times the *Para, Domine*. "It is certain," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "that among several of the lower orders the crime has produced an effect unfavourable to the clergy, and I have heard of one or two priests being insulted in the streets. Such conduct, unjust as it is, proves at all events the sympathy felt for the deceased. —It is reported that a letter was found on Verger addressed to the Emperor personally, which was immediately given to his Majesty. The conclusion is said to be, '*L'Archevêque est perdu, gare à vous*.' Verger is also said to have left at his late rectory, in the diocese of Meaux, a sort of testamentary paper, which has been transmitted to the police by the bishop. The paper says, '*Je lègue mon âme à l'immortalité, mon corps à la guillotine*.' ('I bequeath my soul to immortality, my body to the guillotine.') The exhibition of the Archbishop's remains was curtailed by two or three days. The crowds were becoming more numerous each day; the language was, in several cases, not at all edifying; and the police did not think it advisable to allow the exposition to continue on the Sunday."

A great grand-daughter of Corneille, Madame Veuve Girard, *née* Corneille, died last week at Carpentras, at the age of eighty-five years.

The *Indépendance* says that a Conference will shortly assemble at London, with the consent of Prussia, to "regularise a departure from the acts of the Congress of Vienna"—in other words, to approve of the settlement of the Neuchâtel question. Switzerland will be represented in this Conference.

Monsieur d'Aramoles, Archbishop of Aix, in Provence, expired on the 9th inst., at the archiepiscopal palace, shortly after having received extreme unction.

"I have just heard," says the *Times* Paris correspondent, "that the Prefects have received instructions to allow the unrestricted circulation of the voting tickets, in consequence of the demonstration of the Paris bar, and that these functionaries replied that, if they did so, they could not answer for the Parliamentary majority."

## AUSTRIA.

The Emperor and Empress of Austria reached Vienna on the morning of the 5th inst. On quitting Venice, they are said to have received greater manifestations of enthusiasm from the people than on their arrival; but to what an extent there may be a police colour in this statement it would be difficult to say.

On the 9th inst. the Emperor reviewed the garrison of Verona.

A singular story is thus told in the *Gazette Nationale* of Vienna, in a communication dated Cassel, Jan. 5:—"M. Hassenpflug, formerly minister, who has for some weeks been residing at Marbourg, demanded admission into the Society of the Casino of that city, which includes amongst its members the oldest and most conservative families of high society, principally professors and Government functionaries; the result of the ballot, however, was unfavourable to the candidate. The Police Director of Marbourg has accordingly dissolved the society, and the following notice has been affixed to the doors:—"The refusal to admit M. Privy Councillor Hassenpflug into the Society of the Casino being a hos-

tile demonstration against the system of Government, and an association which commits such a political act admitting of no further toleration, the Society of the Casino is closed, and the meeting of its members forbidden under a pain of a fine of five thalers each member in every case of disobedience. The committee are authorized to take the necessary steps for the conclusion of its pecuniary affairs.—Direction of Police, Marbourg, January 3."

## SPAIN.

The condition of Spain continues to present the usual features of despotism on the one hand and discontent on the other. A circumstance has occurred at Barcelona which has caused great excitement. Five or six respectable citizens of that town were arrested simply because they prepared to take part, legally, in the municipal elections; but the act was so glaringly unjust that they were released. They were friends of General Prim, who wrote a letter to them, deploring the occurrence. This letter was afterwards published in the *Iberia* newspaper; but the Government stopped the circulation of the journal, and inflicted a penalty. General Prim also was arrested.

M. Moron, a political writer and orator of note, has been lodged in the gaol of Valencia. The discovery of a Carlist conspiracy at Ouhuela is confirmed, but no details are given. Wheat in Madrid has fallen four reals the bushel, and in most markets there is a tendency to a decline. The opposition journalists have charged a deputation of their body to wait on the Minister of the Interior, to request him to order the subordinate agents of the Government to observe more regularity and legality in their treatment of the press.

## RUSSIA.

Great exertions, it seems, are being made by the Russians to strengthen the defences of Cronstadt, and to convert the sailing ships into screw steamers. The Government is also constructing forts on the frontiers of Siberia.

The Russian fleet (says a despatch from Constantinople) has anchored in the Bay of Balkan, and occupied some of the islands.

The *Nord* publishes the text of a despatch addressed by Prince Gortschakoff, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, under date the 30th of December last, to Baron Budberg, the Russian Envoy at Vienna, in reply to a communication from Vienna on the Neuchâtel question. The tendency of this despatch is to express entire sympathy with Prussia in connexion with the dispute between her and Switzerland.

The Russian sailors who were recently on the Isle of Serpents have retired.

## PRUSSIA.

The election of the President of the House of Representatives of the Prussian Landtag has been carried by the Conservatives, who have succeeded with their candidate, Count Enlenburg, by three to one, against Count Schwerin, the leader of the Liberal party.

## PORTUGAL.

The Session of the Portuguese Cortes for 1857 was opened on the 1st inst. by the King in person.

## ITALY.

The King has recently received several addresses of congratulation on his escape from assassination. These are expressed in terms of the most loathsome and even impious flattery. The state of the country is still that of smouldering excitement and sullen discontent, breaking out now and then in very significant ways. The *Times* correspondent supplies some particulars. He writes:—"We hear of more prisoners amnestied, and a list of forty-two has just been presented to the Grand Criminal Court, which is the last act before their liberation. These are all political prisoners, twenty-eight of whom belong to the class called 'Popolani,' and were imprisoned for what is here well known as the affair of the 5th September, 1849. These are all to be exiled to the Isle of Ponza, two are to be exiled from the kingdom, and the others are doomed to a '*domicilio forzato*' in the provinces. Such is the character of this latter amnesty. The Police Commission (surveyed by another commission!) continues its investigations into the state of the army. I believe the Marines have been the first to be overhauled. Two officers have been removed, and some of the soldiers sent to the islands. Arrests have been made in the other corps. The company to which Agésilao Milano belonged has been broken up, and the captain, lieutenant, and sergeants put under arrest. During a part of the week, the Post-office box has been closed, and letters have been by order consigned to the hands of an *employé*. The reasons are variously stated. A very general impression is, that lucifer matches with other inflammable materials were thrown into the box; again, some add, that since the death of Milano, proclamations and letters to the Intendenti have been thrown in, menacing them with being called to account by the country for their conduct; and it is even said that not only have other persons of distinction been addressed, but that even to the King himself was sent a letter enclosing a likeness of Agésilao Milano, and warning him that there were seventy others like Milano, and that, if his Majesty wanted any proof of their power, he was to order search to be made for the body of Milano. During the past week, indeed, it has been reported that the body of Milano has been removed. I will

not take upon myself to guarantee the truth of these reports."

The effect of the explosion at Naples of the frigate Carlo Terzo is described as fearful. The royal family were at the San Carlo at the time, and the violence of the shock having put out the lights, people rushed forth in the dark, uttering exclamations of terror. A large part of the city also was struck with sudden darkness; carriages and cavalry soldiers dashed wildly to and fro. Cries of "Fui, fui!" were heard in some directions. Thousands of windows were broken. The Queen, who is near her confinement, fainted; and the *Commandante* of the Carlo Terzo, on hearing the explosion in the streets, nearly fell to the ground in something bordering on an apoplectic stroke. The boats of the English ship Malacca were instantly ordered out, and were making for the scene of the disaster in five minutes. Twenty-five of the crew of the unfortunate frigate were taken off by them, and expressed their gratitude by kissing the hands and feet of their preservers. Preparations were made on board the Malacca for the reception and surgical treatment of the wounded; but those who were saved happened not to be hurt. Notwithstanding this kindness, however, there have not been wanting hints that the catastrophe was caused by the English.—A Naples correspondent of the *Nord* states that, just before the explosion on board the steamer Charles III., a loud voice was heard, crying, "To the bow and the stern all who wish to save themselves!"

A letter from Turin, in the *Gazette de Savoie*, asserts not only that Agésilao Milano, who attempted to assassinate the King of Naples, was tortured previously to his execution, but that the torture was inflicted in the following manner:—"He was stripped, bound hand and foot, and hung to a beam with his head downwards; he was tormented in this position for two hours, burning wisps of straw being held under his head. He was also bound and hung up by the ears, causing him the most agonizing pains in the head and ears; and the ground beneath him was covered with burning coals, so that with his bare feet he could not stand. He was also tortured with alternate applications of cold and boiling water, and his shoulder-bones were pulled out of joint with ropes tied to the arms. Lastly, he was scourged; and those who saw his naked body declare that the skin was blackened, with green and yellow marks upon it, hideous to behold." These statements are probably exaggerated (at least, let us hope so); but it is believed by many persons at Naples that some sort of torture was actually inflicted.

An address—printed, in parallel columns, in Italian, German, and French, headed "Italian National Party: Independence and Unification," and dated "Italy, the 10th of January"—has been circulated among the Swiss soldiers in the service of the King of Naples and the Pope. It exhorts them to return to their country, to fight its battles, and to rid themselves of the reproach of being *sbirri*.

Some further particulars relative to the temporary exile of the young Count Emilio Dandolo from Milan have come out. The director of police read to the young man a written speech, in which it was said that Count Dandolo had not reformed, but that he was the chief of a society of young men who endeavour to prevent the nobility from attending the court, and that consequently he was exiled to the country. He was given his choice of several districts, and he selected Adro, in the district of Iseo.—*Times Paris Correspondent*.

## BELGIUM.

A severe sentence on M. Cappellmanns, the responsible editor of the *Nord*, of Brussels, is mentioned in the daily papers, where we read that M. Cappellmanns was cited last August before the Tribunal of Correctional Police, for having libelled Vely Pacha, formerly the Turkish Ambassador at Paris, and since Governor of Crete, in the *Nord* of the 28th of April last, by alleging that that personage "had carried off a young French girl, had placed her in his harem, and either because she troubled the peace of the harem, or preached to her companions Western ideas, or wanted to leave, had her strangled according to the old Turkish custom." The tribunal, after hearing Vely Pacha's positive denial of the allegation, condemned the defendant to 1200*fr.* fine. M. Cappellmanns appealed against this condemnation to the Court of Appeal of Brussels, and the case was heard on Monday. The court, after overruling a technical objection, to the effect that a foreigner could not proceed against a Belgian for libel, increased the condemnation on M. Cappellmanns to 2500*fr.* fine; it also ordered him to pay the costs, and moreover to pay the expense of inserting the whole text of the judgment in two newspapers of Brussels, two of Paris, two of Constantinople, and one of the Isle of Crete.

"The Belgian Free-trade Association, which can already boast of a long and very active career, has held," says the *Morning Star*, "a public meeting at Ghent, at which controversy was invited. The Protectionist party, which in Belgium consists of manufacturers, did not shrink from the challenge, and the proceedings were rather stormy. The most promising feature is the lively interest which the population at large took in the discussion."

## SWITZERLAND.

The Swiss Federal Council has unanimously accepted the conditions of agreement with Prussia offered by



France and England—namely, that the prisoners shall be released and sent out of the country, and that Prussia shall then recognize the independence of Neuchâtel, until which the prisoners are to remain banished. It is considered doubtful whether Prussia will assent to these terms.

The National Council has proved unanimously the proposition of liberating the Neuchâtel prisoners. The commission of the States also approved it unanimously, with the exception of one vote. The discussion by the Federal Assembly was prorogued till the 15th inst.

The message of the Federal Council of Switzerland, addressed to the Federal Assembly, proposes to annul the proceedings commenced against the insurgents of Neuchâtel, and to set them at liberty, with the reservation that they shall be sent out of the Helvetic territory until the official conclusion of the arrangements. The same document proposes to suspend the armaments and to dismiss the troops, as Switzerland need no longer consider herself as in a state of war. The message announces that the Ministers of Russia and Austria to the Government of Berne have communicated to the Federal Council notes conformable to those of France and England.

#### TURKEY.

"A variety of confused statements," says the *Times* City article of Monday, "appear to be in circulation on the Continent regarding the concession just granted for the formation of an Imperial National Bank at Constantinople. The raising of a loan and a number of other objectionable features are reported to be among the conditions, and, according to one announcement, *via* Marseilles, the amount to be thus provided is 12,000,000*l.* at three per cent. interest. These rumours are believed to be altogether without foundation. Beyond the fact that the concession has been granted to Mr. Wilkin, as the representative of certain London capitalists who are to supply a deposit of 200,000*l.*, that its duration is to be for thirty years, that the bank is to have an exclusive right of issuing convertible notes, which are to be a legal tender, and that the Turkish Government are to allow six per cent. for such advances as may be required for redeeming the existing currency, little is known with regard to it. The proposed capital is stated to be 10,000,000*l.* or 12,000,000*l.*; but it is not understood that the whole is to be paid up. The debased currency at present afloat seems to be estimated at about 8,000,000*l.*, and as it is to be assumed that this will be redeemed by the issue of the notes of the new bank payable on demand, and in connexion with which only a certain proportion of specie will require to be held, an allowance of six per cent. from the Turkish Government for the operation appears likely to meet the requirements of the case."

The third Conference on the firman regarding the convocation of the Divans *ad hoc* in the Danubian Principalities was held in the apartments of the Grand Vizier on the 30th ult. Matters are said to have gone very smoothly.—"The latter part of the firman, concerning the election of the Presidents and Secretaries of the Divans, as well as of the power of veto asked for the Turkish Commissary in case the Assembly attempt to discuss any questions contrary to the rights of the Porte, has caused (says the *Times* correspondent) much less difficulty than was anticipated, the Turkish Government having given in on both these points."

Accounts from Constantinople, of the 5th, received at Marseilles, state that the British squadron had been apprised of its approaching departure; nevertheless, it will continue to occupy the Black Sea until the Austrians evacuate the Danubian Provinces. For that reason, Lord Lyons has sent to Malta for provisions.

A new railway project has been taken up by the Turkish Government lately; it is Mr. Layard's. He proposes a railway connecting the Danube and the Black Sea with the Archipelago, sending out by degrees branches to the capital and the principal towns of Roumelia and Bulgaria. The railway would start from the Danube, either at Rustchuk or Silistria, and pass by Shumla and Adrianople to Enos, or any other point in the Archipelago which should offer the advantages of a large and sure harbour.—*Times Constantinople Correspondent.*

#### STATE OF TRADE.

THE provincial trade reports for the week ending last Saturday show a continuance of activity and confidence; the high prices of some of the most important articles of raw material constituting the only check to the feeling of animation. At Manchester, on this account, the transactions have been limited, but the manufacturers are all fully employed. The balance-sheet of Messrs. Ashworth and Co., whose stoppage was announced on the 19th ult., has been submitted, and presents liabilities for 50,000*l.*, and assets nominally stated at 30,000*l.*, but which are likely to fall far short of that amount. The Birmingham advices describe great steadiness in the iron-market, and a satisfactory demand for all the general manufactures of the place. At Nottingham, the spring trade, both in hosiery and lace, is expected to commence very favourably. In the woollen districts, the demand for goods is fully equal to the supply, and the Irish linen-markets have been well maintained.—*Times.*

In the general business of the port of London during

the past week there has been little change. The number of vessels reported inward was 136, being three more than in the previous week. These included 20 with cargoes of corn, flour, and rice, 8 with sugar, and 1 with 28,259 packages of tea. The total number of ships cleared outward was 106, including 7 in ballast, showing an increase of 10.—*Idem.*

The committee of the Stock-Exchange have unanimously adopted the following resolution, with a view to checking the laxity shown by some members of that establishment in undertaking speculative transactions for clerks—a laxity which has led to such cases as those of Redpath, Robson, and others:—"The committee particularly caution members of the Stock-Exchange against transacting speculative business for clerks in public or private establishments without the knowledge of their employers. Members disregarding this caution are liable to be dealt with in such manner as the committee may deem advisable."

According to statistics quoted by an Australian merchant in the *Times* of Tuesday, there is reason to apprehend that the advices from Australia during the coming spring will again announce, as regards imported goods, glutted markets and declining prices. Provisions, and liquors especially, appear to have been sent out in indiscriminate quantities.

#### THE CASE OF JOHN MARKHAM.—PRISON REVELATIONS.

THE case of the unhappy man, John Markham, who has recently been insulted by the mockery of a pardon for an offence of which he was perfectly innocent, has again been made the subject of indignant comment by the *Times*, in which journal we find some additional facts, bearing, not only on the undeserved hardships and sorrows of Markham, but on the general condition of Newgate, which appears to have made no advance whatever upon the state of things existing in the worst times of prison discipline. Mr. Rose, who was last year one of the City Under-Sheriffs, has addressed a letter to the *Times*, in which he reveals to us what is constantly going on in the metropolitan gaol. Our contemporary, summarising these details in its leading columns, says:—

"The most desperate ruffians are shut up together within those gloomy walls to utter as much blasphemy and obscenity as they choose, to recount to each other the most stirring incidents of their past careers, to consolidate old friendships, and to plan fresh crimes. Bad as this is, it is not all. Into the same room or cell with these miscreants are thrust the novices of iniquity, and it may be men entirely innocent of offence. The result is just what might be anticipated. In a few exceptional cases, the unfortunates who may have been thrown into such foul fellowships endeavour to resist the contagion, and do resist, but at what cost! They are put to the bar of their guilty companions. They are jeered at, insulted, abused, maltreated. They must take kindly to wickedness, or pay the penalty. Thus writes Mr. Rose:—"John Markham was two months in Newgate picking oakum with the convicts there, who in this prison are all in one room together—three murderers at one time, pirates who had deliberately planned wholesale massacres, to be accompanied by indescribable atrocities, burglars, garotters, thieves from their birth, receivers, putters up of robberies, and the perpetrators of unmentionable crimes. *The amusement of this den of devilry is to narrate their crimes, and to plan fresh ones.*" Why, this is to take us back at one leap to the days of Jonathan Wild the Great; this is the Newgate with which Fielding was familiar, surely not the pet prison of this century of experimental philanthropy! Poor John Markham, who has just received the Queen's gracious pardon, was but a cheerless guest amid this fiendish crew. He was not of them, and would not be of them. Rascaldom, of course, rose in its dirty majesty to avenge itself upon the stranger who defied it, and shrank back from the pollution of its very breath. 'John Markham,' writes Mr. Rose, 'was persecuted and tormented by his associates in Newgate with the most virulent and relentless malignity.' What a position for an innocent man! But in course of time the torture of infamous society was exchanged for the torture of absolute seclusion. It was to Millbank that Markham was removed, and there the system is that of 'separate confinement,'—'a dreadful system,' as Mr. Rose adds in his own name. He was locked up in his cell from half-past five at night until six o'clock in the morning, without hearing the sound of a human voice. Mr. Rose then tells us how John Markham was affected during this period. 'He had parted with all his ready money and many of his things for his defence; he had a wife and child; they were utterly destitute; she parted with every stick of furniture and every rag of clothing during his imprisonment, and many a day was without a meal of victuals, and now, in agony unutterable, he often thought of her, and how she was existing.' Such was the case of the innocent man to whom society has graciously extended its pardon. This, however, was not all. From Millbank, Markham was removed to Pentonville; for he was to have a taste of every expedient which the ingenuity of modern philanthropists has devised for the reformation

of prisoners, as well as of the primitive anarchy which reigns in the walls of old Newgate.

"For three months, he was immured at Pentonville—kept all the time in solitary confinement. The seclusion in this prison is so strictly maintained, that even in the chapel each prisoner is enclosed in a wooden box, where he can neither see others nor be seen himself. By Markham's account, the suffering is very great under the system. 'In the chapel, at the sound of a human voice, the convicts are often affected, faint away, or shriek out. "Why?" I asked Markham' (it is, of course, Mr. Rose who writes). "Oh! they think of home, or something of that," he replied.' It is not, however, our object here to discuss the merits or drawbacks of our various systems of prison discipline. We are speaking first of John Markham's case, and of the cases of all persons wrongfully convicted; and, secondly, of the horrors in the interior of Newgate. After six months had elapsed—six months spent in the terrible situation we have described—Markham was *pardoned*. He is now without work, without means of getting a living, and his character is gone. People won't believe in the innocence of the pardoned man. Nor is his case a singular one. Mr. Rose gives us briefly the heads of another dismal history of the like kind. A man named Martin was found guilty upon a charge of highway robbery and sentenced to four years of penal servitude. It was all a mistake, and the mistake was discovered, but not in time. 'Not long since,' writes Mr. Rose, 'he stood in my office an emaciated wreck of his former self. Before he went to Millbank, he said, he didn't know his own strength, and could work without fatigue the longest day.' It is not matter for charge against our criminal system that such mistakes do occur from time to time, for a certain amount of error is inseparable from any system that can be devised by man; but at least society is bound to give ample compensation to the unfortunate persons who have been unwittingly sacrificed to the security of all. More than this, and independently of this, we trust that immediate inquiry of the most searching kind will take place with respect to Newgate Prison."

#### DESTRUCTION OF OLD ROCHESTER BRIDGE.

THE destruction by the Royal Engineers of the first portion of old Rochester Bridge—a structure which has stood for upwards of four centuries—took place on Tuesday, under the general direction of Colonel H. Sandham, Director of the Royal Engineers' establishment at Brompton Barracks, Chatham. Major-General Sir Harry Jones, and several military and scientific gentlemen, together with a large concourse of the public, were present; and all passed off without any accident.

"On the 24th of November," says the account in the *Times*, "a body of Sappers and Miners, under the command of Captain H. Schaw, Royal Engineers, who has ever since very ably superintended the undertaking, commenced making the necessary preparations for destroying the bridge. For this purpose the engineers commenced sinking three shafts on different piers, which were excavated to the respective depths of 24 feet, 21 feet, and 15 feet, it being found impossible to sink them any deeper owing to the constant breaking in of the water. Each shaft had a mean diameter of 4 feet. As soon as the shafts had been completed to the required depth the working parties commenced driving a series of galleries, leading in horizontal directions from each shaft, in which to deposit the gunpowder used in blowing up the structure. The portion of the old bridge destroyed to-day was one of the large piers, near the Strood side, from which the arches and superstructure had been previously removed by manual labour. This pier was 36 feet in length, 21 feet wide, and 13 feet in depth, and was calculated to contain considerably more than 12,000 cubic feet of masonry, weighing 800 tons. From the shaft which had been excavated in this pier sprang six galleries—viz., two of 10 feet in length, from the extremity of each of which branched at right angles another gallery of 3 feet in length; there were also two other galleries diverging from the central shaft, each 4 feet 9 inches in length, the galleries being each 4 feet deep by 3 feet in breadth, to enable the Sappers and Miners to traverse them. The weight of gunpowder required to be used in destroying this pier was 300*lb.*, consisting of four charges, each of 60*lb.*, and two lesser charges, each of 30*lb.*, one charge being placed in each gallery. The powder was contained in tin cases enclosed in wooden boxes. The Royal Engineers were engaged at the old bridge during the whole of last night in preparing the galleries, after which the powder was deposited in the places selected. The operation of 'tamping' then commenced, which consisted of surrounding the charges with materials, to render the explosion more effective, and stopping up the head of each of the galleries with wet clay. The wires for firing the charges were laid in wooden troughs, to prevent accidents, and, a communication having been effected with each gallery, the charges were exploded simultaneously by means of the voltaic battery, which was under the direction of Captain C. E. Cumberland, Royal Engineers. The only sight visible to the spectators was a violent upheaving of the water, and the disappearance of the large pier."

## OUR CIVILIZATION.

## THE GREAT BULLION ROBBERY.

THE special session of the Central Criminal Court, appointed for the trial of some of the remarkable commercial cases which have recently agitated society, commenced on Tuesday with the indictment of William Pierce, described in the calendar as a grocer, imperfectly educated, aged forty; James Burgess, aged thirty-five, railway guard, well educated; and William George Tester, aged twenty-six, clerk, also well educated, who were charged with the great gold robbery on the South-Eastern Railway. Tester, who wore a moustache and whiskers, appeared very much depressed; but Burgess and Pierce exhibited considerable unconcern—the former, apparently, from a natural gaiety, the latter from sullenness. Serjeant Shee attended specially, with Mr. Bodkin and Mr. Monk, of the Northern Circuit, to conduct the prosecution; Mr. Serjeant Ballantine attended specially, with Mr. Sleigh, to defend Tester; Mr. Serjeant Parry, also specially retained, with Mr. Rihton, appeared for Pierce; and Mr. Giffard, Mr. Poland, and Mr. F. H. Lewis defended Burgess.

Our readers are already so familiar with the facts of this extraordinary case, that we shall not repeat the evidence, but confine ourselves to the defence and the final result. In cross-examination by Mr. Serjeant Parry, Agar, the approver, said: "I was once in the service of a linendraper for four years. That is fourteen years ago. It may be twenty years ago. I cannot speak positively. There was no robbery committed in the establishment while I was there. I was never in any other service. I got my living by 'speculating' in America. I speculated in various things. I went to America several times. I decline to answer how I got my living before I 'speculated' in America. I never was engaged in forgeries. I knew Saward at this time. I decline to say how I got my living." Baron Martin told the witness he had better answer. He could not be worse off than he was, unless he had done something for which he might be hanged. (A laugh.) Agar said he should still decline to answer. Serjeant Parry: "Have you done anything for which you might be hanged?" Witness: "I decline to answer." He denied that he committed forgeries while in America, or that he had passed forged cheques anywhere. Of the cause of his present conviction he gave this account:—"While I was at Kilburn, I was living with a woman named Emily Campbell. She had lived formerly with Humphreys, and it was out of revenge that he got me arrested. I had lent him 230*l.*, and was going that afternoon by appointment to receive it back. He lived a door or two from the corner of Bedford-row, and just as I got to the corner I met a man who said to me, 'Bill has sent me to tell you not to come in. There's a screw loose.' He pulled out a bag at the same time, which he said contained 200*l.* Just then I saw somebody coming behind us, and the man (who called himself Smith) said, 'You'd better run; I did so, and he immediately called 'Stop thief!' I stopped, and the police-officers took me into custody. I gave up the bag, which was found to be full of farthings; but Smith pretended to know nothing of it. That is all I had to do with the charge on which I was convicted."

After several witnesses had been examined, the Court adjourned till the next morning, the jury being conducted to the London Coffee-house, under charge of the officers of the court.

The concluding evidence was received on Wednesday, when it was shown, in cross-examination, that Pierce was not in the service of the railway company at the time of the robberies—a fact which in some degree modified the charge against him. Thursday was entirely occupied with the speeches of the counsel for the defence, the summing-up of the judge, the verdict of the jury, &c. The defence in each case rested mainly on the admitted bad character of Agar, combined with the avowed desire for revenge which had influenced him in bringing forward the charges against his former comrades. The counsel also contended that Agar's assertions were not sufficiently corroborated by the other witnesses to justify the jury in convicting the prisoners.

Baron Martin, in summing up, said that Pierce, if found guilty, could only be convicted of a simple larceny, as he was not in the service of the company at the time the robbery was committed; but the other cases were different, and would render the prisoners liable to more severe punishment. It was lamentable to reflect upon the frauds which had taken place since these great companies had been formed. Formerly, a great deal was heard of the attachment of clerks and servants to their employers; but in the great companies all this had been done away with, and public associations appeared to be legitimate objects of spoliation.—After commenting on the evidence, and pointing out the degree of confirmation it received from the testimony of the other witnesses, the Judge dismissed the jury to the consideration of their verdict. They only remained absent, however, for ten minutes, when they returned with a verdict of GUILTY against all the accused.

Baron Martin, in passing sentence, said "the jury had found their verdict on the clearest evidence ever laid be-

fore a court of justice. The principal witness in the case was Agar, a man who was as bad as he could well be, but yet a person who was not the original planner of the robbery, the suggestion having come from Pierce. Something had been said of the romance connected with that man's character; but if there were any persons who took an interest in it, or who fancied that there was anything great in his character, he would beg them to consider what had been the result. He was a man of very extraordinary talent. No doubt he had given to the details of this robbery a vast deal of care. If he had exercised a tenth part of the ability on any honest pursuit, he would have been by this time a respectable man, and no doubt would have realized a large property. Instead of being a man of respectability, he was now a slave for life. He was separated from everything that was dear to him—even from the other sex, to which he was evidently attached and was the veriest slave that ever trod the face of the earth, having no control whatever over his actions. Some remarks had been made by the counsel engaged for the defence about his release. He (the judge) did not like to mention the subject during the progress of the trial, but this he might say, that if he was released it would not be on account of any evidence that he had given upon the present trial." He warmly reprobated the atrocity of Pierce in deserting Fanny Kay. "In all," said his Lordship, addressing Pierce, "you must have got out of Agar about 15,000*l.* This you stole and appropriated to your own use. It is a worse offence, I declare, than the act of which you have just been found guilty. I would rather have been concerned in stealing the gold than in the robbery of that wretched woman—call her harlot, if you will—and her child. A greater villain than you are, I believe, does not exist." (Loud cheers in court.) He should inflict upon Pierce the most severe sentence which the law allowed him to pass, namely, two years' hard labour—with, during that time, three months, the 1st, 12th, and 24th, solitary confinement. He regretted that he could not pass a more severe sentence upon him, who was far worse than either of the others. With regard to Burgess and Tester, he must pass upon each of them a sentence of transportation for fourteen years.

The three prisoners, who seemed to struggle with violent emotions during the delivery of the sentence, were then removed from the dock.

In answer to an application by Mr. Bodkin, who requested that the Court would make an order for the property found in possession of the prisoners to be handed over to the South-Eastern Railway Company, Baron Martin said at present he should make no such order; and, with regard to the Turkish Bond taken from Pierce, it appeared to him that, if any one was entitled to it, it was Fanny Kay.

**A MAN PROBABLY INNOCENT CONDEMNED TO DEATH.**—Two Irishmen, named Loughnan and Kelly, are now under sentence of death in Guernsey gaol for the murder of a couple of Frenchmen in that island. The double execution is appointed to take place in a very few days; but there seems good reason to believe that one of the condemned men (Loughnan) is innocent of the crime of which, together with his companion, he has been convicted. The two prisoners were tried last December before the highest tribunal in Guernsey, on a charge of having murdered two Frenchmen who died from wounds inflicted by a knife or dagger. They were each tried separately, and both found guilty, although, in the case of Loughnan, several of the jury did not consider that the crime with which he was charged had been satisfactorily proved against him. From circumstances which transpired, both before and after the trial, many other people came to the conclusion that Loughnan was not guilty of the murder, even if he had at all been connected with the other prisoner, of which there were considerable doubts; and several of the most respectable inhabitants of the island, supported by the press, were energetic in their endeavours to sift the matter to the utmost. It was not long before they discovered the fact that Kelly, shortly after his apprehension, had sent for a Roman Catholic priest, and confessed to him that Loughnan was entirely innocent, and that he alone was guilty of the crime for which they were both imprisoned. This confession he earnestly requested the priest to make known, in order that the other man's life might be saved. It was accordingly forwarded to the proper authorities, and Kelly was afterwards visited by persons high in office, to whom he repeated what he had already told the priest. His statement about Loughnan's innocence appears to be borne out by the medical testimony produced on the trial, which went to show that the wounds on both the Frenchmen were inflicted with the same instrument, and apparently by the same hand. Owing to Kelly's confession, strenuous exertions are being made by many of the inhabitants of Guernsey to induce Sir George Grey to defer the execution until the truth or falsity of what Kelly has asserted can be ascertained. A petition signed by a large number of the people in the island will, therefore, be forwarded to the Home Secretary with this view.

**A HAZARDOUS CHRISTMAS STORY.**—A youth of nineteen, from the Islington workhouse, but who formerly

carried on business as a butcher, was charged by a fellow pauper, at the Clerkenwell police-office, with having committed a murder. On Christmas day some of the men in the workhouse were seated round the fire, telling tales to each other for their amusement. The narratives consisted of various stories of ghosts and murders; and the moment one of the paupers began to relate a tale on the latter theme, Booth (the young man in question) seemed very restless and uncomfortable, and, after loudly groaning several times, left the room. On his return, one of the men was telling a comic story, and, although it caused a great deal of laughter, Booth seemed duller than usual, and, when asked what was the matter, said he had committed "a most horrible and atrocious crime," which very much troubled him; that he could get no rest night or day; and that, wherever he went, and whatever he was about, the thought of the deed he had committed was always uppermost in his mind. Being advised by the others to make a full confession of his crime, he said, after some hesitation, that about two years ago he was walking on the banks of the Regent's Canal on a dark, foggy afternoon, and, being short of money, and having promised to go out with some friends, he resolved to rob the first person he met. He shortly afterwards saw an elderly man, whose money he demanded, and threatened him with death in the event of a refusal. A struggle ensued between them, they fell to the ground together, but he, being young, was quickly on his feet, and took out a butcher's knife (which he produced from his pocket, and drew their attention to marks of blood still upon it) and plunged it deep into his victim's body. Having despatched his victim, he rifled his pockets, taking from them a gold watch and chain, together with a quantity of bank-notes and loose gold coin. He then threw the body into the canal. Although he felt his conscience reprove him very soon after committing the deed, he joined his friends, with whom he got drunk, and was then robbed of all the money which he had taken from the murdered man. The thought of this made him ill, and he was therefore compelled to give up his business and go to the workhouse.—Information of what Booth had related to his fellow paupers having been given to the police, they searched their books, and found that about the time the murder was stated to have been committed, and near the spot indicated, the body of an old man was taken out of the canal; but it was proved he never possessed much money, and there were no marks of violence on the body. When before the magistrate, Booth stated that he was quite innocent of the crime, and that he had merely told the story for the entertainment of his companions. Mr. Tyrwhitt believed this, and discharged him.

**BURGLARY.**—A man named Thomas Johnson was charged before Mr. Henry, at the Bow-street police-court, with breaking into a house in Alfred-place, Bedford-square. Mr. Sidgreaves, a law student of the Temple, who occupied the ground floor, was awakened at five o'clock in the morning by a noise in the front parlour. He immediately got up, and arming himself with a life-preserver, which he always carried into his bedroom on retiring to rest, he rushed into the adjoining apartment, where he saw Johnson. Mr. Sidgreaves at once seized him; but he did not make any resistance, and the landlord was called up, a policeman was sent for, and the thief was given into custody. Johnson then stated that two men outside had asked him to get into the house, and promised to follow if the coast was clear. The landlord, hearing this, ran out into the street and perceived a man lurking near the premises, whom he laid hold of, but, on learning that he was the son of a person named Smith in Tottenham-court-road, known to the landlord, the latter suffered him to depart. It afterwards came out in evidence before the magistrate, that not only were the parlour shutters unclosed, but the window of that room was not bolted. Mr. Henry said that, though it was a wise precaution in these times for a man to take defensive weapons to bed with him, yet it would surely be much wiser in the first instance to fasten the window and close the shutters, especially in a room easily accessible to thieves from without. He committed the accused for trial.

**A FIRST OFFENCE.**—The culpable harshness of prosecutors in not condoning a first offence—a subject to which a correspondent of this journal recently made allusion—was illustrated in a case which was brought forward at Guildhall on Monday, when John Tyler, a potboy at a public-house in Warwick-lane, was charged with stealing a purse containing 1*l.* 10*s.*, the property of Mr. Smith, his employer. Mr. Smith had lost the purse through a hole in his pocket, and it was afterwards found in the possession of the boy, who said he would have returned it had he known it to be Mr. Smith's. That he was really ignorant of the ownership appears to be doubtful; but Mr. Smith said he sincerely believed this was the boy's first offence, and he would therefore refrain from pressing the charge. So far, so good; but when Alderman Carden asked the publican if he would take the boy back into his employ, he replied that he had lost all confidence in the accused, and could not receive him again. Sir R. W. Carden said this was not a common case of stealing. The circumstance of the prisoner finding the purse was a sudden temptation which he had yielded to, when in all other respects he might have acted honestly.



If, under such circumstances, the prosecutor really believed it was the first offence, and yet refused to give the prisoner an opportunity of redeeming himself, it was not likely any one else would like to employ him. Mr. Smith said he could neither give him a character nor take him into his service again. Sir R. W. Carden then remanded the prisoner for a few days.

**GAROTTERS DEFEATED.**—Some garotters have been roughly handled at Nottingham by a young man named Gregg. He was proceeding up Shakspeare-street, when three men rushed out of a passage on him; one seized his throat, and the other two tried to secure his arms. Gregg told them they had mistaken their man, as he had very little money about him; and he then kicked one so violently in the stomach that he fell. He also called loudly for help; and a policeman came up, springing his rattle. The ruffians then made off; but they were pursued, and one was knocked down and stunned by a blow from Gregg, and was secured by the police. It afterwards appeared that the thieves were waiting for the arrival of a gentleman whom they intended to attack.—Another case of courageous opposition to garotters has occurred near Birkenhead, where a Mr. Saxby, a young medical student, has had a positive encounter with knives and sticks in the street, and early in the evening. He damaged his opponent's face with a pocket-knife very considerably, but at length received a stab in the side, and was then garotted, and left insensible, by a companion of the man he had been fighting with. Fortunately, his wounds are not serious.

**GAROTTING AT CAMBRIDGE.**—Four men are under examination at Cambridge, charged with having robbed and attempted to throttle Mr. Jonathan Ambery, an undergraduate of St. John's College.

**THROWING MISSILES AT A RAILWAY-TRAIN.**—Frederick Goodwin, a boy about twelve years old, was charged at the Marylebone police-office on Monday with throwing some heavy missile at a train on the London and North-Western Railway from the bridge near the tunnel at Kilburn. A policeman saw him place a large brick or stone on the parapet of the bridge, lift himself up as the train was going by, and push the missile over. Fortunately, it did no damage. On being seized, the boy said at first that he had never done so before; but he afterwards acknowledged that he "generally met with some other boys on the bridge to pelt at the trains." He was committed for trial, but bail was accepted.

**MURDEROUS ASSAULT.**—John Stamp, a dock-labourer, about forty years of age, surrendered on his recognizances before the Thames magistrate, charged with cutting and wounding Henry Nubley, a young man who appeared in court with his arm in a sling, and in a very feeble condition. He is a basket-maker in the employ of Mr. Cutts, who is also the landlord of the Globe and Pigeons public-house, in High-street, Shadwell. On the night of Saturday, the 27th of December, Nubley was in an up-stairs room of the Globe and Pigeons, when he heard a disturbance below, and, upon going down stairs, saw Stamp strike the potman of the house on the nose, and knock him down. Stamp then ran out of the house, and Nubley pursued; but directly he reached the street he was beset by three 'navvies,' who attacked him and knocked him down. Nubley soon recovered himself, and continued the pursuit of Stamp, whom he at length overtook, on which the man turned round, took a clasp-knife from his pocket, and, after opening it, cut Nubley on the wrist, and then stabbed him in the side. Nubley called out "Murder!" and a police-constable came up, and found Nubley weltering in his blood on the ground. Some bystanders had seized Stamp, and he was given into custody. The wounds received by Nubley were of a very serious description; he lost a large quantity of blood, and was an in-patient of the London Hospital until Monday morning. Stamp was committed, but good bail was accepted for his appearance at the sessions.

**HOW SAWARD CAME TO BE A BARRISTER.**—The question is properly asked, How did 'Jem Saward,' who figures in the 'great City Forgeries,' get to the bar? In the *Law List* he is described as "James Townshend Saward, Esq., of the Inner Temple and the Home Circuit." The date of his call is the 28th of November, 1840. He has been for a long time the associate of thieves. Who is he? By what two barristers was he proposed? By whom of the Benchers approved? For, without this preliminary certificate of character, admission of a student is impracticable. The Inner Temple boasts of a sort of preliminary classical examination. Was 'Jem Saward' subjected to this? These are questions which the society has a right to ask, and the proposers might properly be called upon to state what was their knowledge of him."—*Law Times*.

**THE MURDER OF A WIFE AT MERTHYR.**—The inquest on the body of Mrs. Lewis, the murder of whom was briefly described in our last paper, was resumed on Friday week, and terminated in a verdict of Wilful Murder by the husband. On the day before the inquest was resumed, John Lewis made two singular attempts at suicide in the station-house cell. Pulling out a nail which secured one of the fixtures of the cell, he worked the head of it into the wall, so as to present the point towards himself. He then ran his head

against it; but the nail, being loosely fixed, dropped out, only inflicting a slight scalp wound. The man next seized the nail, and endeavoured to thrust it into his bowels; but it was not very sharp, and, although it put Lewis to such pain that he fainted, it did not cause any injury of a serious nature.

**MURDER IN SCOTLAND.**—Peter McLean has been found guilty of the murder of Thomas Maxwell, a miner, on the highway. He was sentenced to death; and William Mansfield, an accomplice, was sentenced to two years' imprisonment. A woman, who was charged at the same time with participation, was acquitted.

**THE BANK FORGERIES.**—A further examination of Saward and Anderson took place at the Mansion House on Wednesday, when the testimony of Attwell, the convict, was confirmed by several witnesses, and the case was again adjourned for a week.

**DESTITUTION AND THEFT.**—A boy, about fifteen years old, applied on Monday to Sir R. W. Carden at Guildhall for relief; and the alderman told him to apply at the West London Union, and furthermore gave him a letter to the relieving officer, who, however, on ascertaining that the lad had slept on the previous night at the Refuge in Playhouse-yard, referred him to the parish of St. Luke's, in which the Refuge is situated. The boy, in despair, stole a skittle-ball from a shop in Long-lane, and immediately afterwards gave himself into custody. It appeared that he had neither father nor mother, that he had been knocking about the streets, sometimes lying there all night, and living how he could. On being brought before Alderman Carden on the following day, he stated these facts, and the case was adjourned, that the relieving officer might be sent for. That person appeared on Wednesday; and Sir R. W. Carden severely reprimanded him for his neglect. The alderman then dismissed the boy, who will now be provided for in the union.—A charge has been brought at Worship-street against the porter of St. Luke's Workhouse, of refusing to admit a woman into the house on Wednesday night. The policeman to whom she appealed, and who tried in vain to obtain her admission, at length took her to the station-house, as he said he could not bear to see a fellow-creature out of doors on such a night. A police sergeant said it was a pitiable sight to see the many poor creatures who lie at the gates of the St. Luke's workhouse. When the police knock, they are treated very roughly, and told to mind their own business. They have frequently been obliged to remove the destitute from there to the Shoreditch workhouse. This testimony was confirmed by others, and the magistrate said he would consider the case farther on Saturday (this day), when the master would attend.

**ALLEGED POISONING OF A WIFE.**—An inquest is now being held at Chesham, Buckinghamshire, on the body of Mary White, who is supposed to have been poisoned by her husband. The stomach, &c., were sent to Professor Taylor for analysis, and that gentleman has written to the coroner, stating that he has detected the presence of arsenic in the stomach, but adding that the sum given to witnesses for attendance at inquests—namely, two guineas—would not remunerate him for his time and trouble; and he is in fact now waiting to see whether he will be properly remunerated. Several witnesses were examined at an adjourned inquest, but some of them appeared rather reluctant in stating all they knew about the matter. The medical gentleman who made the *post-mortem* examination stated that he had found proof of the presence of arsenic in the stomach, and also that he did not discover any other cause of death. The inquiry was adjourned to next Monday.

**ACCIDENTAL POISONING.**—The inquest on the body of Mr. Marcooly, a tailor living at Brompton, who was accidentally poisoned, owing to the carelessness of the assistant at the shop of Mr. Budd, a chemist in the neighbourhood, has resulted in a verdict of Manslaughter against the assistant, accompanied by a reproof to Mr. Budd for the apathy he had exhibited throughout the matter.

**CONVICTION OF A GANG OF SWINDLERS.**—Carolus Bond, Sarah Jane Bond, George Alfred Fennell, and Jemima Fennell, have been tried at the Surrey Sessions for stealing property, consisting of jewellery, lamps, lustres, mantles, satin, clothes, wine, &c., valued at nearly a thousand pounds, from various tradespeople in different parts of the metropolis. The court was excessively crowded during the trial with the victims who attended to have their property restored. There were fifteen indictments against the prisoners, on the first of which they were found guilty, and then pleaded guilty to the others. The Chairman sentenced Bond and his wife to eighteen months' hard labour each, Fennell twelve months, and his wife six months in Wandsworth House of Correction.

**HIGHWAY ROBBERY AT HALIFAX.**—A master stone-mason and shopkeeper named Rawnsley was robbed of the sum of 219*l.* on the high road near Halifax on the night of Friday week. On the morning of that day he went to Halifax to pay some accounts, and obtained cash at one of the banks for a cheque for 180*l.*, which had been paid to him as contractor for the Sowerby-bridge new town-hall. He visited several public-houses, and delayed his return until it was too late to reach Sowerby-bridge, as he had intended. At about eight o'clock in the evening he left Halifax by the road lead-

ing to Skircoat-green, and had got a few hundred yards past the last houses, when he was pounced upon by two men, who took from him a bag containing a 5*l.* note and two hundred and fourteen sovereigns.

**AFFRAY WITH POACHERS.**—A desperate encounter took place between twenty poachers and seven game-keepers on the estate of Sir John Harpur Crewe, Bart., of Calke Abbey, Derbyshire. The keepers were only armed with sticks, and three of them were dangerously wounded.

**THE CHILD-MURDER AT WALWORTH.**—Mrs. Martha Bacon, the woman who stands charged on the coroner's warrant with the murder of her two children, was further examined at the Lambeth police-office on Wednesday. She had much improved in appearance; and there is now reason to doubt whether she is really disordered in her mind. Circumstances also have arisen to render it uncertain whether she is in fact the murderer. The additional evidence was chiefly to the effect that the children were not heard to cry on the Monday preceding the Tuesday on which the murder was discovered, and that heavy footsteps were heard pacing about the house. On the previous Saturday a man was heard to speak crossly in the back yard. The woman was again remanded. On the evening before, however, Mr. Inspector Young attended with the woman's husband, and said that that individual had told him that he had left the house to go into the country early on the Monday morning, and that, during his absence, a robbery had been committed, and several things stolen, including a 5*l.* note. These statements he repeated several times, but with continual and important variations, and, on being brought before the magistrate, he rambled a good deal. He had a cut on one of his fingers, for which he did not satisfactorily account. He stated his belief that the murder had been done by some one who had entered the house; and he accounted for his confusion by asserting that the police had cross-questioned him till he did not know what he said. The magistrate allowed him to withdraw.

**THE CAPE FORGERIES.**—Edward Horace Montefiore was again examined at the Mansion House last Saturday, on the charge of committing forgeries on the Cape of Good Hope bank to the extent of 5300*l.* He was also charged with having defrauded Messrs. Guthrie and Co., of London, of 81*l.* The case was again adjourned to Thursday.—On Montefiore being again brought up on Thursday, the Lord Mayor said he had come to the conclusion that he had no jurisdiction in the case, and the accused was therefore discharged. After he had left the court, he was arrested by a sheriff's officer for a debt of 250*l.*, at the suit of a gentleman in the Isle of Wight, of whom he had bought a vessel for 300*l.*, paying 50*l.* in cash, and giving his acceptance for the balance, payable at the Bank of England, where he had no account.

**ROBBERY BY MEANS OF CHLOROFORM.**—A man, named Woodley, in the service of a gentleman living at Caversham Hill, near Reading, asserts that he was robbed, about seven o'clock in the evening, not far from the entrance gates of the railway at Reading, by three men and a woman. The men, he says, pushed and held him against a wall, while the woman applied to his nostrils something which he believed to be chloroform, and which produced slight stupefaction. About thirty shillings were taken from him. The whole thing was very quickly done, and the thieves then made off. Woodley did not communicate the fact to the police till the following day. The thieves have not yet been discovered.

**VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST A CHEMIST.**—A coroner's inquest at Stoke-upon-Trent, on the body of a Mrs. Ann Hancock, a widow, has ended in a verdict of Manslaughter against a Mr. Hollis, a chemist, in whose house she lived, and by whom she appears to have been pregnant. Hollis administered to her a drug which had the effect of bringing on premature and violent labour; and the ultimate result was that she died.

**CONVICTION AND SENTENCE FOR WILL FORGERY.**—At the High Court of Justiciary, Edinburgh, on Wednesday, Dr. Dionysius Wielobycki, who had been convicted on the Friday previous of forgery and uttering of a fabricated will, was sentenced to fourteen years' transportation. The trial and its results have occasioned great sensation in Edinburgh, where the prisoner was extensively known.

#### PUBLIC MEETINGS.

**LORD PANMURE ON THE RETRANSLATION OF THE BIBLE.**

THE War Secretary has been stating his opinions on the subject of a revision of the Bible at the annual meeting of the Edinburgh Bible Society, at which he presided. He believed that any meddling with the received translation of the Scriptures would be fraught with danger to the Protestant liberties of this country, and to Protestantism itself. He was glad to find that the American scheme for revision had been almost utterly abortive. It was quite true that in the present translation there were some misrenderings, slight in themselves, and not affecting any great principle; but in a new translation there would be danger of letting in much worse mistakes, "partly from the criticism of orudition, partly for the purpose of introducing dogmas." It

would be "the most dangerous and disastrous thing that could happen to this country," if those words "which have been household words to many pious families for upwards of three hundred years" should be tampered with. "We have some old landmarks," continued Lord Panmure, "and the Bible is the greatest of these, and, rather than risk the removal of these great landmarks of our Protestant institutions, I would submit to those little imperfections which may exist in our present version, leaving it as part of the calling of our ministers to study the Holy Scriptures in the original tongues, to fit them to explain to those who sit under them wherein those little differences exist. I am quite certain of this, that, if we had not an authorized and confirmed version of the Holy Scriptures, we should never have arrived at this day with Protestantism so thoroughly and stanchly established as it is in this country at present."

But his Lordship omitted to explain how a translation which is confessedly imperfect can be a safe guide to those who hope to be saved only through the doctrines of the original.

#### MR. KINGLAKE ON POLITICAL MATTERS.

Mr. A. W. Kinglake, the author of *Eothen*, has addressed a numerous body of the electors of Newport as a candidate for their suffrages. In the course of his speech, after arguing for the extension of the franchise, the ballot, the abolition of church-rates, a national system of secular education, &c., he observed:—

"I am strongly of opinion that the high offices of this country are unduly distributed among persons of particular families, and belonging to a particular class in society, without due regard to their qualifications for holding them. And what is the result? Why, that in a country abounding in intelligence and business-like power there is always one firm which is breaking down, and that is the firm of the Government. Here is a country where there are men who at a few months' notice will throw a railway from one city to another—who will carry the electric wire along the depths of the ocean from one continent to another, and perform all those marvels of that description which has made this age a wonder to all. You cannot go to any foreign country but you find Englishmen engaged in great works of this kind. In every foreign enterprise you find an English engineer and English workmen employed; and yet in a country abounding in marvellous intelligence and business-like power we find that of such materials is the Government of the country composed that the Ministers are positively unable, with their united abilities, to feed an army of a few thousand men, encamped at a distance of eight miles only from a seaport occupied by their own ships. What is the cause of all this evil? The cause is that the Ministers and persons high in office are selected from too small a number. (*Hear.*) The House of Peers consists of, I believe, three hundred and forty-six men, and the House of Commons consists of six hundred and fifty-eight, so that, in round numbers, you have one thousand people from whom the Ministers of State have to be selected. Very well. Now, of the three hundred and forty-six peers, almost all, except our right rev. friends the bishops, and two or three law lords, are selected by the mere accident of birth. There remains, then, the House of Commons from which to find the selected talent of the country. Now, I am going to venture upon telling you a home truth—an unpalatable truth. I do say that the constituencies have been wanting in their duty with regard to the selection of those whom they send to the House of Commons, and I say that it is from this failure of duty on the part of the constituencies that there has been so much difficulty in finding men to fill the high offices of State. Why, really, gentlemen, we must confess, even though it may be an unpalatable thing to know, that the sprinkling of able men which you have in the House of Commons, although it is selected by the people, is not very much greater than the sprinkling of able men in the House of Lords, where the only test is the mere accident of birth." Mr. Kinglake was also inclined to think that members of the House of Commons are lax in the performance of their functions, and that there is a too great fear of upsetting one Government because of the presumed difficulty of finding another. Governments in power (Mr. Kinglake observed) are fond of holding forth this difficulty, and of saying that, if there are many changes, the time will come when England will be without a Government; but what they really mean (he added) is that England will be without a Government selected from the accustomed class."

#### THE BALLOT.

A meeting of Conservatives, Liberals, and Chartists was held at the Guildhall, Northampton, on Thursday week, to consider the propriety of adopting resolutions in favour of the ballot, and of framing a petition to Parliament. The Mayor presided, and the meeting was attended by two members from the Ballot Society, one of whom (Mr. Whitehurst) contended that "the divisions in the church-rate question alone are sufficient to show that under the present system the people are not represented. In Northamptonshire, for example, there is a large number of dissenters, and yet, of its four members, not one was found to record his vote for Sir William Clay's motion. Two were absent, and two had better have been absent, for they recorded their votes

against it. In Wales, where the dissenters greatly outnumber the churchmen, the same thing occurs." Some of the speakers opposed the ballot; but the proceedings were very orderly, and resolutions in favour of the proposed reform, and of the establishment in Northampton of a branch Ballot Society, were carried almost unanimously.

#### UNEMPLOYED OPERATIVES.

A meeting of the unemployed operatives of the metropolis was held in the North-west corner of Smithfield on Monday afternoon, for the purpose of concerting measures to relieve their distress. The gathering took place with the sanction of the Lord Mayor. At the time the proceedings commenced, there was a large attendance of working men belonging to all trades. It seems, however, that the building trade is at present suffering most depression, and the greater part of the men present appeared to be masons, bricklayers, 'navvies,' and bricklayers' labourers, many Irish being amongst the number. A rough platform was erected upon one of the old sheep-pens, and the workmen formed themselves in a circle round the chair, which was filled by Mr. Hugh Pierce, a journeyman carpenter.

The Chairman announced that "the meeting had been called for the purpose of confirming a series of resolutions which had been adopted at two previous meetings. He need not tell them that wide distress prevailed throughout the metropolis, since it was computed that at least a fourth of the entire working population had been for some time out of work. These meetings had been got up by working men themselves, with the view of devising the best means for relieving this distress. The meeting, therefore, was of a purely social character. It had nothing whatever to do with politics; and should any of the emissaries of Mr. Brontë O'Brien or Mr. Ernest Jones seek to disturb the harmony of the proceedings, by endeavouring to enforce their crotchets, he hoped the meeting would support him in resisting the attempt. (*Cheers.*) Those gentlemen might be well-meaning men, but that was not the time nor the place for bringing forward their views." (*Hear, hear.*) After exhorting his auditory to respect the laws of the country, which, he said, are sufficient for the objects of the meeting, the Chairman proceeded:—"Hitherto Englishmen appeared to have been actuated by a false pride. When out of employ, and in distress, they seemed to think it a degradation to apply for relief to the Union workhouse; but they should remember that the Poor-law is a national institution, and the relief which it gives is their right. They should enforce that right when necessity required it, and then such a pressure would be brought to bear upon the rate-payers that the Government would be forced to retrench some of its useless expenditure, and apply the savings to the construction of useful public works. (*Hear, hear.*) It was neither politic nor dignified for the Government to go parading the wealth and luxury of the country before the eyes of foreign nations while so many of her workpeople are on the brink of absolute starvation."

Mr. M'Keith, after stating that there are no fewer than 26,000 persons connected with the building trades alone out of work in London, proceeded to move the following resolution:—"That the unemployed working men have assembled, being fit objects of relief under the Poor-law, should forthwith apply in masses at their various parishes, and demand such casual support, while out of work, as they are by law entitled to; and in the meantime that the executive committee shall draw up a petition in the name and on behalf of the unemployed, praying her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen to call the attention of the Government to the necessity of employing the surplus labour population upon the waste lands of the country, granting them also the loan of a portion of the surplus revenue for draining and tilling the same, to the end that their present impending ruin may be prevented, and corn produced in sufficient abundance to meet the wants of all." (*Loud cheers.*) This speaker was of opinion that the poor-law is "a recognition on the part of capital that it is guilty of robbery." A capitalist robbed a man every time he employed him; and then he wanted him to go to the pawnshop to be robbed again. But working men out of employ should go to the workhouse and demand relief. "The relieving officer might, perhaps, offer them a loaf. Well, let them take it home and eat it, and then go and ask for another." (*Cheers.*) Reverting to the land question, Mr. M'Keith related an anecdote of Lord Paget bamboozling "that silly old noodle, George III.," out of an immense estate, of several miles length and breadth, under pretence that there was a piece of waste land which he should like to have for a kitchen-garden. If the people possessed the land, they might grow corn in such abundance as that the quarter loaf should never be more than 5d. As to a free press, "he thought a free press in the hands of the capitalists was a damnable thing." (*Laughter and cheers.*)—Mr. Atley seconded the resolution, which was agreed to unanimously.

Mr. H. Osborne moved—"That the Government open an extensive system of emigration for all those who, being unable to procure employment, do not wish to be put upon the land, but prefer to leave their native country, and thereby add to the wealth of the colonies, and be enabled to better their own condition at the same

time." (*Cheers.*) He proceeded:—"It was said men loved their country, and would not like to leave it. But to talk of loving their country when there were so many thousand persons present out of work; when there were 20,000 men trying every day to obtain employment at the docks without success; when there were 80,000 prostitutes in London alone; when there were a quarter of a million people who would get up to-morrow in the metropolis without the means of procuring a breakfast; and when there were 50,000 persons living in cellars at Liverpool; to talk of loving their country when they remembered the wretched condition of the stocking-weavers of Leicester and Nottingham, the weavers of Spitalfields, the factory operatives of Manchester, and the agricultural labourers of the whole kingdom, whose average earnings do not exceed 8s. or 9s. per week—to talk of loving their country, when they thought of these things, was idle indeed!" (*Cheers.*) If the French were to come over here, and were to go to his (Mr. Osborne's) lodging, he should tell them he had nothing for them, but should direct them where they would find something. The land is now possessed by only 30,000 proprietors, though, half a century ago, with a far less population, there were a quarter of a million of proprietors.

Mr. Bowen seconded the motion, and advocated the sending out of emigrants to Australia at the expense of the Government.—Mr. Flexant, a house-painter, said he had been out of work eight weeks, and had therefore "had time to study the existing arrangements of society." He was forbidden to introduce politics into the discussion, and so could not state his opinions on the matter in hand; but he warned them that what they had heard was "all fudge." (*Cheers and disapprobation.*)—Mr. George Forbes expressed similar views, and moved as an amendment, "That, till the people obtain their political and social rights, they can never grapple with the evils under which they suffer."—Mr. Warren seconded the amendment, but the original motion was carried almost unanimously.

Mr. M'Keith moved a resolution appealing to the working classes to abolish overtime, and recommending that no man be allowed to work more than six days per week. (*Loud cheers.*)—The motion being carried unanimously, and "The National Association of Unemployed Operatives" having been formally constituted by a resolution, the meeting adjourned till next Monday.

#### THE ANTI-POOR-LAW BOARD LEAGUE.

A public meeting, convened by the Anti-Poor-law Board League, was held at the Marylebone Court-house on Monday evening, for the purpose of "protesting against the unconstitutional and irresponsible power" of the Poor-law Board, and to adopt measures for effecting (through the medium of Parliament) a thorough reformation of the law governing the Poor-law Board. Mr. William Field, late churchwarden of St. Marylebone, occupied the chair, and the speakers included Mr. Jacob Bell, Mr. Pelham, the rector, Mr. D'Iffanger, and others. Resolutions were adopted in favour of the opinions entertained by the meeting.

#### LAW AMENDMENT SOCIETY.

A meeting of this society was held on Monday night, Lord Stanley in the chair. A letter from Lord Brougham was read by the secretary, suggesting that "some arrangement ought to be made for giving the Home Department more regular and effectual assistance in the exercise of that most important and difficult and most delicate office of remitting or commuting punishments ordered by the sentences of courts." His Lordship added, that a Minister of Justice would probably meet the difficulty, and that at every step we are met with the necessity for that functionary.

The Criminal Law Committee then made a report upon the paper read at the previous meeting by Mr. F. Hill, with reference to the means to be adopted to free the country from dangerous criminals. The committee reported that an alteration in the scale of punishment is necessary, and that a more strict administration of the criminal law will render the commission of acts of violence, robbery, and aggression matters of rare occurrence. They consider that the late increase of crimes of a violent character might be attributed to the late disbandment of the militia, which had thrown on the country 70,000 men without adequate means of employment; but the root of the evil is, they conceive, to be found in the worse than useless system of short imprisonments. The committee are decidedly opposed to the renewal of the transportation system, if by that is meant the establishment of a new penal colony; and they do not think the ticket-of-leave system has had a fair trial. After reading the report, the secretary moved that it be adopted and printed, and also moved certain resolutions in accordance with it; but ultimately it was resolved to adopt and print the report, and to omit the resolutions.

#### THE INCOME-TAX MOVEMENT.

Meetings continue to be held in the chief towns of the country, condemnatory of perpetuating the war increase of the income-tax after next April, and of the present mode of assessing at an equal rate precarious income and permanent property.

A meeting convened by the Association for Promoting the Interests of the Trading Community, was held on



Tuesday evening at the London Tavern, for the purpose of considering what steps should be adopted to procure a removal of the tax upon all incomes under 150*l.* per annum. The subjoined resolutions were agreed to:—"That this meeting has heard with alarm and regret that a large number of warrants of distress and other legal proceedings have been issued for non-payment of income-tax against persons not liable, and who are wholly unable to pay; and this meeting cannot too strongly condemn the practice of alienating the affections of her Majesty's subjects by the infliction of a tax which, on the one hand, erects a barrier against education, fetters trade and industry, and deprives thousands of the comforts and necessities of life, and on the other hand, opens a door for immorality, fraud, and evasion, especially in its bearing upon incomes from 100*l.* to 150*l.* per annum."—"That this meeting is decidedly of opinion that, in order to protect persons against a continuance of the present cruel, unjust, and inquisitorial system of deciding cases of appeal, all who feel grieved by any such decision would do well to make a solemn declaration of the facts of the case before the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, or some justice of the peace, and forward the same to the Board of Inland Revenue; and in case no means are taken to ascertain the truth of such declaration, then to forward a copy of the same to the Right Hon. the Chancellor of the Exchequer, soliciting the immediate attention of that right hon. gentleman thereto."—"That this meeting would recommend all persons who have been compelled to pay any income-tax for which they are not liable by law, to make a solemn declaration of the facts of the case, and apply for its return, first to the surveyor of the district, and, if not returned, then to the Board of Inland Revenue."

Another resolution, expressed as follows, was negatived:—"That this meeting is of opinion that the act of Parliament by which the increased income-tax was created ought to be repealed forthwith, and that the remaining chargeduring the ensuing session of Parliament be placed upon a more equitable basis, or the tax upon trades and professions be totally repealed."

One of the speakers was a Mr. Winter, a working man, who related his own case as an instance of great hardship:—"He was assessed at 100*l.* a year, out of which he had a blind wife, his wife's sister, three children, and an aged parent to support. His wages as an engineer were 38*s.* a week, with occasional overtime. Upon appealing to the commissioners, he was treated almost like a dog, told he must pay, and because he did not a broker was sent in. Being determined to go to prison rather than pay, he had removed his goods. (Hear.) The money was paid by his wife's relatives, but the effect upon his wife had been such that for three months she was on a sick-bed. The next year again he did not pay, and that time he was taken to Horsemaner-lane prison, where he remained for ten days, until he was released by the intervention of the society which had called the present meeting." (Hear, hear.) The speaker concluded by reading a statement of his last week's expenses, which amounted to 2*l.* 4*s.*, while his earnings were only 1*l.* 19*s.* 9*d.*—A Mr. Walker, who keeps a small chandler's shop at Bromley, and also works occasionally as a dock labourer, likewise illustrated the dishonest tyranny of the commissioners from his personal experience. He said he did not earn more than 40*l.* a year, but he had been assessed at 100*l.*, and the demand was insisted on. He was, moreover, in hourly expectation of being taken to prison.—The meeting was very numerously attended and very unanimous in opinion.

A meeting has also been held at Droitwich, at which resolutions denouncing the continuation of the war percentage and the mode of levying were unanimously carried. Sir John Pakington addressed the meeting in the sense of the resolutions, and afterwards made some remarks on our hostilities with Persia and China, in which he inclined to think we were in the wrong, but at the same time wished it to be observed that he would not commit himself to that opinion until the arrival of further details.

A meeting, with similar results, has taken place in the Town Hall, Sheffield, under the presidency of the Mayor.

#### HALIFAX MECHANICS' INSTITUTION.

The new building of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute was formally opened on Wednesday evening by a public *soirée* and meeting. The greatest enthusiasm was manifested for some days previous to the opening to obtain tickets of admission. Within a day or two of their issue, all were bought up, and hundreds found themselves shut out from taking part in the event. Upwards of six hundred persons drank tea together in the rooms of the building. At the *soirée* which followed, John Crossley, Esq., presided, and Mr. Monckton Milnes, M.P., the Hon. E. Lascelles, M.P., Lord Wharfedale, Mr. E. Baines, Mr. F. Crossley, M.P., and others, addressed the meeting on the excellence of education to the working man. Mr. F. Crossley said he was prepared to give 500*l.* towards the extinction of their debt of 4000*l.*, provided the whole debt were paid before the 1st of January, 1861; and, until that time, he would give five per cent. on the sum he had mentioned. It was also announced that Mr. Brown, who left Halifax when a boy, and went to London, and who had risen to eminence as a merchant, had sent, without solicitation, one hundred guineas towards the institution.

#### THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

A meeting was on Thursday held at Freemasons' Hall, convened by the Society for Suppressing Opium Smuggling. Mr. Thomas Chambers, M.P., was in the chair, and gave several statistical details on the subject in question. The following resolutions were carried, and a petition framed on them was adopted:—

"That the contraband traffic in opium in China is contrary to the laws of God, an impediment to the progress of the Gospel in that country, and injurious to the social condition of its people."—"That the opium monopoly in India, by which the contraband traffic is sustained, is opposed to the laws of this country, to the commercial interests of Great Britain, India, and China, and contrary to the principles of international intercourse recognised by all civilized nations."

#### NAVAL AND MILITARY.

**THE VIOLET.**—The mail bags, supposed to be lost with the Violet packet, which was wrecked during the late gale, have been recovered, owing to the activity, zeal, and presence of mind, of Joseph Williams Mortleman, the officer who had charge of them, and who, though he must have seen certain death before him, brought up the bags from below, placed them, as it is supposed, on the upper deck, and thus gave them a chance of floating. By these means they were saved. Mr. Mortleman has left a widow and ten children, two of whom are entirely, and one partially dependent on her, as well as an aged father. This is a case in which we are persuaded the public will look. Contributions may be sent to the credit of Captain Knocker, R.N., at the London and County Bank, 21, Lombard-street.

**THE LATE GALES.**—The destruction of shipping property on the Durham and Northumberland coast, occasioned by the late gale, has been very great. Above thirty vessels are ashore on the line of coast lying between the Tees and the Tweed. More than fifty seamen have been drowned by vessels foundering at sea, within the same area. Several of the small craft employed in conveying iron ore from Whitby to the Tyne have been lost with their crews; and the loss of life by vessels foundering on the coast between Lowestoft and Berwick will exceed one hundred persons. The Northumberland coast in the neighbourhood of the Coquet and the Fern Islands felt the storm, which was the most violent and destructive experienced for many years.

**ANOTHER VIOLENT GALE** prevailed at Plymouth last Saturday night. Admiral Sir Houston Stewart's flagship Indus, 78, in the basin dock at Devonport, partly broke from her fastenings, and damaged several boats moored in the basin. The next morning she was again secured. The same gale destroyed the tidal bridge which connects the pontoon at Milbay with the land.

**UNLOOKED-FOR COMPLIMENT.**—After addressing a meeting of electors on the evening of Friday week, Lieutenant-General Sir William Codrington proceeded to the Dockyard station of the North Kent Railway for departure to London. While waiting here, a seaman named Robert Gardner, son of sub-Lieutenant Gardner, of the Royal Sappers and Miners, advanced to the General and presented him with a full-dress sword, which he had taken from the house of the Russian Governor at Yalta during the occupation of that town by the British troops. General Codrington, who was taken by surprise at the circumstance, accepted the present with hearty thanks.

**GALLANT CONDUCT.**—About twelve o'clock at noon on Sunday, the 4th inst., the brig Era, of Rochester, while off Easington, was struck by a tremendous sea, by which one of the crew was washed overboard. The vessel was shortly afterwards driven on shore between Castle Eden Dene and Horden, where a number of villagers were gathered together on the shore, among whom were Mr. Rowland Burdon (chairman of the quarter sessions) and the curate of Castle Eden. Mr. Burdon proposed that a chain of hands be formed for the purpose of reaching the rope, and that the taller men should go in first. The proposal was at once agreed to; a stalwart gamekeeper went first, Mr. Burdon second, and the curate of Castle Eden next. They then advanced into the water until Mr. Burdon was up to the shoulders, when the end of the rope was caught, and a communication obtained with the vessel, and the crew were drawn on shore. Mr. Burdon had promptly sent down from the castle a supply of brandy and other restoratives, together with a quantity of blankets, for the shipwrecked mariners. — *Yorkshire Gazette.*

**CHATHAM DOCKYARD.**—Several extensive improvements and alterations are being carried out at Chatham Dockyard, which, when completed, will make that establishment the most commodious Government dockyard in the kingdom. One of the principal improvements now in progress is at No. 7 granite slip, which is to be lengthened sixty feet, giving a length of three hundred and thirty feet.

**THE ROYAL YACHT APPOINTMENTS.**—We understand that much dissatisfaction has been occasioned among lieutenants of good claims for services performed prior to, and during the late war, by the selection of his Serene Highness the Prince of Leiningen to fill the vacancy in the Royal Yacht. — *United Service Gazette.*

**THE SABINA.**—In consequence of the absence of a local pilot, and of the London pilot taking his place, the Sabina, of 672 tons (belonging to Messrs. Oxley and

Co., of Liverpool), ran aground on the edge of the Horse Sand in making for Spithead. Subsequently she was towed off by a Government tug, and anchored at the Motherbank.

**STRANDING OF THE TYNE.**—The Royal Mail Steamship Tyne, Captain Valler, on her passage from the Brazils, ran aground early on Tuesday morning, during a mist, about five miles to the westward of St. Alban's Head, off Chapman's Cove, between forty and fifty miles from Southampton. Lieutenant Fuge landed with a part of the mails, and received some severe bruises about the head in doing so. As the boats were leaving the ship, a sea struck the latter and swamped the boats. Some of the passengers were thrown into the water, but they were all rescued. The boats reached the shore in safety, and the passengers were taken care of by Lord Eldon's uncle, and conveyed to his estate, Encombe Castle, where he entertained them in the most hospitable manner, and subsequently had the whole taken in his carriages, or in other vehicles provided by his Lordship, to the Wareham Railway Station. Steam-tugs have been despatched to the assistance of the vessel. A coast guardman has been drowned by the swamping of a boat as it was going from the shore to the ship.

**THE BRITISH SHIPPING** at Gibraltar suffered very considerably in the storms which prevailed on the 25th and 26th ult.

**LOSS OF A SCHOONER.**—On the 21st of November, a fine schooner, named the Invoice, left Cardiff for Genoa with a cargo of 130 tons of bar iron, since which time no tidings have been received of her. Several pieces of wreck have recently been washed ashore on the coast of Somerset, and since then some papers have been picked up at Watchet belonging to the Invoice, of Plymouth, freighted with iron. She had on board a crew of nine hands, all of whom, it is feared, have been lost, as parts of the boats have been found. Masts, sails, and chests have been picked up at Minehead and Listock; and along the coast pieces of wreck have been washed ashore. The Invoice was the property of Mr. Evans, harbour-master of Plymouth.

**CRUELITIES ON BOARD AN AMERICAN SHIP.**—An inquest has been held at Liverpool on the body of a young Dutchman, about nineteen years of age, belonging to the American ship Guy Mannering. He was so frightfully ill-used on the passage of the ship to Liverpool that he died shortly after being brought ashore and taken to the hospital. His body presented a dreadful spectacle, owing to the injuries which had been inflicted. The jury have returned a verdict of Manslaughter against the second and third mates and the boatswain. The two latter have been committed for trial; the first named is still at large. The third mate, who is a young man respectably connected in Liverpool, cried like a child when the verdict was given.

#### OBITUARY.

**REAR-ADMIRAL ROBERT HENLEY ROGERS** died at Plymouth on Thursday week. He entered the navy in the spring of 1796, and was placed on the list of retired rear-admirals in June, 1851. He distinguished himself in the expedition against New Orleans during the last American war.

**MR. PELHAM**, the solicitor, who for the last seven-and-twenty years has been more especially distinguished as an advocate in connexion with shipping and mercantile cases, died at his residence in Arbour-square, Stepney, last Saturday morning, in his fifty-sixth year.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

**SUICIDE.**—Mr. Thomas Higgs, coroner for the Duchy of Lancaster, and formerly for many years deputy coroner for London, has committed suicide in Crosier-street, Lambeth, by swallowing essential oil of almonds. For some time past he had been suffering from illness and despondency. An indented inquisition paper, such as jurors sign at inquests, was found hanging to the top of his bedstead: it contained the following notice in Mr. Higgs's handwriting:—"20th of August, 1856. I seem dying from cholic, with stoppage in the bowels of long standing. In the event of my being unable to transact business at inquest, please refer the constables to my deputy, W. John Payne, Esq., 2, Tanfield-chambers, Temple. The inquest account is in small boxes in the back room. Taplett's Charity papers in boxes—one in front room, the other in the back room. My friend, I know, would kindly see to my papers. The general and some principal papers are in drawers on the sideboard. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts will attend to my wants in emergency. (Signed), Thos. Higgs, born 7th of February, 1787; appointed deputy-coroner for Westminster in 1818; appointed to the Duchy of Lancaster by patent dated 17th March, 1828; second patent, October, 1830."—An inquest has been held on the body of Mr. Gurney, which, as we mentioned last week, was found in the Regent's Canal, near Camden-town, and has terminated in a verdict of suicide under the influence of temporary insanity. His watch and rings, which were at first supposed to be missing (an idea which gave rise to suspicions of violence), have since been found at his house. Mr. Gurney was possessed of considerable property, and his motive for killing himself does not appear.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.**—A meeting for the purpose of making a call was held last Saturday in Vice-Chancellor Kindersley's chambers. It appeared that the debts of the company are 554,000*l.*, and that the assets are computed to realize 280,000*l.*, with a doubtful item of 40,000*l.* in respect of the Cefn Iron Works in South Wales, in which no certainty could be placed. The official manager proposed to make a call of 75*l.* per share upon the shareholders already settled upon the list, and representing 1507 shares, which call it was estimated would produce about 100,000*l.*—A call to the amount specified was subsequently made.—An examination in bankruptcy of a number of shareholders who refuse to pay the call of 50*l.* a share took place on Monday. The original paid-up capital of the bank was 50,000*l.*: this was afterwards doubled. It is now contended by many who were induced to subscribe the second 50,000*l.* that they were influenced by false representations amounting to fraud, and that therefore they have in fact a claim on the bank, instead of there being any rightful claim on them. One of the shareholders observed: "A call of 75*l.* per share has been made by the official manager, a call of 50*l.* has been made by the official assignee in bankruptcy, and a call of 50*l.* was made by the directors of the bank just after its stoppage. He was so confounded that he did not know what course he ought to take, which call ought to be paid, or to whom he ought to pay it." Another said he had been told by the solicitor for the official manager that, if he paid the call of 50*l.* to the Court of Bankruptcy, he would compel him to pay it again. The proceedings were adjourned.—At the Court of Bankruptcy, on Tuesday, a petition to annul the bankruptcy against the Royal British Bank was presented on behalf of Mr. Humphrey Brown, M.P. The petition is to be heard on the 21st inst.—An application by a solicitor, made before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd, for an order upon the assignees to allow him (the solicitor) to peruse the deed of settlement of the company, in order to ascertain who was the attesting witness to the signature of a person alleged to be a shareholder, was met by a refusal to give the permission sought for.

**ALLEGED DEPORTATION OF FRENCH OUTCASTS.**—A man named Emile Trieste, stating himself to be an Italian merchant, was charged before Mr. D'Eyncourt with having been found in the rear of a house, apparently with a dishonest purpose. He denied this imputation, and said that he had been a merchant of Lyons, but that, having fallen into difficulties, he had been expatriated in common with numerous others in the same condition, and that he had been wandering about for a month, perfectly destitute. Mr. D'Eyncourt remarked that the attention of the Government ought to be directed to the case, if the allegations were true; and he discharged the accused.

**EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON.**—During the occultation which occurred on Friday week (say the daily papers), the entire disc of Jupiter was projected, by some extraordinary refraction, on to the obscure surface of the moon, which was distinguishable at the time; the planet was again visible on the luminous portion of the moon before its real exit. This phenomenon, which was noted by Dr. Forster on the Continent, was ascribed by him to an extraordinary terrestrial refraction; but by other observers was referred to a lunar atmosphere. The effect was beautiful, and more satisfactory than the projection of Aldebaran on to the disc of the moon which the late Mr. Stephen Lee communicated to the Royal Society, and which he ascribed to "differential refraction." There will be another occultation of a star in Leo on the 5th of March, to which the attention of astronomers will be directed, for the phenomenon bears closely on the disputed question of an atmosphere about the moon.

**THE REPRESENTATION OF WEST KENT.**—The vacancy caused in the representation of West Kent will bring Sir Walter Riddell into the field, as a Conservative candidate. The Tories of West Kent say they have the greatest confidence in his success. But the Liberal party, let us observe, have shown great activity in the registration courts since their defeat in 1852. Nothing, of course, will be done till after the funeral of Sir E. Filmer, the deceased member; but in the meantime both parties are preparing for an earnest and vigorous contest. The Liberal party will feel the loss of the prestige of Mr. Hodge's name. Mr. Hodge was defeated in 1852 by a decisive majority. The Liberal candidate now in the field is Mr. C. Martin, of Leeds Castle. He is understood to adopt the Liberal programme in every respect, except vote by ballot.—*Morning Star*.

**MR. DUNCAN M'LAREN AND THE "SCOTSMAN" NEWSPAPER.**—Mr. M'Laren has handed over the 400*l.* recovered by him in the action against the *Scotsman* to the governors of Heriot's Hospital, to be applied by them to the founding of an annual prize for good conduct, in connexion with the out-door Heriot schools.—*Glasgow Examiner*. [It should here be mentioned that the fine was paid by subscriptions among the supporters of the *Scotsman*.]

**ALDERMAN FAREBROTHER** is so seriously indisposed that but slight hopes are entertained of his recovery.—Mr. Baron Alderson is also very ill.

**MR. SALT AND THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY.**—The dismissal by the London and North-Western Railway Company of their goods manager at Manchester, Mr. Salt, has induced that gentleman to issue a pamphlet in self-defence. From this it

appears that, although Mr. Salt was for several years regarded as a model railway official—though he had frequently received praise from high quarters, and had been complimented for doing work that "required the energies of three men"—he discovered, about last September (and even then only on the information of some of his subordinates), that he was under the surveillance of the company's private police, his house being watched, and all his movements noted. He also learnt that public rumour charged him with being a delinquent to the extent of 34,000*l.* On the 11th of September, Mr. Superintendent Beresford proceeded to affix seals upon certain parts of the premises under Mr. Salt's control. Mr. Salt demanded an explanation; a committee of three directors was appointed; and at the second meeting a draught of a minute was read, recommending his dismissal. At the same time, he was informed that if he would resign the minute should be withdrawn. Mr. Salt refused, and demanded an inquiry into his conduct by third parties (he states that he has reason to believe that the directors were acting upon some private and anonymous information); but his demand was refused, and on the 14th of October he received an intimation that his services were dispensed with. He endeavoured to ascertain the cause of his dismissal; but the directors "saw no reason for acceding to his request." He then wrote to the secretary and the general manager for a testimonial to his character. This also was refused; and on the 9th of December Captain Huish informed Mr. Salt that the Marquis of Chandos considered it "unnecessary to add anything to the minutes of the board."

**THE CRYSTAL PALACE POULTRY SHOW.**—For the first three days of the present week the visitors at the Crystal Palace have had an opportunity of viewing a large collection of live poultry, rabbits, &c. 1270 separate pens of animals, each pen generally containing three specimens, were set up in the south wing, on the visitors' route from the railway terminus to the inner parts of the building. The exhibition, to which several fashionable persons contributed, was under the personal superintendence of Mr. William Houghton, who has greatly interested himself in the rearing of poultry. The appearance and condition of the birds gave great satisfaction to the connoisseurs who attended.

**THE CASE OF ARCHDEACON DENISON.**—Mr. H. Hill, in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday, moved for a rule calling upon the judge of the Court of Appeal for the province of Canterbury, Sir J. Dodson, to show cause why a *mandamus* should not issue directing him to admit the libel of appeal from the decision of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the case of Archdeacon Denison, and to proceed to hear and determine such appeal. A rule *nisi* was granted.

**SWYNFEN v. SWYNFEN.**—Judgment in this case was given by Mr. Justice Crowder in the Court of Common Pleas on Monday. The plaintiff, Mrs. Swynfen, claimed an estate, worth about 60,000*l.*; but at the trial her counsel (Sir Frederick Thesiger) had compromised the case, as she said, without her sanction and against her wish, and she refused to carry out the terms of the compromise. An application was made for an attachment to compel her to carry out the arrangement, and the rule was now discharged, but without costs. The bench were of opinion that no special authority was given to Sir Frederick Thesiger to act as he did, and conceived that precedent was in favour of discharging the rule. "By so doing," said Mr. Justice Crowder, "we shall not preclude the defendant from endeavouring to establish the validity of the agreement in a court of law or equity, from whose judgment an appeal will lie to the highest tribunal. I would only add, that I desire that I may not be supposed, from anything I have said, to consider the plaintiff's counsel did not exercise a sound discretion for the benefit of his client, or that the agreement was not more advantageous to her than the continuance of a doubtful conflict, in which defeat would have been the loss of everything; but still, I think she was entitled, if so minded, to have the issue, which the Master of the Rolls had sent for trial, disposed of by the verdict of a jury." The bench considered that the imputations against Sir Frederick Thesiger's character made by Mr. Kennedy (one of the counsel) simply told against him who uttered them. The intemperance of Mr. Kennedy's language was severely reprobated.

**A DOUBTFUL STORY OF ASSAULT.**—Considerable discussion has been excited in the neighbourhood of Croxton, Cambridgeshire, by a story put forth by a girl, named Susan Fox, living in service at Meadow Farm, who asserts that, as she was crossing Abbotsley-road, an elderly man suddenly darted upon her, and demanded her money. On her saying she had none, and calling out to a friend who was a little way off, the man made an attempt to cut her throat with a knife, which cut the skin but slightly. A cart was then heard approaching, and the man made off. A hue and cry, headed by a police superintendent, scoured the neighbouring country on hearing of the alleged outrage, but with no effect. Medical men differ as to whether the scratch on her throat was inflicted by the girl herself or not. It appears that she had a small pair of scissors in her pocket at the time; and the scratch is such as might have been inflicted by that instrument. By some it is suggested that the girl invented the story in order to avoid a return to her situation.

**ENGLISHMEN IN SLAVERY AT THE ISLAND OF FORMOSA.**—A letter received by the secretary of the Liver-

pool Underwriters' Association relates a remarkable story. In 1846, the *Kelpie*, opium clipper, was lost in the China seas, and all her crew and passengers were supposed to be drowned. Intelligence was lately received from China that the ring of one of the passengers had been offered for sale at Canton. Inquiries were instituted, which led to the discovery that the crew and passengers had not been drowned, but that they are now in a state of slavery on the Island of Formosa.

**SETTLED AT LAST.**—The celebrated cause, "*Salkeld, Clerk, v. the Parish of Crosby-upon-Eden*," has been brought to a conclusion, having lasted twenty-two years, and gone through the whole of our courts of law and equity. The suit was for green tithes. There was an intention of appealing to the House of Lords against a decision in favour of the parish given by the late Lord Chancellor Cottenham; but, at a meeting of the owners of property, held at High Crosby, it was resolved that Lord Cottenham's decision should be accepted as final. The company then partook of refreshment, and "*The Memory of Lord Chancellor Cottenham*" was drunk in respectful silence.

**SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH FOR THE PERSIAN GULF.**—It is with much satisfaction we are enabled to state that the Court of Directors have given their sanction to the construction of the submarine telegraph along the Persian Gulf. The portion of the line between England and the East Indies will be constructed by the East India Company, under the superintendence of Sir William O'Shaughnessy, while that passing through the Euphrates Valley will be laid down by the company bearing that name, and the remainder—namely, between Corfu and Antioch—is to be completed by the Mediterranean Company, with the assistance of Mr. Brete.—*Grindlay's Home News for India*.

**FIRE.**—The old mansion on Richmond-green, known as Hope House, and devoted for several years to a school for the education of daughters of naval officers, was destroyed by fire early on Sunday morning. The house having recently been purchased by the promoters of the new Cavalry College, a number of workmen had been actively employed in order that it might be opened for business on the 1st of February. The fire was discovered about half-past five in the morning, but, as little water could be obtained for nearly two hours, no portion of the mansion could be saved. It is supposed that the fire must have occurred from the carelessness of the workmen in leaving charcoal fires burning without any person to attend them. The mansion and premises are insured in the Sun and Phoenix Fire-offices.

**LOUIS KOSUTH** will deliver, at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, the 24th inst., a lecture on "*The Political State of Continental Europe*." He was requested to do so by the working classes of the town.

**THE NORFOLK RABBIT CASE.**—A memorial has been sent to the Home Secretary, praying for inquiry into the conduct of Lord Hastings and the Holt magistrates with reference to the "*Great Norfolk Rabbit Case*." It is understood that the magistrates have received an official communication on the subject, but its terms have not transpired.

**THE LATE MR. COLLETT AND THE GAME LAWS.**—We recently announced (says a weekly contemporary) the decease of Mr. John Collett, the late M.P. for Athlone, well known for his opposition to the game laws. He has, we hear, bequeathed to trustees 5000*l.*, the interest upon which, during seven years, is to be expended in paying the fines of offenders against the game laws. The law will probably interfere to bar this evidently illegal bequest; but in that case it reverts to his widow, who will doubtless act upon the benevolent and well-meant intentions of the testator, to soften the rigour of our game laws. Mr. Collett has left 1000*l.* free from legacy duty, to the Liverpool Financial Reform Association.

**THE WOOLWICH ARTISANS AND THE BALLOT.**—A densely crowded meeting was held on Wednesday evening at the Ratepayers'-hall, Woolwich, at which many hundreds of artisans, employed at the Arsenal and Dockyard, were present. Mr. Holland (a draughtsman at the Dockyard), in an able address, urged upon the electors to support no candidate opposed to the Ballot. (*Cries of "We must have it."*) He concluded by proposing a resolution, pledging the meeting not to support any candidate who would not vote for the ballot and an extension of the suffrage. The motion was carried by acclamation. A resolution was also unanimously carried to the effect, "That General Codrington, being opposed to these principles, was unfit to represent that borough."

**WATERFORD AND MILFORD POSTAL COMMUNICATION.**—The Irish mails are to be conveyed across the Channel by the Neyland and Waterford steamers, for which purpose arrangements are being entered into by the Post-office authorities. In the first instance, the conveyance will be three times a week. This arrangement will effect the saving of considerable time in the interchange of correspondence between the south of England and the south of Ireland. The present Admiralty Pier at Hobb's Point will once more be used for the embarkation of the passengers and the mails. At Neyland terminus the works are progressing well; the double line of rails is being laid down from Haverford-west, and the shipping conveniences are being carried out to meet the great traffic which is so rapidly developing itself in the haven.



**THE COURT.**—The first of the theatrical performances at Windsor Castle for this season took place on Thursday evening, when *The School for Scandal* was performed, with a very brilliant cast; and we are glad to see the name of Mr. Wigan among the actors. He has recovered, we trust, from his late severe illness.

## Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, January 17.

### THE AUSTRIANS IN ITALY.

In Milan there is a statue of St. Bartholomew, who suffered martyrdom by being flayed alive. In that condition he has been represented by the sculptor. A Milanese youth, not long ago, went to this statue by night, and wrote upon the pedestal the inscription, "The Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom." He was afterwards detected, and has been sentenced to a long term of imprisonment. This anecdote we have derived from an authentic source.

### SWITZERLAND.

The German papers publish the text of another Austrian despatch. This despatch is dated 6th of January. It is addressed to the Austrian Envoy at Berlin, and is a reply to the communication by which the Prussian Government informed the other governments of its resolution to adjourn the mobilisation of the Prussian army till the 15th of January. The Vienna despatch expresses its gratification, and the hope that, should meantime no arrangement be concluded, the wisdom of King Frederick William would not refuse a further adjournment of any aggressive measures.

### CHINA.

A six-oared pinnace belonging to the American vessel *Portsmouth* was fired upon by the Chinese from some forts near Canton, without any provocation. The fire was very brisk; but the Americans escaped without injury. The *Portsmouth* thereupon shelled the forts, and retired. Satisfaction within twenty-four hours was demanded of Yeh.

Of our affair with Yeh, we read in the *China Mail*:—"After the capture of the Bogue forts, the Calcutta and Nankin remained behind for the purpose of blowing them up—no easy job; and the fort at Ty-cock-tow, having fired upon the *Hornet*, Captain Stewart took possession of it on the 16th of November, after driving out the Chinese, and spiked its fifty-five guns."

### RUSSIA.

The *Osservatore Triestino* professes to confirm some news given by the *Triest Zeitung* relative to the occupation of the islands on the eastern coast of the Caspian Sea. Some years since, Russia 'borrowed' the island of Dagada from Persia, as a station against the Turcoman pirates. The pirates were long ago annihilated, but the island in question, which is at the mouth of the Oxus, is still in the hands of Russia.

### PROPERTY AND INCOME-TAX ASSOCIATION.

A great central meeting for promoting the objects of this association will be held at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday evening, January 21st, when several Members of Parliament and representatives from most of the large provincial towns will attend. Admission by tickets only. Subscription, One Shilling and upwards.—Cyrus Francis Buott, Hon. Sec.

### THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY FRAUDS.

#### CONVICTION OF REDPATH.

Leopold Redpath and Charles James Comyns Kent were tried yesterday (Friday), at the Central Criminal Court, for fraud and forgery on the Great Northern Railway Company. Kent was at first ordered to retire, and Redpath was then tried singly on one of the cases of forgery. Of this he was found guilty, but sentence was postponed till after the issue of the next indictment. Redpath and Kent were then tried on a charge of feloniously forging and uttering a transfer to George Sidney, with intent to defraud. The Jury found a verdict of GUILTY against Redpath, and ACQUITTED Kent. At this there was applause. Redpath was sentenced to transportation for life. The other indictments were withdrawn.

**GREAT FIRE AT SHADWELL.**—A fire of considerable magnitude raged yesterday morning in Lower Shadwell, at the premises of a ship chandler. The flames broke out in the back warehouses, used as a tarpaulin manufactory: these were nearly seventy feet long, of great width and height. The surrounding houses were seriously menaced, and it was long before the conflagration was got under. The cause is unknown. The loss will fall on the Phoenix Fire Office.

**WRECK OF THE BRITON STEAMER.**—By the South-Western steamer from Jersey, which arrived at Southampton yesterday morning, the crew of the Briton steamer, belonging to the Union Steamship Company, have reached there. They bring intelligence of the foundering of the Briton off Cape Ushant, sixty miles south-west of the cape, on Sunday last, at six A.M.

### NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

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

# The Leader.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1857.

## Public Affairs.

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

### THE UNEMPLOYED.

THE working classes, it is said, are unfit for the exercise of power. But they have immense power,—a power of mischief, which they do not employ. If they were unfit for that which is withheld from them, they would make use of that which they do possess, and which might, at any moment, establish Terror throughout England. Nearly one-fourth of the working population of London are now without employment. Twenty-six thousand men and boys connected with the building trade alone have nothing whatever to do. Thousands of men have applied, in one day, at the docks, for the labour that will nourish their families, in these damp and chilly days. What then? If they were as ignorant as the Frenchmen of the sixteenth century, they would follow some *Jacques Bonhomme* and burn the habitations of the rich. If they were governed like Frenchmen of the present day, they would placard the walls with "Workmen wanted to sweep out the Tuileries." WAT TYLER and JACK CADE would be their statesmen—indeed they might have worse. Instead of this, they legalize their proceedings by obtaining the official sanction of the City; they hold a vast meeting in Smithfield; they construct a rough platform upon an old sheep-pen; a journeyman carpenter takes the chair, and the unfortunate multitude deliberates formally as to the causes and remedies of its sufferings. Whatever may be the opinions of the gentry, it cannot be endured that one working man out of four should, every winter, struggle against starvation. He may not be right in his views, but something must be radically wrong in the country. However perfect our economical system, it does not spare these myriads of the population from periodical misery, which, if they were crazy or unscrupulous, would drive them into all kinds of excesses. It is mere cruelty to tell a ticket-of-leave man that he must find work when thousands of honest men compete against him, and fail. And it is mere folly to suppose that the class thus made destitute will not blame some other class for its afflictions. "Young man," said an economist to Mr. BOWEN, "if you don't find a knife and fork ready laid for you at Nature's table, it's time you died." But the young man ventures to dissent. Besides, he is not quite sure that Nature intended him to starve. Society, at least, professes not to accept this doctrine, which, highly respectable as it is, contains more real ferocity than any book in the Jacobin catalogue. Society constructs a Poor-law, opens Unions, and announces that no person in the Three Kingdoms need be without food or employment. But the householders take the poor into their charge, and convert their dole into a degradation. The hideous word *pauper* is

attached to the inmate of the Union; "he has been a pauper" is scarcely less a stigma than "he was once convicted." The uniform allotted and the work supplied are the meanest possible; and, if the poor prefer outdoor relief, how are they treated? They stand, in cold and wet, upon the pavement, until Mr. Overseer is ready. If houseless women seek the shelter of a casual ward, they are kept outside, in the dark, half-frozen, or soaked with rain, until eight o'clock, and, when admitted, lie down upon dirty straw, or other materials which would literally disgrace a kennel. No waiting-room is provided; and the sleeping ward is often a breeding-place of crime, fever, and pestilence. This account is free from the slightest alloy of exaggeration. Every careful reader of the newspapers will remember that within a few weeks numerous cases have been before the magistrates which justify every word we have used.

The working classes should remember, if other classes forget it, that the Poor-law is their property. It is their share in the public income. They have as much right to it as a landlord to his rents. Mr. M'KEITH put this very clearly at Smithfield. He said, "Let us go to the workhouse and demand relief. The relieving officer will, perhaps, offer us a loaf. Well, let us take it home and eat it, and then go and ask for another." It is altogether an error on the part of a workman to pledge his clothes and tools before he solicits relief. The Poor-law Board is the public Benefit Society, to which he, no less than the rich man, has subscribed in prosperous times. He is merely receiving back his deposit, in full or otherwise, with interest or without it. The relieving officer, if he assumes any airs of authority or contempt, is an unembroidered flunkey, and ought to stand in a red coat and yellow breeches behind a gentleman's carriage. When the working classes work the Poor-law to the letter, the other classes, astonished by the weight of the burden in times of scarcity, will call a meeting, not at Smithfield, and consider how they may commute the tax.

How to commute it, however? If they disregard the question, it will not be disregarded in another quarter. Mr. FLEXANT, a house-painter, is out of employment for eight weeks. What does he do? He "studies the existing arrangements of society," he says. He and his class, therefore, organize "The National Association of Unemployed Operatives," which, if properly constituted and directed to sensible objects, will become a power in the State.

The Smithfield meeting advanced to the discussion of certain topics connected with the land and with the game-laws. The game-laws we hold to be relics of Norman barbarism and feudal piracy. The other questions we lay aside for the present; but we shall recur to them, in order that the social projects of the working classes may receive a close, free, and calm analysis.

Meanwhile, let the working classes employ the great engine which they possess—the Poor-law. It will expand under pressure. Let them consider it as *their* National Debt, and when they are in distress let them apply for their dividends as boldly as though they were Long Annuityants.

### MARRIAGE ANOMALIES.

COULD "all the World and his Wife" assemble a family meeting in which every one should tell the story of his wooing and his wedding, what strange stories we should hear! How different in many cases would be the narrative from the expectation! Perhaps, however, the most curious and interesting part of the statement would consist in

the different manners and customs of different countries, the totally dissimilar principles and objects which people propose to each other in the several parts of the world. We may trace the varieties to the different circumstances, social, political, or even economical. It would be necessary, in the present state of the world, to draw conclusions from very broad premises indeed, and not to attempt to draw them too strictly. In this country we most usually allow something to personal inclination; perhaps in the vast majority of cases liking is supposed to be the real motive of the marriage; but even in this country we could parallel some of the strangest incidents of foreign lands.

A Canadian paper relates how a respectable German, who resides at Toronto, "came to this city [Rochester] a day or two since, to get him a wife." He was a widower with three children, and he wanted some one to take charge of his household. Accordingly, "he made honourable proposals to some girls about town," but without success. Girls in Rochester apparently do not catch at eligible marriages! "At last he applied to Mr. DUFFEE, Superintendent of the County Poor, who took him to the County-house, and there introduced him to a clever German girl about twenty years of age. After some consideration, she accepted the offer;" and at four o'clock the couple were "united by Police Justice MOORE, and set off immediately for Toronto, apparently well pleased with each other." Here was marriage before wooing; and, considering all the circumstances, it is possible that if the Germans were sensible and good-hearted, the circumstances of a colonial life might contribute to cultivate a very fair amount of attachment. Well, that incident happened to Germans in Canada, but we know the exact parallel in England, and not in humble life. A gentleman, who has a title, paid a short visit to his native country in passing from one appointment to another. His receptions had lacked the adornment of a lady president, and he resolved to pick up one in passing. He accepted invitations to parties, and at a dinner party discovered the very object of his search. He proposed, was accepted, and now presents to a numerous and loyal public the very model of an English household.

When the war broke out in France, a gentleman was summoned to accompany his regiment. A lady had conceived a very strong attachment to him; and he must, in some degree, have encouraged that attachment, since in consenting to a 'spiritual' union, he confessed that the lady had some claim upon him. She pleaded that he might be killed, and might never return, and that she had a strong desire to be so far united with him under the Church. Accordingly, the very hour before his departure they were joined in matrimony by a worthy cleric. The soldier did his duty in the field of battle, and came back; but returning with a cool head, and reflecting more deliberately upon the union, he appears to have seen the objections more strongly than the advantages. At all events the spiritual union was not followed by a civil union. The lady naturally thought this uncivil; and, like SAPPHO of old, she pursued the retiring lover with importunities; only instead of couching her Sapphics in verse, she embodied them in a process for "restitution of conjugal rights." Practically the husband pleaded that the lady had obtained possession of him on false pretences,—that the union was effected with a view to the contingencies of the battle-field, and on spiritual grounds, and he was willing enough to accept the sentimental relation, but declined to accompany his concession with the endowment of his goods and chattels. The court held the de-

fence to be good, and the judge declared the lady to be an ARTEMISIA—only with a *live* MAUSOLUS! "How French!" we cry: yet, not long since, a case of breach of promise occurred in the English courts, very close in resemblance to this French case, and not altogether unprecedented in this country.

The *Siècle* tells a romance of real life, which may serve as a comment on the German-Canadian marriage and its dangers. M. CHARLES V—, the son of a wealthy merchant in Paris, was married to Mademoiselle EUGÉNIE D—, only daughter of a manufacturer. Everything was calculated to make the union happy—with one exception. The wedding was brilliant, the banquet sumptuous, the ball in the evening splendid. In the midst of the dancing, however, the husband disappeared, and on her toilet-table the wife found a packet of letters and this note:—

"Madame,—If I had no right, in marrying you, to expect a sincere affection, since we were but little acquainted with each other, I, however, looked for a heart which had never throbbed for another, and which I might by assiduity and tenderness in the end make my own. But a long series of letters from you to another man have just been placed in my hand—letters which prove that if you give me your hand, your affection has been given to another. I cannot, madame, accept such an arrangement, and as I am unable to rend asunder the bonds which have joined us a few hours since, I am determined to protest at least by my absence against the union which I have contracted; and the first day of your marriage shall be the first also of a widowhood which shall only terminate by the death of one of us. Adieu, madame, for ever!"

How many presumptions do we detect in this letter! The gentleman evidently expected to find in the lady nothing but the raw material which he could mould to his own liking; a passive, plastic clay. What right he had to such a *purchase* we don't know; but in France the right seems to be conceded. Next day the bride was discovered dead in her chamber, from the fumes of charcoal; and on the table lay this other note:—

"Monsieur,—It is I who am in the wrong, and it is I, therefore, who ought to offer a reparation. I give you the only one that is in my power—I restore to you your liberty, and I expire imploring your pardon."

The woman was a sacrifice to system; but perhaps in this case the sacrifice is only more obvious and palpable than it is in many others. Many a wife, driven into marriage against her will, undergoes a continuous death in life, worse to bear than speedy extinction by charcoal. We know, and could relate, other cases, both in England and in France, resembling this in everything but the catastrophe. Not long since, a wedding party was assembled in church; the assemblage probably was as brilliant as that described in the story of the *Siècle*, the whole party was as gay, the match was as suitable, and that which was absent in the story just told was present in the case which we are relating—the young couple were understood to be seriously attached to each other. They approach the altar, the ceremony proceeds; the dignitary of the Church whose office it is asks the lady, in her turn, whether she will take the bridegroom to be her wedded husband. Amazement and consternation, when deliberately but distinctly she answers, "No!" There is, of course, 'a scene.' What can be her motive? They can the less guess, since, instantly afterwards, she disclaims her denial, and implores that the ceremony shall proceed. The indignant family of the bridegroom, however, refuse; the match is broken off, and the lady—for the scene occurs in France—has no refuge but the convent.

That scene occurred in France, and yet it occurred in England: with one slight difference, we might use exactly the words which we have just employed to tell the same story over again, except that the bride, instead of

suffering the ceremony to proceed, suddenly exclaimed, in the carriage that was bearing her to church, that her heart failed her—that she must return home. She did return home, leaving everybody to labour at the problem. What could have induced her to retract, when it was supposed that she was still attached to the bridegroom! What, indeed? The conjectures might be as varied as they are boundless. But that circumstance was not singular even in this country; and if all the World and his Wife held the family meeting which we have imagined, the same story would be told by many a bride, or non-bride, though with slight differences in the details.

"How French!" we cry at the scene made by the bride in church; yet the motives which interrupt the sacrifice at times are not limited to France. There is a certain constancy in these irregularities, and it would be an interesting social inquiry to trace, describe, and embody the anatomy of these anomalies.

#### THIS PICTURE AND THIS.

A KING OF NAPLES, abhorred by Europe, imprisons the noblest of his subjects in subterranean dungeons, flogs them, tortures them, engages Swiss mercenaries to domineer over them; is stigmatized by Mr. GLADSTONE as the instigator of inhuman cruelties, and by the *Times* as an abject bigot. His kingdom is full of melancholy and alarm.

A soldier of undeniably virtuous character, exasperated by private and public wrongs, impelled by self-devoted enthusiasm, strikes at the King with his bayonet, wounds him, and gives himself up without a struggle to certain death. The King, protected by the love of his subjects and a shirt-of-mail, goes home to be cured of his injury. 'His Majesty!'

The soldier is dragged to a dungeon, stripped, bound hand and foot, and hung from a beam, head downwards. For two hours he hangs in this position; lighted wisps of straw are applied to his head and face. He is then hung up by the ears—a torture not known, we believe, to Cardinal CARAFFA or the Blackfeet Indians. He is forced to dance on burning coals. Boiling water is thrown upon him, and then cold water. His shoulders are dislocated. He is scourged until his body is discoloured. Next, he is bound upon a plank, and dragged to the place of execution. There, in the face of day, he is so foully used, that a priest actually strikes his executioner. He is hung by the neck, and the King's official clings like a wild cat to his shoulders. 'Poor wretch!'

No one denies that MILANO was tortured; but some people deny that he was tortured in this particular way. Well, there are four historical methods of wringing false confessions from agony. Perhaps MILANO had his choice. But it is too ghastly a joke to speak of the tenderness of the torture-chamber. Once within that door, what matters it whether his limbs were bruised in 'the boot,' or his finger-nails plucked out, or his scalp raised like that of BEATRICE CENCI, or his tendons stretched upon a wheel, or his eyes started with a tight cord? The 'poor wretch' had pricked 'his Majesty,' and his Majesty does not keep a Cabinet *Inferno* for nothing.

#### IF ANDREWS, THEN KINGLAKE.

SOUTHAMPTON has elected Mr. RICHARD ANDREWS. The returning officer has not yet sent up his name to the House of Commons; but we understand that the majority of the electors have definitively made up their minds, and that their choice has fallen upon the townsman who was so many times their local chief magistrate.



Those who expected that Lord PALMERSTON'S testimonial would tell in favour of Mr. WEGUELIN are disappointed. There are several reasons for the resolve of the constituents. Mr. WEGUELIN'S friends have not managed well. The late Liberal representative had left the constituency in a mood very ill-satisfied, and any one from a distance would have found it difficult to steer his course so as to conciliate the offended constituency. By himself Mr. WEGUELIN might have done so; but his friends appear to have thrust him forward in a manner that hurt the pride of the electors. The consequence was a ready acceptance of every story that could be got up against him, including his former business connexion with Russia. No desire to sympathize with a Liberal constituency asserting its rights could make us join in the cry against a really able and distinguished man. Mr. WEGUELIN'S abilities have been attested by his own successes as well as by general repute. It is well known that the Russian Merchants of London desired a vigorous prosecution of the war, on the intelligible ground that it would thus be brought sooner to a termination; and it is equally well known that such was the opinion of Mr. WEGUELIN. Nevertheless, there is no denying that Mr. WEGUELIN had been a Russian Merchant. Again, he belongs to the suspicious class of Commissioners, holding a gratuitous appointment on the commission to settle the civil service superannuation. But, worst of all, he had the avowed good wishes of the Premier, ostentatiously brought forward by his own friends. What is this but 'dictation?' Here is the strongest motive which has determined the choice of the electors. Whatever attempts there may be to explain away Lord PALMERSTON'S expression of opinion, he *had* expressed an opinion, he *is* Premier, his letter was brought forward on the side of a Government Commissioner, he was dictating a stranger to the constituency, and he was disparaging RICHARD ANDREWS; who is as much the champion of Southampton at the present day, as Sir BEVIS OF HAMPTON was the champion of the district in the days of chivalry. If Sir BEVIS slew the dragon, Sir ANDREWS slays the WEGUELIN; and Southampton gives the palm to the man of its choice.

We have no objection to the choice, if the principle on which it is based were carried out somewhat further. We agree with those who say that Mr. WEGUELIN might be better able to assist the debates upon certain specific subjects; but the constituency of Southampton declines to consider the election a mere matter of debating. It insists upon having the constituency represented by a man of the people; it considers the House of Commons as intended chiefly to check the expenditure, and to control the Government in administration as well as in law-making. This is sound, constitutional sense; but we shall gain nothing in substituting Mr. ANDREWS for Mr. WEGUELIN, unless we can *carry out* the same principle, and replace class representation by national representation.

Mr. KINGLAKE handled this subject vigorously in addressing the electors of Newport, not a hundred miles from Southampton. The high offices of this country are unduly distributed among persons of particular families, belonging to a particular class of society, without due regard to their qualifications. As well select persons whose names begin with the letter 'A,' or who live in a particular street. The House of Peers, elected by the accident of birth, contains as large a proportion of able men as the House of Commons, which is *said* to be selected by

the people. The fault lies with the constituencies; they do not send their own representatives, still less the representatives of the unenfranchised class; but they accept the representatives of the classes which are called "above them;" and, elected by subservient constituencies, those *mis*-representatives go into the House of Commons impressed with the feeling that one class must bow to the other. As electors bow to members, members bow to Ministers. They believe that their own parliamentary existence depends upon maintaining the established order of things. They are paralyzed if they are told that any independent conduct on their part will cause a change of Government; that if they are too independent, England will be left with "no Government." "Now, what they really mean when they say that is, that England will be left without a Government selected from the accustomed class; but when the day comes that England is to be without a government of that kind," said Mr. KINGLAKE, "it will be a fortunate day, and not a day of danger; for it will be a day when the representatives of the people will overcome the domination of exclusive families."

If the constituencies desire to carry out the legitimate policy implied by the choice of ANDREWS rather than WEGUELIN, they ought to place KINGLAKE in the House of Commons; they ought to send other men to support ANDREWS and KINGLAKE; and then we might see a really popular party appointing its own Ministry for the people.

#### SMINTHEUS THE GREAT.

OUR lively neighbours, generically known as the "intelligent foreigner," and popularly immortalized by Mr. ALBERT SMITH, under the style and title of MOSSU, have had a hard time of it of late in their pursuit of the English language, and of English life and manners, under difficulties. The acrobatic performances on the English tongue of a distinguished contortionist, who happens to be afflicted with the name and inheritance of a great departed statesman, have not unnaturally created what is called a sensation among those ingenious continental aliens, who in their ignorance of the English language call London *Londres*.

If the spirits of the great departed could be perturbed in their sublime abode by the antics of foolish heirs, the shade of PEEL might well be thought to wince at that Adderley performance, and at the criticism of attentive Europe, but we may be permitted, without irreverence, to believe, that in their graves, at least, even statesmen rest, and that the serenity of Immortals is unruffled by the private griefs of public men. No, the fame of the father will survive the folly of the son; but in what degree our national reputation may be affected by the serious blunders of the intelligent foreigner, who takes hasty and occasional notes upon our institutions, is another and very different consideration. The popular instructor of Adderley, being a junior, and civil, Lord of the Admiralty, is at once set down by our Continental contemporaries as in some way or other connected with the helm of that terribly weather-beaten old Tub, the Vessel of the State. His words are peeled as if each contained a secret pearl, and all the dictionaries are ransacked in vain for the French equivalents of English slang. They do not understand that in an extraordinary mission which was designed to represent the living forces of English society, the clown (see "the divine WILLIAMS" *passim*) was properly included, and that the nearest French translation of the diplomatic PEEL is *Paillasse*. Accustomed to the mild felicities of sugared

water, they cannot grasp the toddy, to which neither the peel nor the acid juice are wanting. They are fairly bewildered at this 'Gent' of High Life, this *enfant terrible* of the political nursery, this PASQUIN of representative diplomacy.

In the frantic attempt to translate some of the choicest bits of Sir PEEL, they know not—how should they know?—that "soft sawder" belongs to the American, and not to the English language. They might, we think, have reasonably supposed the sometime representative of her Britannic Majesty at Berne and Madrid to be a linguist.

But, the truth is, our lively neighbours, who are essentially revolutionary in spite of their institutions, cannot realize one of the most marked features in our national character, which, in spite of our officious liberalism, makes us the best regulated and most conservative people on earth. We mean that sympathy with High Life which presides over our Court Circular, makes noble lecturers, such as the amiable and accomplished VANE TEMPEST, so acceptable to Town Halls and Institutes, and Baronets with 50,000*l.* a year, so witty and instructive. It is to this wholesome public sense of aristocratic condescension, far more than to the fun of the exposure, that the success of the performances at Adderley and Durham is to be attributed. Were it not for a conviction that the stability of our institutions depends upon the prevalence of this healthy public feeling, we should hesitate to point it out to foreign publicists. We beg our contemporaries over the water to cudgel their brains no longer about the language of PEEL, and respectfully suggest to that ALCIBIADES of the platform to divert the notice of the Athenians, if not by cutting off his dog's tail, at all events by shortening his own ears. We will do our best to create a diversion, by calling the attention of Continental conservatives, admirers of our fine old English institutions, to a very pleasing picture of our surviving feudalism in the harmless form it now wears in the Counties. Does the foreign publicist ever peruse an English provincial paper? If not, he can have no adequate idea of these conservative forces and influences alive among our rural population, which, like so many scattered rays of minor loyalties, concentrate themselves and culminate in the ardent loyalty of a free nation to a limited Throne. We take up one of the leading journals of the third commercial city of the kingdom, and what do we find in the last number of the *Bristol Times*? Up and down three mortal columns of close type a perfect eruption of SMYTH. Who or what, in the name of all the illustrious Obscure, and of all the magnificent Unknown, is the fortunate SMYTH that occupies three columns or so of a leading journal of the third commercial city in the British Empire? This is a question which the *rédacteurs* of the Paris journals may very fairly ask, and which we, for our part, shall have some difficulty in explaining to their satisfaction. The name of SMYTH is not unknown abroad, nor uncommon at home. Classical genealogists have traced the lineage of SMYTH to SMINTHEUS, a son of APOLLO, and we cheerfully surrender the point to the classical genealogists. But this will not satisfy the *Assemblée Nationale*. Only M. DE MONTALEMBERT could explain as succinctly, and we hope we may say as intelligibly as we are about to do, this sudden and tempestuous eruption of SMYTH in a Bristol journal. The simple fact, as we discover it with a curious eye, appears to be that an ingenuous and interesting young man has just left school, and succeeded to the name of SMYTH, and to a

considerable estate in the neighbourhood of Bristol. In short, this amiable young man has conferred upon his friends and neighbours the inestimable service of stepping into some 25,000*l.* per annum. Now this, in itself, is rather a personal and domestic fact than one of general interest, and it is only through the pages of the local journals that it falls into the domain of publicity. Many other SMYTHS or SMITHS (for the *y* is but a feeble distinction) might have come and gone without attracting the pen of that *vates sacer* of provincial celebrities, the Local Organ. It is the estate and the 25,000*l.* a year that bring fame and troops of friends. Two columns are devoted to the report of a dinner of J. H. GREVILLE SMYTH, Esq., to his tenantry; and it is really delightful to observe how any young man who is good enough to step into a large estate is surrounded by troops of friends. We entreat the attention of foreign publicists to this pleasant chapter of English rural life. As many as a hundred and seventy are present at the dinner. The Church, the Services, the House of Parliament, the Law, in short, all the respectable institutions which are our pride and glory, are represented at the table. But decidedly the most cheering 'feature' of the entertainment to the lover of his kind, is the abundance of good counsels so liberally bestowed upon the interesting hero of the feast. The Prodigal of Athens was not better surrounded (in the first act) than the adolescent SMYTH of our day. If TIMON had his crowd of senators, his poet, his painter, his tailor, and the rest, about his ante-chamber, the modern SMYTH has his Tory M.P., his 'manager,' his 'family solicitors,' his Bristol merchants, his agriculturists, and other purveyors of soap and 'sawder,' to crowd his festal banquet when he comes of age. SMYTH, like TIMON, has the world as his confectionary.

"— You see how all conditions, how all minds,  
As well of glib and slippery creatures, as  
Of grave and austere quality, tender down  
Their services—"

The burden of the song of the friends of SMYTH, as of the friends of TIMON, is, that "we are born to do benefits, and what better or properer can we call our own than the riches of our friends?" Mr. WILLIAM MILES, for instance, is the distinguished parliamentary sponsor of the ingenuous youth, and promises and vows that he will take the "lead in rural matters;" which being interpreted, signifies that the SMYTH interest will back the "Farmer's Friend," and support Mr. MILES in his favourite impersonation. Mr. MILES is one of that faithful band of Derbyites who at the last general election nailed the colours of Protection to the mast in support of a Ministry whose first act in office was to throw Protection to the winds; the war and other causes have kept up prices, however, and the farmers have not yet 'found out' Free Trade, or Mr. WILLIAM MILES.

The High Sheriff of Bristol returned thanks for the municipality; and in reply to some graceful allusions, from another speaker, to his peculiar functions, he proceeded to improve the occasion in the following style:—

"The High Sheriff returned thanks, and assured Mr. Fitz Way that his wish should be attended to. If he had to execute upon him the last penalty of the law, it should be performed with as delicate a consideration as possible to that gentleman's feelings. Even the courtesy of a silk rope might be conceded him when, like the Spaniard, he came to take his last drop (laughter), and it should not be his (the High Sheriff's) fault if he wanted for any civility that was consistent with the proper discharge of that painful duty. (Renewed laughter and cheers.)"

A very edifying after-dinner contribution to the crime and punishment discussion, and likely to impress the youthful SMYTH with an exalted conception of the duties of magis-

trates. Next, we find Mr. WILLIAM MILES again, who now appears in a new character. He has played with his accustomed ability the "Farmer's Friend" in the earlier part of the evening, and has now dressed for the part of the "Bristol Merchant." Proposing the "Trade and commerce of Bristol,"

"He hoped to see the commerce of Bristol not only maintain its ground, but expand; and referred to the projects of docks at the mouth of the river, and the desirability of completing local works like the Suspension Bridge; he hoped that Mr. Smyth would be willing to co-operate with the citizens, so far as in him lay, in doing what he could to advance suchlike works, and all undertakings for the benefit of Bristol. I trust (said the Chairman) that Providence will accord to your youthful host prosperity and length of days, and that he may live to see and participate in many schemes which will greatly conduce to the social improvement and commercial prosperity of the city of Bristol. I hope that he may live to see the two counties, Gloucester and Somerset, united by a noble bridge at Clifton, and that he will call in the hand of the architect to join art to nature on that lovely site. I hope he may live to see a railroad constructed from the present docks to new and more commodious docks at the mouth of our beautiful river."

These are valuable hints for a young man who has just come of age. He is recommended to "co-operate" in schemes which all the enterprise of Bristol merchants has been hitherto unwilling to attempt; and we note the persuasive figure of speech by which the schemes are introduced: "*I trust he may live to see.*"

The Suspension Bridge is an especially favourite topic with the many friends of this young gentleman. It is certainly a very pretty cure for a plethora of cash, this said Suspension Bridge, which has been so long suspended. The Corporation of Bristol, we believe, spent all the money that was bequeathed for the bridge by some misguided enthusiast, in a couple of brick piers, and tried by its piers the Corporation of Bristol is most assuredly found wanting. Apparently they have waited for the coming of age of a nice young man to complete their precious bridge. The bridge meets us at every turn in the report of the dinner. A Mr. SHAW, who, of all the speakers, seems to have the finest capacity for 'producing a lather,' conducts the youthful SMYTH through "the freshness and beauty of creation," "the sylvan scenery and soft vales of Somersetshire," only to bring him, by a circuitous approach, to the Suspension Bridge!

The toast of "Speed the Plough" brought up Mr. MILES (who is always ready to proceed to the most square-toed extremities of Bucolicism) once more; and at this period of the entertainment the excellent Farmer's Friend grows scientific, talks familiarly of steam-ploughs, and calls upon a Mr. JOHN SHATTOCK to return thanks. Mr. JOHN SHATTOCK makes the very sensible, if not strictly novel, remark, that there are three essentials to good farming, "well-selected manures, good clean seed, and plenty of labour," and sits down. Thereupon the domestic toasts. The 'family solicitors' are handsome enough to express unbounded confidence in their employer, and to compliment a Mr. WAY, who it appears has been 'manager' of the estate, on his satisfactory administration; in other words, impressing upon the mind of SMYTH that his Ways were Ways of pleasantness, and all their paths were peace. What an admirable institution, we pause to exclaim, is the "Family Solicitor!" At once a Conservative and a Radical institution. Is it not to the Family Solicitor that we owe that landed property in this country is even as much divided as it is, and does not perpetuate itself in families? The Family Solicitor is your true skeleton at the feast; an amiable, smiling skeleton, no doubt.

The City of Bristol is capitally represented

in Parliament by its present Liberal members, but a feeler has already been put out in favour of the young Mr. SMYTH, whose qualifications are a large fortune, and a mind not preoccupied by 'views' on public questions. He may be tempted to invest some of his loose capital, after co-operating in the Docks and other 'schemes,' and completing the Suspension Bridge, in the free and independent electors of the city of Bristol. Under the auspices of so many influential and disinterested advisers, we see no reason why he should not succeed in achieving a seat in the Legislature of his country. Let this be his ambition. His convivial speeches, as reported in the *Bristol Times*, display a seasonable modesty and a tolerable syntax. His feelings do not appear to have got the better of his grammar more than might be expected of a young man who, after all, has a right to be independent of LINDLEY MURRAY. With a WILLIAM MILES for his political, a SHAW for his commercial, and the "Family Solicitors" for his home department, a SMYTH is well recommended to the public service. At all events, we invite our foreign contemporaries to a view of this picture of English society. A young man has only to step into an estate to find himself encumbered with friends, ready to assist in the distribution of his patrimony. One man suggests a pack of hounds, another co-operation in docks and other 'schemes,' another and another the Suspension Bridge, while the "Family Solicitor" caps it all with an expression of 'unbounded confidence.' Here are all the conservative elements of our institutions. Ah well! Thrones totter and aristocracies decay, but the dynasty of SMITH—we beg his pardon—SMYTH—is not extinct, nor is the worship of wealth among the religions which have passed away. "O! what a precious comfort it is to have so many like brothers commanding one another's fortunes."—"No doubt, my good friends, but the gods themselves have provided that I shall have help from you. How had you been my friends else?"

#### BONNETS, MANTLES, DRESSES, AND BOOTS.

THE East becomes less Eastern daily, and the West more Oriental. The Grand Turk forsakes the magnificence of SULIMAN; the Shah is dingy; the Mogul is a pale pensioner. The silver battle-axes have disappeared from the pageants of Tartary; the Graces of Persia are abandoning their hair-binding nets of gold; the 'ivory-wristed' girls of Circassia no longer attire themselves in 'celestial rosy red!' But, as the East fades the West brightens. The Colourists are among us once more. Our ceilings are frescoed; on our walls are the ornaments of Pompeii; if the Hindus wear the sunrise, we wear the sunset; our gold is doubly-gilded; our lilies are painted so richly that all the epithets of all the poets would not describe them. We, womanly speaking, are a saffron-mantled, violet-embroidered, rose-crowned, golden-zoned, impearled, pink-and-azure people. Our language fails to express how gorgeous we are. We walk in gold-bordered shawls; we have basques or bretelles on our dresses; we dine in dove-coloured taffeta, with five rows of flounces, RAPHAEL boddices, Greek sleeves; our young EUPHROSYNES emerge from ball-rooms and theatres in mantles of blue or ruby velvet, embroidered in white silk, lined with white plush, and orientalized with a gold medallion fringe. The embroidery, our chronicle of beauty affirms, "resembles rivers of pearls or the rich shades of ruby, purple, sapphire, or emerald green." EUPHROSYNES wears, in the morning, a bonnet of cherry colour or Louise blue.



A little silken rainbow is on her neck; a golden serpent guards a turquoise on her wrist; she might trip over rocks and thistles without harm, in those costly and sensible boots of Balmoral, which have superseded, among us, the sandals of the white-footed classics. There is a rumour that more material is in future to be used in the bonnet, and less in the skirt, so that EUPHROSYNE will better preserve the rich colour of her hair, which fades in the light, and will more successfully assert her sisterhood to the Graces, who never wore hoops. Hoops, the authorities announce, are to be abolished, having failed, like the wood-pavement.

A conscientious contemporary, however, has taken all the EUPHROSYNES to task, not for copying all the colours in a cathedral window, but for rendering needlework a complex art. It is difficult to interfere without committing as many blunders as a civilian discoursing on strategy; but it is the lily itself that makes a sacrifice when lost in a Field of the Cloth of Gold. The Queen of OUDE must wear a Golconda of rubies and a Persia of pearls to decorate the dark austerity of her countenance; but why should our EUPHROSYNE wear African earrings, Assyrian mantles, Bayadere drapery, or the jewels of NOURMAHAL? Or, if she does, why not add the little golden bells of Arabia, and the little golden coins of Faristan, and the kohl of Egypt (instead of the deadly belladonna), and the mirrors of Barbary, and henna dye, and campac blossoms? The *Daily News* will ask what is all this to end in at Christmas; but we might as well ask the typical lily of our land to turn black as to put away "those sweet thoughts she thinks, of violets and of pinks," or to forget (if she ever knew it) that, as in the Malayan tongue a woman and a flower are synonymous, if one is a bluebell, another might as well be a rose. Instead of joining in this cold crusade against milliners' bills, we say, Study taste more and fashion less; dress as richly as you please, so that your splendour be graceful; and, if you cannot emulate the Indian lady, who imprisoned a thousand fireflies in her skirt of gauze, let the needle do all it can with the silk and the dyes of the East. Dressmakers, instead of calling your profusion cruel, will be glad of the employment that abounds in a gay season. The claim they have is, that when EUPHROSYNE is going to Court or to a fancy ball, she shall plan her costume soon enough to give the poor work-girl time to finish it, without wasting her life away by night, wearing out her heart by bending twelve hours together over the fabric of lace and lustre that is to sweep over Aubusson carpets, under 'rich roofs embossed,' and constellations of light in opal and crystal globes. It is cruel to say that a delicately-nurtured girl is heartless, when she is only ignorant of the slavery that is ordered in her name. What does *she* see of the sempstress? She enters a West-end shop, more brilliant, perhaps, than her own boudoir; her orders are received by a glittering lady; not one of the pale dressmakers appears. *They* are out of sight. The dress comes home; the wearer is delighted; the maker, perhaps, faints; but the maker and the wearer stand apart. The one has not been taught to reflect upon the necessities of the other.

Has she been taught even to know when she appears beautiful or not? Does she, in fact, care for beauty so much as for fashion? We submit that some of the present combinations of Greek sleeves, RAPIHAEL bodices, Bayadere skirts, basques, bretelles, epaulettes, lacings, flouncings, feathers, and 'solid-gold buttons,' of taffeta, silk, velvet (Terry and other), chenille, embroidery,

"resembling rivers of pearls," and "medallion fringe," have more affinity with Bash-Bazoukism than with the grace of our pure EUPHROSYNE. ETTY, when he went to Venice, could not find a box of colours; but even TITIAN, when he lived there, could not have found colours to reflect the full-dress of certain English circles. If our costume is to come to that, let each, for the sake of consistency, revert to doublets of green and amber, and cavalier hats and plumes.

#### AN ACCIDENT IN LANARKSHIRE.

THE new member for Hamilton Palace is Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE. Lanarkshire looked on, but said nothing, while Mr. INGLIS and Mr. CHANCELLOR pretended to be asking for the suffrages of the electors. There are no electors in the county. The Duke of HAMILTON is the hereditary Lord Protector of the population, and Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE is one of his delegates. Mr. COCHRANE, however, was anxious for a cheer, and suddenly promulgated, to all whom it might concern, that he hated despotism, and pined for the emancipation of the world. In fact, he has been reading his own book on Italy, and discovers that he never was a flatterer of the Italian despots, or a libeller of the Italian Liberals. He *was*, however, though he says he was not, and he may paraphrase this as he pleases. He defended the King of NAPLES without reserve. He defended the Papacy. He declared that the Roman Republic was established and guarded by "foreigners." Of the hundred and fifty members of the Constituent Assembly, there were only seven who were not citizens of the Roman States. Of the fourteen thousand who fought during the siege, at least twelve thousand were Romans, while about two thousand were Lombards, Tuscans, or citizens of other Italian States—not such "foreigners" as protect the POPE and the King of NAPLES. Their leaders governed Rome for five months, and while in power condemned not one man to death for a political offence, and exiled no one on suspicion. They even allowed PANTOLONI and MAMMAM, their avowed enemies, all the privileges of the Republic. What would be thought of us if we described LOUIS NAPOLEON as CALIGULA without his courage? Yet Mr. COCHRANE wrote that the Roman revolution only differed from the Reign of Terror in being conducted by men of greater bravery and more determination. The largest and wealthiest constituency in Scotland finds itself suddenly represented by this person. It has no choice. As Buteshire is humiliated by the prerogative of the BUTES, and Dumfriesshire by the prerogative of the QUEENSBERRYS, so Lanarkshire is the fief of the HAMILTONS; there are no forty-shilling freeholds there; the little man is selected by the great house, and the premier peer of Scotland enlists a new soldier for his body-guard in the Commons. He is a Duke with a double title, a Marquis with a treble title, an Earl with a treble title, a Baron with an eightfold title, and a Member of Parliament by deputy. What has Lanarkshire to balance against the claims of this clustered pillar of the peerage? It is merely a vast county, with an area of more than six hundred thousand acres, a population of *half a million*—and not *three thousand five hundred* registered electors. The truth is, that the electoral system in Scotland is worse than our own.

Nearly every Scottish county is an Old Sarum of private influences, where the tenants-in-chief of the Crown and fifty-seven years leaseholders and lifeholders are parcelled out as the property of those singularly narrow-minded individuals, the Scottish

Dukes. It is really time that the Highlands and Lowlands should talk of reform. What can Glasgow think of such a political partner as Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE, the slave of the HAMILTON Aladdins? And what does Mr. COCHRANE think of himself, after eating the Italian toad, and waking up to find himself once more a Member of Parliament? The affair is accidental; but the country is liable to such accidents. You may buy a seat in the House of Commons, or some one may give it to you; but it rarely happens that you are a constitutionally-elected representative.

#### COUNSEL AND CLIENT.

A most important political principle was decided in the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday, settling the rights of laymen as distinguished from lawmen. Mrs. SWYNFEN claimed an estate of 60,000*l.* under the will of SAMUEL SWYNFEN; and the heir-at-law contested the reality of this bequest. Mrs. SWYNFEN's attorney was a Mr. SIMPSON, her counsel Sir FREDERICK THESIGER. Circumstances came out which induced Sir FREDERICK to think that Mrs. SWYNFEN's interest would be best served by accepting a compromise offered on the other side, 1000*l.* a year. Her attorney appears to have agreed in the *opinion*, and she consented so far as to promise that she would consider the subject. She went out of town, and telegraphed a message signifying her dissent. Nevertheless, when the case came on in court, Sir FREDERICK stated that it had been arranged out of court; and subsequently proceedings were taken to declare Mrs. SWYNFEN "in contempt," and to compel her to carry out the arrangements! It was contended, on the part of Sir FREDERICK THESIGER, that a counsel is invested with a general agency, that the arrangement was clearly for the interest of Mrs. SWYNFEN, and that as he had accepted it in his discretion, she was bound.

Mr. Justice CROWDER laid down the law distinctly. A client is bound by the acts of his counsel, when those acts are in the ordinary course of law; because it is presumed that the client has entrusted his counsel to carry out the cause in a regular manner. But, by a strict application of the same principle, the client is not bound by his counsel in any *extraordinary* course without special instructions. "A client," said Mr. Justice CROWDER, "might think a particular barrister an excellent advocate, and might, therefore, employ him, but might have no confidence in his power as a negotiator of the terms of compromise." The distinction settles the case.

Mrs. SWYNFEN, therefore, is not to be punished for having refused to carry out an agreement which she had always repelled. She is permitted to carry on the cause at whatever risk. Sir FREDERICK THESIGER, indeed, appears to take seriously Lord ELDON's dictum, that if any man claimed a field from him, he would give it up so that the concession were kept secret, rather than carry on proceedings at law.

But, for Heaven's sake, let us exercise our own discretion in carrying out the dictum of ELDON. Law and lawyers are formidable enough; but what frightful slavery should we all have been handed over to, if the High Court of Justice had laid down the rule that as soon as we employed a counsel he is our master, and we no better than his wards. Counsel 'confer' together; they 'arrange' matters: what wonderful division of 'my client's' property might not have been carried out, if the THESIGER principle had been recognised, and its working duly developed.

## 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

### EHE DENISON CONTROVERSY.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

TO THE LORD BISHOP OF EXETER.

MY DEAR LORD,—Ever since I had the privilege of being admitted to your Lordship's presence, I have felt the greatest confidence in your Lordship's kindness and consideration, and I pray that the Church of England may enjoy for many, many years longer your powerful support in these times of heartless persecuting and shallow evangelicalism on the one hand, and barefaced infidelity on the other, with cold formality in religion in many quarters; for we are living, indeed, in critical times of the Church.

There is a perpetual dread of Superstition, whilst scarcely any fears are ever expressed of Infidelity!

My Lord, is it not a remarkable fact, that while we find the word "*Superstition*" used only twice in the whole Bible, and then *unaccompanied* with rebuke, Infidelity ("*unbelief*") is mentioned with horror and condemnation many hundreds of times?

There is a great boasting of the march of civilization and of intellectual progress, whilst in spite of them the most atrocious and desperate outrages, even murders, are daily committed in the streets of the metropolis opposite Exeter Hall, where they thunder against Popery and Superstition in the open day! And the Churches seem to forget that the Deluge came upon and destroyed a "*civilized*" world. And as it was in the days of Noah, thus shall it be again when the Son of Man shall come, for which we have our Lord's warrant!

However, this is not the point which I wish now to discuss. My chief object in writing to your Lordship is to thank you most cordially for your admirable reply to my beloved friend Denison.

My Lord, I not only reside in the archdeaconry of that *holy, excellent, pious, amiable, and most infamously, most unfairly, and most unjustly persecuted man*, but I have also lived in his house for a very considerable time, and your Lordship may believe me when I assure you, that though I have been a great traveller, and have met with holy and zealous priests in the Romish, Greek, Armenian, Chaldean, and English Churches, a more zealous, more devoted, more sincere, more benevolent, and, though ardent, bold and straightforward in his public harangues, a more meek and patient parish priest I never met in any of these Churches. Neither Stowell nor McNeile, "*canonized*" by the persecuting Archbishop Sumner, are worthy of unloosing the shoe latches of Denison!

Now this most excellent Denison has been accused by the Protestant inquisitors Ditcher and Archdeacon Law of having depraved the 29th Article of our Church. The *biased and packed* Commission of Clevedon have been forced to acquit him of holding the Romish doctrine of *Transubstantiation*, but accuse him falsely of holding the Lutheran doctrine of *Consubstantiation*, which doctrine Martin Luther not only maintains, but says, in his letters "*to the Heavenly Prophets*," "*I rather would believe with the Papists Transubstantiation even, than consider it (the Sacrament) a mere sign with Calvinists.*" And this doctrine is clearly set forth in the Augsburg Confession. Now is it not strange, that when the despicable and schismatic Anglo-Bishopric of Jerusalem was established by an act of Parliament, the Bishop of Jerusalem was enjoined to ordain every candidate of the Lutheran Communion as Priest of the Church of England, who would subscribe the Augsburg Confession. Now if the doctrine of *Consubstantiation* is considered to be orthodox at Jerusalem, why is it thought heretical at East Brent? Verily, the Archbishop of Canterbury and his party are endowed with a *geographical conscience*! But it may be answered that the candidate is also obliged to subscribe to the Thirty-nine Articles—that is, the candidate may understand the Articles according to the Augsburg Confession. Why, then, I ask, is Archdeacon Denison not allowed to construe the Articles by the formularies of the Church of England and by the Confession of Augsburg? However, I have graver charges to prefer against his Grace the present Archbishop of Canterbury. A society exists in London called the "*London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews.*" The said Society has an episcopally consecrated chapel in Palestine-place, Bethnal-green,

Hackney, built purposely for the benefit of Jews converted to Christianity. (It may be said, by the way, that that Society, having existed nearly fifty years, and spent nearly 500,000*l.*, has converted just two Jews and a half.) But to come to the chief purpose of this letter. In order to benefit the Jews, they preach to those very few Jews who do attend, in English, very properly, as out of one thousand Jews, perhaps only one or two would understand the Hebrew language, and of course not one person of the English portion of the congregation; but mind, while the sermon is in English, because the Jews do not understand Hebrew, the prayers are read in Hebrew in the same chapel, because only a very few Jews (who do not understand Hebrew) attend the worship—a proceeding in flagrant violation of the 24th Article and of the words of St. Paul. It is far worse than the use of the Latin tongue in the Church of Rome. Since thousands of Christians understand the Latin, even many Jewish synagogues in London, Berlin, Hamburg, Amsterdam, and even Meshed, in Khorassan, have substituted the languages of their respective countries in the place of Hebrew.

It may be asked, What is the motive of their using the Hebrew Liturgy? I answer, without hesitation, "*A puffing motive!*" in order that the public may be led to believe that there are a great many Jews converted to Christianity! whilst the congregation consists chiefly of Englishmen and Englishwomen!

Farther, the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews professes to be a strictly Church of England society. I remember well, that, forty years ago, the noble-minded, generous, and sincere Rev. Lewis Way, paid from his private resources a sum of no less than 12,000*l.*, of which that Society was indebted to the public, in order that only members of the English Church might be the patrons and managers of it. Why then, I ask, is Chevalier Bunsen, a neologist of Germany, who laughs at Episcopacy, a vice-patron of a society of which the Archbishop of Canterbury is the constituted patron? More, that Society, though a Church of England society, yet is, as is well known, exclusively in the hands of the Evangelical party, in which there is no inconsistency, inasmuch as that party is included in the Church, under her visible pope the Earl of Shaftesbury; to be sure, they deny Baptismal Regeneration, Apostolic Succession, and the Real Presence. There is, alas! thanks to the Archbishop Sumner, no inconsistency in all this; but no person will deny that it is inconsistent in the Evangelicals to select, as one of their vice-presidents and as their prime leader, the Rev. A. McCaul, D.D., Rector of St. Magnus, who will not contradict me when I state that he, Dr. McCaul, has publicly avowed to believe, as well as I do believe, the following doctrines:—

1. Baptismal Regeneration.
2. Apostolic Succession.
3. Real Presence.
4. Infallibility of the Visible Church Catholic.

Now I rejoice that the doctor believes all these points, but how can the Evangelical party choose him as one of their leaders?

But I well know why they are so indulgent towards him: First, because Dr. McCaul, as a *genuine Irish Protestant*, hates and detests the Roman Catholics—which hatred covers the multitude of sins! Secondly, because he was the chief promoter of the establishment of the bishopric of Jerusalem. Thirdly, because he took no part against Mr. Gorham, whose doctrine he disbelieves, and he expressed his disapprobation of the proceedings of the Bishop of Exeter in the Gorham case, in whose (the Bishop of Exeter's) opinions on Baptismal Regeneration he coincides. And yet we talk of Jesuitism. The great Denison has been condemned, like Lord Stafford of old, by some neglected moth-eaten record.

My Lord, when in 1818 I was sentenced by that holy man, Pius VII. himself, to be unsound in my views, and, therefore, declared not to be a fit pupil of the College of the Propaganda, and when the decision of the Holy Father was announced to me by the Prince-Cardinal Litta, his Eminence and the Pope's Secretary, Monsignor Testa, continued to treat me with parental kindness, and Cardinal Litta wrote to me even after my banishment, and even Cardinal Della Somaglia, most affectionate letters. But how did the judges at Bath, and the packed Commission at Clevedon treat their condemned brother? They never spoke one single word of kindness to their condemned brother, and the fanatic Dr. Hugh McNeile, of Liverpool, had the brutality of expressing, at Weston-super-Mare, his approbation of the conduct of a Ditcher in having brought about the ruin of a brother!!!

When the Apostles were about to choose Matthias, they all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication; and whenever a difference of opinion took place among the Disciples, they came together to consider this matter with prayer and fasting; and thus they do at Rome. But what was the conduct of the *Evangelical party at Brighton* in preventing the High Church party from establishing a college?

Only read their own organs—the *Record*, and other so-called "*evangelical organs!*" by "*tremendous hisses and groans, and cat-calls,*" so that if the Apostles of old would have appeared among them, they would certainly have believed them to be a company of pickpockets from Houndsditch! And, for my part, I was reminded of a description of a Party of Souls in the lower world, into whose midst Alighieri Dante fell during his wanderings in Hell, and from whose company he was dragged out with rebuke by Virgil, his faithful guide!—I am, my Lord,

Your dutiful servant in Christ,

JOSEPH WOLFF.

Leamington Spa, Dec. 22, 1856.

### THE MOON'S ROTATION.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—I hope you will contrive to give me space in your journal for a very few words in reply to the letters of Mr. John Taylor and Mr. Jelinger Symons, in your last week's number, on the subject of the moon's rotation. I promise you I will be very brief, for, to tell you the truth, my dinner is at this moment waiting, having been delayed a full hour beyond our usual time by the experiments I have been making all the morning with our only bottle-jack. I will merely premise that our jack, though that of a philosopher, has in it nothing peculiar, except that it is at present a little out of order; but, bad as it may be, I think it will render us considerable assistance in showing Mr. Taylor and Mr. Symons that the moon's rotation is a fact, and not as they regard it, a mistake.

I find that our bottle-jack, when operating with a goose at the fire (which happens to be our dinner to-day), runs down completely in about fifty minutes, making in that time one thousand revolutions, and consequently giving the goose a turn every three seconds. Now I find, on taking the jack in my hand, with its suspended goose, and carrying it about the kitchen, I appear to cause no derangement of its rate of motion. It still runs down in about fifty minutes; and this, whether I walk in straight lines or in curves, forward or backward, fast or slow. From this I come to the conclusion that motion communicated to our jack, as a whole, makes no change in that other motion derived from its own mainspring.

To apply this interesting discovery to our present subject, I set up my walking-stick in the middle of our kitchen, and swung my goose round it in the direction in which the goose was already revolving, giving it a corresponding orbital period of three seconds. The result was as I expected, that if my goose commenced its orbit with its breast or its back turned towards the central stick, it maintained that relation to the end of the experiment. In fact, it presented exactly the phenomenon, now so much discussed, of the moon's motion.

"The goose," says Mr. Jelinger Symons, "no longer rotated on its axis." "Or if it did," says Mr. Taylor, "it was only a secondary and subordinate motion derived from the primary orbital motion." But to Mr. Symons I must observe, that the works of our bottle-jack ran on during the experiment, and gave out their usual amount of turning force; and to Mr. Taylor, that the rotating motion was not a mere subordinate consequence of the orbital, for the orbital motion was given by the force of my own arm, whereas it was our cook (a comely woman of forty) who wound up the jack.

Nor did the new theory succeed better when I swung round my goose in the opposite direction. For if its rotating tendencies appeared somewhat obscured before, it seemed now possessed by a sort of whirling madness. It went waltzing round the circle in a most extraordinary manner, making two distinct turns to each single revolution. Yet I could not perceive that the mainspring of our jack had at all altered. It seemed to give out no more force than when the goose appeared not to rotate at all.

It has been said, in favour of the new theory, that it removes much obscurity from astronomical physics, and introduces much simplicity in its stead. But the experiments above described do not seem to point to such a conclusion. For, if we denote by A the entire force of our jack, in turning round a goose at the fire a thousand times, and think we have a constant quantity in A, we shall find ourselves very much mistaken. The three forms of experiment—viz., the goose at the fire, the goose swung round to the right, and the goose swung round to the left—all give widely different values. We shall have respectively

$$\begin{aligned} A &= 1000 \\ A &= 0 \\ A &= 2000 \end{aligned}$$

And this, not merely on the evidence of our bottle-jack, which I admit is an imperfect one, but on that of all the bottle-jacks in the kingdom.

But I must forbear. My family are waiting to have the goose cut up; and, between ourselves, I fear that, in consequence of my "*philosophizing*" so long in the kitchen, I shall find it very much underdone.

Yours, &c.

ESURIENS.



## 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*.

THERE are certain works which are honoured by much notice from the press mainly on account of their intrinsic feebleness, which tempts reviewers to display their strength. One of this kind is the work of M. FLOURENS on Longevity, which, after being well exposed in various quarters, is again dragged before the judgment bar of the *Edinburgh Review* and the *London Quarterly Review*. As we have already discussed the question of Longevity, we need only refer to these essays. More to our immediate interest is the article in the *Edinburgh* on the "Rights and Liabilities of Husband and Wife"—a subject of profound social importance, and one which every year presses more urgently on the Legislature. The *Edinburgh* is temperate in tone and liberal in sentiment—not, indeed, going deep into the question, nor advocating it with any novelty or force—but expressing itself, on the whole, in a way which reformers will notice with satisfaction. Conventional assumptions, which every one's experience flatly contradicts, are as usual made the grounds of objection to a more equitable adjustment of the law of divorce; but reformers at least gain an advocate for the alteration of the law now giving the whole earnings of the woman to her husband—a law so iniquitous in principle, and so immoral in its consequences, that the mere presentation of its effects when seen in individual cases ought, one would think, to rouse every earnest mind into indignant protest. The *Edinburgh* cites some typical cases; and one of these we shall quote, adding that the writer having inquired into the circumstances believes the statements are strictly true:—

"I was married at an early age, being not yet sixteen, having lost both my parents many years before. I became acquainted with my husband B. T., who was by trade a journeyman printer. From the first week of my married life I commenced working at my needle as well as performing all the household duties such as our humble state required. My husband continued to work at his business as a printer during three years after we were married; but the nature of his occupation was very precarious, he not holding a permanent situation, and it being the time of the panic. However, with our joint efforts, we had, at the expiration of three years, contrived to save 50*l.*, and with that sum took a very small house and shop in — for my business as straw hat manufacturer, for which we paid rent 25*l.* per annum.

"Very shortly after our removal there, my husband discontinued entirely his trade, and we lived from the proceeds of my business, the nature of the same preventing the possibility of a man being either industriously or actively engaged in it. We there continued some short time. I had been very prosperous in that small way; and at that period being arrived at the age of twenty-one, I received a small property left me on my mother's side: he, as the law prevents a married woman receiving money without the husband's signature, took possession of it.

"We then removed to larger business premises, situated in —; and I can affirm, excepting in cases of indisposition, I never quitted my business, and frequently in the busy season have worked from sixteen to eighteen hours incessantly. From that time forward I continued increasing my business until we took fresh premises in —, for which we paid 210*l.* per annum. I was at that time making money very rapidly, my husband still continuing out of business, and, as necessarily followed, he had the control of my business. I still continued to increase my business largely, making money fast. My husband became extremely selfish and dissipated; having by nature a very weak mind, he formed bad associations, and from them commenced all the misery of myself and family. He was also exceedingly whimsical in his selfishness, indulging himself in everything that money could procure; took lessons in writing, music; had a French master, a riding master, and took lessons in swimming.

"Things went on from bad to worse, until at last it was no uncommon occurrence for him to absent himself for four or five months together, returning only in the day-time to take the proceeds of the business. In the year 18—, my husband was supporting two women in one apartment. I discovered the residence of the relatives of one of them, and finally took her to them, hoping she would be prevented continuing the acquaintance. I also took away at the same time an iron chest, containing the title-deeds of the various properties he had acquired by my labours—leases of houses, railway stock, East India stock, &c. &c.; and I managed, by the kindness of a friend, to keep it secured from him during six months. But at the end of that time, my husband, finding that he could not get any more dividends, or rents, or money to squander on his paramours, returned to my house, and, after many protestations that all he desired was to live respectably and retrieve his character, and live with me and our children, of whom we had seven living, I listened to his tale, and gave him back all his property, or rather mine, without any conditions.

"This was on a Friday; and on the Sunday following, whilst I and my children were at church, my husband absented himself, having taken with him his personal property, leaving me with my children perfectly destitute; and from that day to the present time we have never seen him. He then converted all the property into money, and left me penniless, having sold the lease of the house in which I had carried on business."

Here is another case of legal villainy coolly perpetrated:—

"A respectable woman, named —, having been many years in service, had saved a considerable sum of money, when she was sought in marriage by a man of suitable age and plausible manners, and their wedding shortly took place. She had given her 'bank-book' to her husband, but on the very day of the wedding he said to her, 'I have not such good health as I used to have, and do not feel equal to supporting a wife; therefore I think you had better go back to service.' The woman, as might be supposed, in a state of indignation, replied, 'Very well, I will go back to service immediately, but give me back my bank-book.' 'Why,' replied he, 'as I don't feel able to work just now, I require the money, but you can go as soon as you like.' So she turned away too heart-broken to speak, left the vagabond, who had gone through the marriage ceremony as the only legal means of obtaining her money, and, returning to service, has never seen him since. I had all this from her own lips."

Nay, so flagrant is the injustice of the present law, that it permits a man to live in idleness on the earnings of his wife, and at his death to bequeath her money to his illegitimate children!—

"A lady whose husband had been unsuccessful in business established herself as a milliner in Manchester. After some years of toil she realized sufficient for the family

to live upon comfortably; the husband having done nothing meanwhile. They lived for some time in easy circumstances after she gave up business, and then the husband died, bequeathing all his wife's earnings to his own illegitimate children. At the age of sixty-two she was compelled, in order to gain her bread, to return to business."

The citation of cases such as these must powerfully affect the discussion which will shortly take place in Parliament. It is of no use to call such cases "exceptional;" the law which sanctions such exceptions creates thousands of cases only differing from them by fine degrees.

In the same number of the *Edinburgh* there is an amusing, paper on "French Society under the Directory," which will be read because it is amusing, but which nevertheless is no more a true picture of the times than a pound of plums is a Christmas pudding:—in the desire of being piquant the writer falls into the common error of piquant writers, the omission of dull but essential details. Here is a specimen:—

The pleasure to which France, when she began to seek for pleasure, turned, was the pleasure of young nations and savage nations, as the most natural manifestation of activity and strength—it was dancing. This became a rage and a necessity, and all France danced as one possessed. In the winter of 1796 there were in Paris six hundred and forty-four public balls! Every locale was appropriated by these ardent votaries of Terpsichore, from the palace of royalty, from the hall of justice, up to the cloistered solitudes of religious study and monastic contemplation. Nay, even the home of the dead was not respected: the cemetery of Saint Sulpice was transformed into a *salle de bal*, and whilst those who understood them, might read the words, "*Has ultra metas beatam spem expectantes requiescunt*," engraved upon the entrance arch, the crowd saw only "*Bal des Zéphyr*," written in letters of light upon a rose-coloured transparent canvas, and the crowd hurried on and danced, night after night, upon a flooring of graves!

The Faubourg St. Germain danced at the so-called *bal des victimes*, and what was entitled "good company," though somewhat mixed, danced at the Hôtel Longueville, at the Pavillon de Hanovre, at the Vauxhall of the Rue de Bondy, and at many other places where the price of admission (by subscription or not, as the case might be) was put at the very high rate of five francs. But descending in the scale, and leaving at the top this Almacks' of the exclusive, we learn what was the respective cost of these pleasures to the entire population of Paris. For thirty sous, clerks and shopmen danced with dressmakers and grisettes; for twenty, apprentices, hair-dressers, upholsterers and tailors' 'boys' danced with needlewomen and ladies' maids; for two sous, locksmiths and carpenters, journeymen joiners, and cobblers' drudges, danced with fishwives and tavern-scullions. Nor was this the lowest or last step; there was lower still: there were the balls of the *canaille*, the barns, where, by the glimmer of a rushlight stuck into an iron candlestick, and hung by a cord from a rafter, a foul-smelling, noisy, ragged, hideous throng, jump, stamp, swear and scream, tumble, plunge, squeeze each other to suffocation, and drown in the din they make the wretched squeak of the hurdy-gurdy that is supposed to play to what they call their dancing!

At the *bal des victimes*, the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters of the guillotined, were all dancing furiously. Once the little short bow of recognition made, which goes by the name of the "*saut de l'échafaud*," and is meant to simulate the inclination of the head upon the block, (!) once the several pairs made up, the whole room is in a whirl, and the pages of a contemporary publication relate what went on in the pauses of the dance:—"I saw a handsome young man" (*Polichinelle* is the narrator), "and he came towards me and said, 'Ah! *Polichinelle*! they have killed my father!' 'What?' I cried, 'they have killed your father!'—and I drew my handkerchief from my pocket. I was overcome; but he, the handsome young man, was deep in a *rigodon*!"

And all this time they who do not dance are starving, for they may literally be said only to abandon pleasure when their physical strength is exhausted by positive want; and they do not desist, they drop off from the Bacchanalian whirl because their head turns, and their feet give way, and they have eaten nothing for weeks, except what they have picked up in the gutter. At the very doors of the places of public resort dead bodies were found, stiff and stark; they are the dancers of yesterday, and their mouths are still full of the unchewed grass, which, torn up from the street pavements, has been their food for the last few days; and the fat, sleek, luxury-loving *parvenus* who emerge in groups from one or other of the countless restaurants that have sprung up like mushrooms from the hotbed of the revolutionary soil, are impeded in their scarcely steady progress by some couchant human form, disputing on all fours the possession of a bone with a lean hungry dog!

In the *Psychological Journal* there are two articles which the general reader will find of great interest; one on the insanity of GEORGE III., anecdotal and historical; the other on the effects of mental labour in altering the condition of the blood, by Dr. THEOPHILUS THOMPSON, who inclines to the supposition that the excessive action of the brain affects the blood by withdrawing from it some special material necessary to its perfect condition as a nutritious fluid. We are more inclined to attribute the influence of over brain-work to a disturbance of the blood-making processes, than to the blood itself; but the treatment proposed by Dr. THOMPSON would be as applicable on the one supposition as the other. This question of mental labour is thrown into sudden prominence by the recent deplorable case of HUGH MILLER; and one of the worst points in this peril, which all brain-workers incur, is the insidiousness of the approach of the disease, the apparent triviality of the symptoms. Bodily excess is obtrusive in warning, mental excess gives no warning, except to the physiologist. Who can be expected to pause in the strong race, simply because he observes a fluttering at his heart, or a singing in his ears? There is no pain, no incapacity,—how can there be any danger? So the victim deludes himself; he works on heedless of the low-voiced warning, until the time comes when he can work no longer!

## ARE BOSWELL'S LETTERS AUTHENTIC?

Letters of James Boswell, addressed to the Rev W. J. Temple. Now first published from the original MSS. With an Introduction and Notes. Bentley.

LITERATURE has in modern times been so often perplexed with forgeries, skilful and unskilful, especially in the shape of Memoirs, Letters, and Historical documents, that the public has a right to demand the application of the severest tests to every new work purporting to be an historical document, and to see that every guarantee of authenticity be produced.

What is the case with 'Boswell's Letters,' which our contemporaries have received with so much enthusiasm? As far as the external evidence goes, never was a publication entitled to less credit. Observe, we do not pronounce these Letters *not* to be authentic. They may be the veritable letters of James Boswell, discovered in the way stated by the editor; on a question so delicate we naturally refrain from expressing an opinion. We have no proof that they are not authentic; but—and here lies the whole difficulty—we have absolutely no guarantee for their authenticity. To enable our readers to form an opinion on the point, we will extract the whole of the preface to this volume, wherein is narrated the discovery of the Letters:—

The Letters of James Boswell, contained in the present volume, came into the hands of the Publisher under the following circumstances. A few years ago a clergyman having occasion to buy some small articles at the shop of Madame Noel, at Boulogne, observed that the paper in which they were wrapped was the fragment of an English letter. Upon inspection, a date and some names were discovered; and further investigation proved that the piece of paper in question was part of a correspondence, carried on nearly a century before, between the Biographer of Dr. Samuel Johnson and his early friend, the Rev. William Johnson Temple. On making inquiry, it was ascertained that this piece of paper had been taken from a large parcel recently purchased from a hawker, who was in the habit of passing through Boulogne once or twice a year, for the purpose of supplying the different shops with paper. Beyond this no further information could be obtained. The whole contents of the parcel were immediately secured. The majority of the Letters bear the London and Devon postmarks, and are franked by well-known names of that period. Besides those written by Boswell which are here published, were found several from Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Claxton, and other persons alluded to in the following pages, as well as a few unfinished Sermons and Essays by Mr. Temple.

At the death of the purchaser of these Letters they passed into the hands of a nephew, from whom the Editor obtained them; and in the present form they are now submitted to the Public.

This may be the simple truth, strange as it appears; but when such a narrative is submitted to the investigation of even friendly scepticism, the utter want of guarantee, the vagueness, and suspiciousness of the statements must be noticed. Who is, or was, the clergyman? What was his name, where did he live, what were his antecedents? No reserve of modesty ought to prevent a man's name being given in such a case. On his veracity must depend our belief. If he is known to be a man of integrity, incapable of collusion in a trick of literary forgery, the publication of his name would carry some authority with it. But, unhappily, no name is given; clergyman, nephew, and editor, all are anonymous; and the public has a right to know who all three actually are.

So much for the discoverer. Now for the occasion. The letters were found at Madame Noel's shop, in Boulogne, a few years ago. "Mrs. Smith, of London, a few years ago," would be evidence as acceptable. Where did Madame Noel live? in what street? what was her business? and what was the year in which the letters were found? Moreover, this hawker, who is in the habit of passing through Boulogne once or twice a year for the purpose of supplying waste paper to the different shops, is an extremely mythical-looking person; and we should be glad to know whether it is thought worth while for a hawker to carry 'waste-paper' across the Channel twice a year, when 'waste paper' always finds purchasers enough in England.

Finally, now that this precious discovery is made, and the Letters are recognised as being the unmistakable correspondence of James Boswell with Temple, the anonymous clergyman whose interest in Literature is keen enough to make him detect the treasure from a casual scrap of waste paper, is silent respecting his good luck, makes no announcement of it in the public journals, informs no literary man of the fact, but dies, and leaves the precious treasure to his nephew, also anonymous, who gives or sells it to the anonymous editor!

To believe this story, on *this* evidence, requires an elasticity of acquiescence which few persons accustomed to investigate matters of this nature will be found to possess. We again emphatically say the story *may* be true, nor are we in any condition to prove it not true; but the story, as presented to the public, is neither acceptable nor probable; and until something like positive evidence is offered, the authenticity of these Letters must rank with the authenticity of many French Memoirs. We point out the imperative necessity of a guarantee, because the value of these Letters naturally depends on their being genuine. If they are forgeries, they are extremely clever forgeries, and interesting as such; but the public must know *what* it is which amuses—the naïveté of truth, or the adroitness of dramatic imitation.

Reading these Letters with profound distrust we may have formed a false opinion of them, but it seemed to us that the picture of Boswell here presented was too like the popular notion of Boswell. The author—assuming there *was* an author—has been too dramatic. The authentic letters of Moore, Southey, Byron, Gray, Walpole, and every other well known person, by no means display this perpetual self-revelation; if they let us into the secret of the writer's personality, it is in a more oblique manner, and we learn therefrom something unlike what we learned from their published works. Boswell, on the contrary, is, in these Letters, the Boswell we all know; and the verisimilitude of this *private* portrait is a suspicious circumstance: it is more *vraisemblable* than *vrai*, in our estimation.

Should they turn out to be authentic, the Letters will deserve to live in Literature, as specimens of naïve autobiography. They are extremely amusing, and nothing would better please us than to find that they were the actual outpourings of the little man. His love passages are throughout touched with a truly Boswellian hand. Read this as a sample:—

You know I gave you a hint in my last of the continuance of my passion for Miss W——t. I assure you I am excessively fond of her, so (as I have given you fair warning) don't be surprised if your grave, sedate, philosophic friend, who used to carry it so high, and talk with such a composed indifference of the beautiful sex, and whom you used to admonish not to turn an old man too soon,—don't be thunderstruck if this same fellow should all at once, *subito furor obrepit*, commence Don Quixote for his adorable Dulcinea. But to talk seriously, I at first fell violently in love with her, and thought I should be quite miserable if I did not obtain her; but now it is changed to a rational esteem of her good qualities, so that I should be extremely

happy to pass my life with her; but if she does not incline to it, I can bear it *æquo animo*, and retire into the calm regions of philosophy. She is indeed extremely pretty, and possessed of every amiable qualification; she dances, sings, and plays upon several instruments equally well, draws with a great deal of taste, and reads the best authors; at the same time she has a just regard for true piety and religion, and behaves in the most easy, affable way. She is just such a young lady as I could wish for the partner of my soul; and you know that is not every one; for you and I have often talked how nice we would be in such a choice. I own I can have but little hopes, as she is a fortune of thirty thousand pounds. Heaven knows that sordid motive is farthest from my thoughts. She invited me to come and wait upon her, so I went last week and drank tea. I was kindly entertained, and desired to come when convenient. I have reason to believe she has a very good opinion of me; and, indeed, a youth of my turn has a better chance to gain the affections of a lady of her character than of any other; but (as I told you before) my mind is in such an agreeable situation, that being refused would not be so fatal as to drive me to despair, as your hot-brained romantic lovers talk. Now, my dear friend, I sincerely ask ten thousand pardons for giving you the trouble of this long narration; but as it is a thing that concerns me a good deal, I could not but communicate it to you, and I know, when I inform you how happy it makes me to open my mind, you will forgive me. Pray never speak of it: you are the only person knows of it, except Mr. Love, who reads with her, and takes every unsuspected method to lend me his friendly assistance. Oh Willie! how happy should I be if she consented, some years after this, to make me blest! How transporting to think of such a lady to entertain you at Auchinleck!

Can one not also fancy one hears him utter this noble sentiment when about to set forth on his travels:—

My father has allowed me 60*l.* a quarter,—240*l.* a year: that is not a great allowance, but with economy I may live very well upon it, for Holland is a cheap country. However I am determined not to be straitened, nor to encourage the least narrowness of disposition as to saving money, but will draw upon my father for any sums I find necessary.

One word in conclusion: we have raised a question of some importance relative to this work, and foresee that we may involve ourselves in an interminable controversy unless limits be assigned beforehand. We have stated our doubts and difficulties; and unless those can be removed by the production of *positive evidence*, we shall enter into no collateral discussions of 'probability,' 'internal evidence,' or what 'eminent critics' may think. The question is wholly and simply one of personal guarantee; what is wanted is a statement of names, dates, and localities.

#### POLITICAL CRITICISM: NAPOLEON THE THIRD.

*Napoleon the Third: Review of his Life, Character, and Policy; with Extracts from His Writings and Speeches.* By a British Officer. Longman and Co.

THE "Officer" has not attempted to produce a biography of Louis Napoleon. His work is a pamphlet, on a large scale, and is composed of extracts and dissertations held together by the slightest possible thread of narrative. As far as the "life" of Louis Napoleon is concerned, he merely repeats that which has been worked up in two or three shilling volumes; the interesting memoirs which depict the youth of the present Emperor having altogether escaped his eye. His object, plainly, was not biographical. He has published his "views"—nothing more, and it remains to be ascertained of what importance are the views set forth in a volume of anonymous panegyric. However valuable, or the reverse, they are by no means startling. We became familiar with them, and all their congeners, during the earlier stages of the Russian war. They were repeated day after day, in newspapers. As the "British Officer" tells us nothing, in point of fact, which was not told by Mr. Christmas, or Mr. Greenwood, so he suggests nothing which was not continually amplified upon by every devotee of success while Napoleonism was fashionable in England. Unfortunately, it is not now fashionable, and this voluminous eulogy has come too late. The writer promises on his title-page "references to contemporary opinions." We searched with some interest for these selections, but found that, while a considerable proportion of the book is made up of quotations, the writers, or the journals, are rarely mentioned by name.

The greatest mistake of the book is its unconcealed partiality. It is made up of invariable praise. Every allusion drives its 'substantive and six.' The "Officer" cannot rest a moment from the effusion of his courtly ardour, "wise," "great," "magnificent," "unparalleled," "vast," "loyal," "chivalrous," and all the epithet species climbing in parasitical profusion about the page, until they become an absolute nuisance. He cannot allow any incident to speak for itself. And this brings us to a topic which an "Officer" may regard as of secondary importance. The events thus garlanded with superlatives are not correctly narrated. In point of historical accuracy the pamphlet is not less deficient than in point of literary execution. To instance one example, the alliance is represented as the work of Louis Napoleon, although documentary proofs may be cited that it was the proposal of the Republican leaders who preceded him. This is a blunder which surprises us when met with in a serious publication. The references to the Provisional Government, the June Insurrection, the Presidency, and the *Coup d'Etat* are often naïvely fatuous; but it would be a superfluous task to set right a compiler so wilfully and so complacently wrong. It will be more useful, in order to show what kind of logic is necessary to the morality of such a writer, to quote and expose a paragraph on the December Usurpation:—

A vast amount of mystification has arisen with respect to the lawfulness or rightfulness of the change which was effected in the Constitution as it stood prior to the 2nd of December. It has been argued by some writers, in real or affected ignorance of the facts, that that Constitution was immutable in all its details. Nothing could be more contrary to fact. Those who pretend that the Constitution was thus unchangeable in any one of its particular parts, would reduce the enlightenment of its constructors to a level with that of the ancient propounders of the immutability of the laws of the Modes and Persians. No; it was not any one detail, or any part of its details, that was unchangeable; it was its *principle*. That principle was the national will, which had created it, which had not abandoned its supremacy to it, but to which it was necessarily and naturally subject. The Constitution was made for and by the people, not the people for the Constitution. The Constitution, in short, meant the national will. The promise to maintain it, meant allegiance to the national will. Whoever pretends the reverse, abnegates that principle of the supremacy of the suffrage of the nation without which the Constitution could have had neither meaning nor vitality, but would have been a mere medley of barbarous impracticability.



Mark the incapable reasoning of this advocate. The Constitution was not designed to be as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians; therefore, its magistrate had the right, without consulting the Assembly, to destroy it altogether, and with it a system of liberty that had been developed by eighteen years of constitutional government in France. "A British Officer" cannot see that a constitution may be so framed as to admit of change, without investing its legal protector with the privilege of overturning it in his own favour. The same poverty of intellect drives him into a desperate quibble on a personal question. Louis Napoleon, he says, did not wish to become emperor; he merely wished that France should have an opportunity of saying whether he should become emperor or not. After this, the reader will desire to be troubled no further with the ratiocinations of this enormous 'article.'

It is not, in all parts, presented in the 'article' form. Some of the chapters are headed with synoptical lines which would be appropriate in a novel by a young lady:—

The Imprisonment.—Faith, Courage, and Endurance.—The Dying Parent.—Paternal Solicitude and Filial Reverence.—The Gage of Honour: its Rejection.—The Temptation: its Repulse.

Turning to this chapter, we find it less affecting than we had hoped. The writer sinks his romance, because he cannot forget his views. In the statement of these views he is continually at fault, in a literary sense. We have presented an example of his reasoning; but what shall we say of his metaphors, especially of "the emotions of France" which were "re-echoed by England." The re-echoed emotions must have confused "A British Officer's" fancy. Something else, apparently, confused his brain when he touched that most equivocal object of admiration—a violated oath.

His rhetoric fails him here; he might have said that an oath, not being as immutable as the laws of the Medes and Persians, was at the disposal of the President; but this ingenious inflection of morality does not occur. The compiler cannot initiate a new defence of perjury, but takes one ready made, cunningly describing as from the pen of "An English Clergyman." This, we conceive, is a master-stroke. It is the one spark of genius in "A British Officer." A clergyman has played the casuist by apologizing for an oath-breaker; consequently, who dares to object? We do not find the reverend authority indicated by name; but the volume has been constructed on the principle of borrowing at random, and not acknowledging the obligation.

If we were Imperial sympathizers we should reprobate, more seriously than we are inclined to do, the libellous blundering of this unworthy book. Louis Napoleon could not have a more injudicious partisan. It would be easy to imagine a work, written by a competent person, which should be a defence, difficult to answer, of the Emperor's general conduct—the apology for some acts, the panegyric of others. We are quite sure that when a Liberal historian undertakes to describe the period from 1848 to 1857, he will find many things to blame in his own party, and not a few to praise in Louis Napoleon. For the sake of justice, we should be glad to see a well-balanced estimate of the Emperor's life and character, free from inimical as well as from servile prejudice. It would benefit him far more than the verbose monotony of "A British Officer," who reviles as mean, selfish, bloodthirsty, unscrupulous, malignant, imbecile, every man and every party in France except the personal adherents of the Emperor, who are notoriously the least eminent of French public men. Who, for instance, would venture to place De Morny, Walewski, Canrobert, Magnan, or the other marshals or ministers of the Empire in the same list with Cavaignac, Montalembert, Guizot, Berryer, De Tocqueville,—not to mention the great civil chiefs of the Liberal array? The Orleanists or the Legitimists, separately, are infinitely more distinguished, as bodies of men, than the courtiers of the Empire, who, if Louis Napoleon had not surprised the Constitution in the night, must have remained in perpetual obscurity, and, in some cases, would have been engaged in public works of a kind very different from those of the Louvre and the Rue Rivoli. It was excessively indiscreet, therefore, on the part of the writer, to deal so violently with his subject. His punishment will not come from us. He will be disowned and ridiculed by every sensible man who puts faith in the policy of the Empire. All we can say is, we are glad he did not become the apologist of the Liberal party. There might be a cruel dissection, by any Legitimist critic, of a narrative of events from 1848 to 1852, similar in style and substance to this volume, dedicated to the author's wife, who "approved his object, and sympathized with his labours." We must add that, supposing "A British Officer" to be actuated by no interested motives, the publication does credit to his feelings; some of its passages might have been written by an enthusiast with tears in his eyes, they are so suffused, so suggestive of "innocent milk in a most innocent mouth," so disconnected and simple. Something must be pardoned to a "re-echoing emotion." In that spirit, therefore, convinced that "A British Officer" means no harm, and will do no harm, we do not treat him seriously, but set aside the volume as the work of a misguided imagination.

#### SIR EDMUND HEAD ON "SHALL" AND "WILL."

"*Shall*" and "*Will*;" or, *Two Chapters on Future Auxiliary Verbs*. By Sir Edmund W. Head, Bart.

It is a piquant fact that while even highly cultivated Englishmen are for the most part lax in their syntax, and indeed classical scholars generally have scarcely a 'bowing acquaintance' with it, no Englishman, however lax and daring in his disregard of grammar, confounds the two auxiliaries, "shall" and "will," which Scotchmen, Irishmen, and Americans scarcely ever discriminate. Even Mrs. Gamp throws her will into the right sentence, and Old Weller would 'shy' at an obtrusive "shall." Accuracy in this delicate and difficult point is instinctive in us; it is as national as beef. Yet all grammarians are puzzled when they attempt to lay down precise rules to guide us in our use. Why the use is so invariably consistent among even uneducated Englishmen, and why so invariably fluctuating among Scotchmen, no one can say:—

In ordinary English "will" is never used with the first person unless a notion of volition, more or less strong, is conveyed by the speaker. On the other hand, "shall,"

when applied to any person other than the speaker, or supposed speaker, expresses something beyond mere futurity—that is to say, obligation, command, destiny, or external control of some kind. But in Ireland, Scotland, and North America, this appropriation of "shall" to the first person for expressing the simple future is not acknowledged in common parlance, nor always observed in written composition. For instance, Chalmers wrote, "I am able to devote as much time and attention to other subjects as I *will* be under the necessity of doing next winter." Now had the sentence run "as I *will* do next winter," the use of "*will*" would not necessarily have grated on an English ear, because the writer might possibly have meant "as I *intend* to do next winter;" but the context—the notion of necessity—makes every shade of volition inadmissible, and therefore "will" strikes us at once as incorrect because it must stand for the pure future.

Again:—

A distinguished American diplomatist, Mr. J. Y. Mason, in his letter to M. Drouyn de Lhuys on the insults offered to M. Soulé, is reported to have expressed himself thus: "I feel assured that I *will* not have the misfortune to find conflicting views held by one so enlightened as your Excellency."

Mr. Brace in his book on Hungary, repeating the words of some Hungarians with reference to Kossuth, makes them say, "He ought to have known we *would* be ruined." Again he employs "will" with the first person as follows: "They say I *will* find such portraits in all the cottages of the peasants through the village."

After giving several illustrations of the inaccurate use of these two words, Sir Edmund Head says:—

Nothing can be easier than to put cases in which the use of the two forms seems at first sight to be a matter of complete indifference. It is precisely because the shade which separates them is so slight that they are often confounded and misapplied. It seems practically much the same thing whether I say to a friend, "I shall be at home to-morrow when you call," or, "I will be at home to-morrow when you call." On a little reflection, however, the difference is clear. If the fact that my friend is going to call makes me determined to be at home—if my mind is made up in consequence of what has passed between us, and I announce an intention—then "will" is the proper auxiliary. If, on the other hand, I merely inform my friend that he will find me at a certain time—it may be because I cannot help it, or it may be because I choose it—then "shall" is the verb required for the simple statement of the future fact with the first person.

On this principle it is that the answer of an Irish servant when told to do a thing—"I shall, sir"—is incorrect. "Shall," no doubt, is right as the future, but what he means to profess is his intention to obey, as consequent on the order. The best mode of testing this view is to take some act which cannot, from its nature, be voluntary. If a man say to me, "I will have the gout when you call," I, as an Englishman, could only understand him to mean, "I will pretend," or "I will try to have the gout." "I shall have the gout," might be properly said by one who felt premonitory symptoms of the disease. An Irishman or an American would not interpret these phrases in the same way, and it is precisely this which gives the point to the old story of the Irishman in the water, who exclaimed, "I will be drowned and nobody shall save me." Indeed this sentence illustrates perfectly the misapplication of either verb "will" with the first person implies volition where volition is impossible, and "nobody shall," &c., forbids that which the context shows must be desired above all things.

There are numberless cases wherein the "will" implies volition, but there are also many cases wherein no volition at all is implied; e. g., "When you go there you *will* find," and not you *shall* find; on the other hand, we may say, "Shall you derive any benefit from Brown's demise?" or "Will you derive, &c.?" but we cannot interchangeably say, "I *shall* derive benefit" and "I *will* derive benefit from Brown's demise;" nor can we say "If you sit in wet clothes you *shall* take cold," without offending every English ear, although it is certain that the cold will be taken "on compulsion."

"Shall" was the original auxiliary appropriated to the future in English, as it is in the Dutch and Low German dialects; it is never superseded by "will" where any loophole exists for avoiding an implied want of courtesy in its use. If, in a question, the person addressed has to answer by "shall," or if the sentence is hypothetical or indefinite, then "shall" retains its right even with the second and third persons. In all other cases it is not considered safe to employ the compulsory auxiliary when speaking of another.

The primary distinction between will and shall is the distinction between volition and compulsion; and if we cannot in all cases recognize some shade of these two meanings, it is because the words are sometimes employed as mere auxiliaries, and sometimes in their original sense.

The principle on which such auxiliaries have been selected is obvious enough. Some one of the states or conditions which usually precede an action or an event is predicated of the subject of the sentence, and the action or event itself is thus left to be inferred. When a man "has a thing to do," it may be supposed that he will do it; when he "wills" or "intends" a thing, or "is obliged" to do it, or is actually about it, we may conclude that the act itself will probably follow. Accordingly, in those languages which do not possess a future, some one of these preliminary conditions is asserted by means of a verb, which ultimately strips off its own special sense, is converted into an auxiliary, and becomes as it were a mere sign of time. As Mr. Francis Newman says, "It is historically clear that the words 'will,' 'shall,' 'have,' 'let,' 'going,' 'may,' pass into auxiliaries by the process of losing or modifying a part of their signification, generally so as to become less emphatic."

Thus it is that words signifying choice or volition are applied indifferently to agents, things, or events; and, as the reader will have seen, one of the great sources of difficulty in the use of "shall" and "will" is the fact that these two verbs have not entirely got rid of their own special meaning. They are sometimes employed as mere auxiliaries, whilst at other times their original sense thrusts itself forward, and must be considered in their application. Occasionally it is difficult to determine whether they are simple auxiliaries or not; nor can this ambiguity surprise us when we reflect that the reason why they pass into auxiliaries at all is because their own special meaning fits them for such service.

Sir Edmund Head has made this difficulty the text of a very ingenious and interesting philological essay, which, although the preface speaks modestly of its research, exhibits very extensive reading and a singular felicity of interpretation. Grammarians of all nations will be interested; and Scotchmen, Irishmen, and Americans may perhaps learn the secret of their national inaccuracy in the use of these two important little words.

#### THE GUNPOWDER PLOT.

*A Narrative of the Gunpowder Plot.* By David Jardine, Esq.

Murray.

MANY years ago Mr. Jardine contributed to a popular series a narrative of the Gunpowder Plot, with a report of the trials that ensued. Some persons objected to the form, others to the substance of his work, for which little

popularity was anticipated. It seemed too critical, too judicial for the unprofessional reader, who was assumed not to care for the analysis of evidence, or the effect of disputed testimony. Nevertheless, the stereotype plates were worn out by a continually increasing demand, so that Mr. Jardine has been encouraged to rearrange his materials, and to present compendiously a complete account of the affair, from the origin to the extirpation of the conspiracy. More than five hundred depositions and examinations were taken by the Royal Commissioners appointed to investigate the Plot; all these have been sifted by Mr. Jardine, who has exposed the system of fraud resorted to by the Government of the day in order to circulate a garbled version, favourable to the character of the king and the policy of his ministers. Some important documents are still missing; but there is reason to believe that the whole story has now been elicited, so far as it can possibly be known. Not many years ago, on the removal of a lintel over an ancient doorway in the hereditary mansion of the Treshams, at Rushton, a handsomely bound breviary fell out of the wall. The workmen examined further and found, in the enormously thick masonry, an oblong cavity, about five feet long and fifteen inches wide, almost filled with bundles of manuscripts and religious books, in excellent preservation. Some of the records were historical; some of purely family interest; others were letters throwing considerable light on the causes which led to the desperate conspiracy of 1604. There can be little doubt that an effective examination of old residences throughout England would result in the discovery of many a rich cabinet of personal and public history. The Treshams were not the only people who concealed their correspondence behind lintels and panels, or between double floors. On the subject of the Gunpowder Plot, however, enough is known to prove that, while nothing could justify such a project as that of Catesby and Fawkes, nothing could exceed the malignant tyranny of the Protestants over the Roman Catholics. The performance of any sacred rite by a Catholic priest was felony. Was it wonderful, then, that among men to whom religion was more than life a few were found so daring and so devoted as to concert a scheme for revenging and delivering themselves by one tremendous blow? The plan was extraordinary; the conspirators were extraordinary; but the idea of striking secretly at the dominant class in the state was intelligible enough. All the participants in the dark scheme were men of earnest and superstitious piety. While they worked at their excavation under the Parliament House they were agitated by hearing the mysterious tolling of a bell. They sprinkled the wall with holy water, "when the sound instantly ceased." The tolling commenced again, again the holy water was applied, with the same effect as before. By a repetition of the process, the noisy spirit was ultimately exorcised.

An explosion of gunpowder took place in London in 1603, by which thirteen persons were killed. It has been said that this accident suggested to Catesby his scheme of Catholic vengeance. But Mr. Jardine shows that the plot of 1604 was not the first of its kind. The Protestants of Antwerp once devised a conspiracy which, had it succeeded, would have blown up the Prince of Parma and all his nobility; a Dutch enthusiast once plotted to blow up the whole Council of Holland at the Hague. In Queen Elizabeth's reign, it is related in Abbott's "Antilogia," a project was formed for blowing up the English Houses of Parliament. These precedents, however, must not be quoted in disparagement of the genius of Robert Catesby or the courage of Guy Fawkes.

Another point in connexion with the conspiracy deserves conspicuous notice. James I., the dirtiest pedant and the most vulgar egotist known to history, did not detect the meaning of the anonymous letter sent to Lord Monteagle. It was detected by Lord Salisbury a day before the king saw the letter, and he had communicated his idea to several persons before the subject was mentioned in council. James I. thus loses a feather from his unclean bonnet.

For a clear, full, and consistent narrative of the Gunpowder Plot and its results, we may recommend Mr. Jardine's volume. It is written in a plain English style, and is distinguished by the judicial accuracy of its historical criticism.

#### DOCTOR JOHN TAULER.

*The Life and Sermons of Doctor John Tauler of Strasbourg.* Translated by Susanna Winkworth, with a Preface by the Rev. Charles Kingsley.

JOHN TAULER was born at Strasburg in the year 1290. His father was probably a senator of that city; at all events, he was a wealthy man, though the son preferred to preach and to subsist upon alms rather than upon the heritage of his family. Early in life he adopted the ecclesiastical profession as a brother of the Dominican order, and soon afterwards went to study theology at Paris. There the schoolmen shared some of the heresies of Abelard, Porée, and Beny, read Aristotle in illicit lamplight; and the holy Jacobins had more than enough to do in controverting those daring writers, who brought philosophy to the aid of religion. Vast books were read and written, says Tauler, who himself had been a companion of the Strasburg mystics Eckard and Nicolas, who hated the cold pedantry of the dialecticians, who from the first maintained the prerogative of the emperors against the popes, and who, throughout the bitter struggles of the period, acted with a courage and consistency that did honour to the Dominican name. He even ventured to preach in the interdicted cities, and continued in the same upright and zealous career until the great change was wrought in his mind which made him the pupil of Nicolas, a man far less famous, less learned, less eloquent than himself. The translator of his sermons refuses to describe this change as a conversion. He had already been recognized as a chief, among the Friends of God, in Switzerland, Bavaria, and the Rhenish territories; but he advanced far in his opinions, maintained them to the day of his death, and, no doubt, prepared a large haven in the German mind, which in another epoch worked powerfully on behalf of the Reformation.

Of the extraordinary number of sermons left in manuscript by Tauler, the able translator has selected twenty-five, preferring the practical to the metaphysical, and adding the original History of his Life, with a preface, and a biographical note based on the publications of Schmidt, Wackernagel,

Neander, and Milman. Mr. Kingsley, in his preface, begins by saying what he does not propose to do. He does not propose to become Tauler's critic, or his commentator—to add to the biographical or historical information supplied by Mrs. Winkworth, or to trace the genealogy of the preacher's peculiar views. Some of the reasons given for this reserve are singular, and not altogether tenable, we think. Thus, Mr. Kingsley says: "The critic of Tauler no man has a right to become who has not first ascertained that he is a better man than Tauler." We take this to be an unmixed fallacy. We have a right to arraign Tauler's teaching, however great and good Tauler may have been, exactly as we have a right to arraign the doctrines of Bellarmine, or Jewel, or any other divines, and to criticize them, in the light of the nineteenth century, without pretending to be better than they. Any zealous student of the military art has a right to become the critic of Caesar, any statesman of Washington, any orator of Burke, and why not Mr. Kingsley, or any other modern, of the Strasburg Dominican, whose opinions, no doubt, are not invariably unexceptionable? The commentator of Tauler, Mr. Kingsley adds, no man has a right to become who has a strong belief that Tauler's sermons need no comment whatsoever; but that all which is good and eternal in them will recommend itself at once to those hearts, let their form of doctrine be what it may, who have hold of, or are seeking after, eternal goodness. There is some obscurity in this passage, but if we comprehend its meaning, the argument would apply against all orthodox commentators of the Bible. However, the task undertaken by Mr. Kingsley does not extend to an investigation into "the spiritual pedigree of Tauler's view;" how far Philo Judæus and the Brahmins may be supposed to have influenced the Pseudo-Dionysius; how far the Pseudo-Dionysius may have influenced John Erigena; how far "that wondrous Irishman" may have influenced Eckard; how far Eckard, claimed by some as the founder of the German philosophy, may have influenced Tauler himself. He merely glances along the line of that inquiry, and, placing the entire body of mystical writers on a common level, asserts that one principle unites them all, the Christian with the Greek, the Persian, the Hindoo, the Buddhist, and the Mohammedan Sufi. Churchmen, he says, upon making this discovery, may shrink from opinions which are traceable to such scenes, as well as to the pure fountain of the Christian philosophy:—

They can either reject the whole of such thoughts as worthless, assuming that anything which Christianity has in common with heathendom must be an adulteration and an interpolation; or, when they see such thoughts bubbling up, as it were spontaneously, among men divided utterly from each other by race, age, and creed, they can conclude that those thoughts must be a normal product of the human spirit, and that they indicate a healthy craving after some real object; they can rise to a tender and deeper sympathy with the aspirations and mistakes of men who sought in great darkness for a ray of light, and did not seek in vain.

All students of St. Bernard, à Kempis, and Madame Guyon, will no doubt become students of Tauler, whose sermons could not be more fittingly presented than in this volume. It is in small quarto, beautifully printed and bound in the old style, with rich red edges, and quaint head and tail-pieces—exactly the book for a Gothic library.

#### MANUALS.

*A Treatise on the Law Relating to Bankers and Banking.* By James Grant, M.A. (Butterworths.)—This is a very complete and convenient work, setting forth the whole duty, rights, and risks of bankers—from Common Law, Equity and Bankruptcy decisions, as well as from Statutes. It is intended chiefly as a volume of reference for "the professional advisers of the banking interest." Mr. Grant avoids all scientific disquisition, deals with the realities of his subject alone, and adds to his condensed and classified account of the actual Law an alphabetical list of cases, and an historical sketch of the legislation affecting Banks and Bankers. The utility of such a treatise is obvious. Mr. Grant's manual will take its place at once in the Standard Library, not of the Solicitor only, but of the Shareholders and the Director—if Shareholders ever mean to take care of themselves, and if Directors ever mean to understand their business.

*The Cabinet Lawyer: a Popular Digest of the Laws of England.* (Longman and Co.)—Seventeen editions of this work have been published, so that there is no calculating how many persons it has induced to follow Lord Bacon's counsel, and learn as much law as will enable them to keep themselves out of it. The changes in statute law and judicial procedure, up to the close of the past year, have been incorporated. A new edition of a volume so popular and so valuable needs only a few words of announcement. The law is every one's interest, and should be every one's study.

*The Household Manager: being a Practical Treatise upon the Various Duties in large or small Establishments, from the Drawing-room to the Kitchen.* By Charles Pierce, Maître d'Hôtel. (Routledge.)—Aristotle, treating of Ethics, was not more impressed by the importance of his subject than Mr. Pierce when treating of removes and wines, of servants and cellarers. The art of governing a household is thoroughly explained, from a somewhat lofty point of view,—with the supplementary arts of cookery, of ordering a bill of fare, choosing wines, laying tables, preparing for a ball, brewing, and engaging servants. His solemnity is often ridiculous, since he argues with Ude and Soyer as though they were great theologians; but he has compiled a readable handbook, which, with its quaint quotations and seasoning of anecdote, will interest even those who have no household to manage. It is mainly important, however, to the cook and his master; for the kitchen is still unregenerate; it is still true that in England "one does not dine, one eats."

*The London and Provincial Medical Directory for 1857* (Churchill) has been published. *The Medical List, or English Medical Directory for 1857* (Lane and Lara), seems a less satisfactory compilation. The editor has taken it upon himself "to exclude the names of persons who, although they possess legal qualifications, would not be met in consultation by the regular practitioner."

*Useful Information for Engineers.* By William Fairbairn, F.R.S. Second Edition. (Longman and Co.)—The subject of this work is too technical for us to discuss, or even to comprehend it. It has already attained reputation; the writer's name seems a guarantee that this reputation is deserved.



**CENTRAL CATTLE-MARKET AT SWINDON.**—It is proposed by the Great Western Railway Company to establish a fortnightly market for the sale of cattle at Swindon, their object being to make a grand central market for the sale of all the cattle coming up from South Wales and Ireland by the South Wales line and the Irish boats.

**THE ART TREASURES EXHIBITION.**—The public will learn with pleasure that Lieutenant-Colonel Biddulph has communicated to the executive committee the great interest which the Queen and Prince Albert continue to evince in the success of the exhibition. Her Majesty has promptly permitted a selection to be made from the works of mediæval art in the royal collections at Windsor Castle and Buckingham Palace. The selection has been made (under the direction of Mr. J. B. Waring), not so much to exhibit the wealth of the royal collections, as to illustrate, by rare and select specimens, those peculiar periods and styles of art, of which examples of equal importance have not, as yet, been contributed to the exhibition.—*Manchester Examiner.*

**MELANCHOLY DEATH.**—An inquest was held on Monday afternoon, in the hospital of the Devon County Gaol, before Mr. R. R. Crosse, coroner for the district, on the body of a gentleman, named Herman James Lott, who was formerly connected with the banking firm of Flood and Lott, at Honiton. He was committed on Tuesday week, under a warrant from the County Court, as a prisoner for debt to the Debtors' Ward in the Devon County Gaol. On his arrival at the prison, he was in a very excited state, and was evidently intoxicated. The following day, he became very ill, and Mr. Webb, the surgeon of the gaol, was called in to attend him. Next day to that he had *delirium tremens*, for which the usual remedies were prescribed. He continued in that state until Friday week, when he died. A verdict was returned in accordance with the evidence.

**HEALTH OF LONDON.**—In the week that ended on Saturday, the deaths of 1135 persons—viz., 577 males and 558 females—were registered. The average number of deaths in the ten weeks corresponding with last week of the years 1847-56, was 1251; but, as the deaths of last week occurred in an increased population, the average must be raised proportionally to the increase for the purpose of comparison, and in this case it will become 1376. The number of deaths recorded last week is less by 241 than would have been returned if the average rate of mortality had prevailed. The deaths caused by diseases of the organs of respiration are not so numerous as they were about the end of November. Five persons are recorded as having died from the intemperate use of spirituous liquors. Last year the number of deaths expressly stated as due to this cause was 66, or rather more than one in a week; but at this festive season an increase in cases of this description is, unfortunately, to be expected. On the 30th of December, a man, aged 74 years, was found dead in St. John's-square from want of the necessities of life. Five persons in the present returns—namely, four men and a woman—had arrived at the age of 90 years or upwards. The oldest died in Mile-end, at the age of 96 years.—Last week, the births of 846 boys and 817 girls, in all 1663 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the year 1847-56, the average number was 1517.—*From the Registrar General's Weekly Return.*

**LORD ADOLPHUS VANE TEMPEST, M.P.** for North Durham, addressed his constituents at South Shields on Wednesday at noon, giving them his opinion on the chief topics of the day. The general complexion of his remarks was Liberal.

**MR. WYKEHAM MARTIN** has issued his address to the electors of West Kent. His political principles (says the *Kent Herald*) are in complete accordance with Liberal progress.

**A MR. DWYER**, a Tipperary magistrate, who was active in quelling the militia disturbance at Nenagh, has applied for the Order of Valour.

**MANSLAUGHTER OF AN APPRENTICE ON BOARD SHIP.**—James Hutchison, mate of the brig William, of Dundee, was tried at that city for having caused the death of James Wilson, an apprentice boy. He had frequently ill-treated him, and one night, during a heavy gale, the mate ordered him to perform some very dangerous work up above. The boy had to hang on by a rope, which was wet and slippery, and the ship lurched terribly. An able-bodied seaman had previously given up the task in despair, and the second mate entreated the boy to come down; but Hutchison swore he should do the work, or he (Hutchison) would kick the soul out of him. At that moment, the ship gave a heavy lurch; the boy fell overboard, and was drowned. The jury found Hutchison guilty; but he was only sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

**THE REV. DR. BOOTH ON COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION.**—The inaugural lecture to the Evening Classes for Young Men was delivered on Thursday evening, by the Rev. Dr. Booth, F.R.S., at Crosby-hall, Bishopsgate-street—Colonel Sykes, F.R.S., Chairman of the East India Company, and Chairman of the Council of the Society of Arts, in the chair. In the course of his address, Dr. Booth said:—"So convinced are the examiners of the Society of Arts of the greater value of accurate knowledge in a few things over a smattering in many, that they have resolved to examine no candidate in more than three subjects."

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

### BIRTHS.

**DOWNES.**—On the 12th inst., at Northampton, the wife of Charles J. Downes, Esq., a daughter.  
**DU PRE.**—On the 13th inst., at the Parsonage, Temple Guiting, Gloucestershire, the wife of the Rev. Edward Du Pré, a daughter.  
**KNIGHT.**—On the 12th inst., at 37, Camden-road Villas, Mrs. J. Jordan Knight: a son.

### MARRIAGES.

**PAKENHAM-VERNER.**—On Thursday, the 15th inst., at St. Michael's Church, Pimlico, by the Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of St. Patrick's, father of the bridegroom, William Sandford Pakenham, Esq., to Henrietta Constantia, youngest daughter of Colonel Sir William Verner, Bart., M.P.  
**SHIELD-RAILSTON.**—On the 13th inst., at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Hugh Shield, Esq., of St. Swithin's-lane, solicitor, to Mary, widow of the late George Thomas Railston, Esq., of Newcastle.  
**TURNER-STIRLING.**—On the 14th inst., at St. John's Church, Hoxton, Michael William Turner, Esq., Surgeon, of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's Service, to Elizabeth, fifth daughter of Lieutenant Stirling, R.N., of Exeter.

### DEATHS.

**DOVETON.**—On the 9th inst., at his residence, Karsfield, near Topsham, the Rev. John Frederick Doveton, formerly rector of Mells, Somerset, and a Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the same county, aged 82.  
**GRAY.**—On the 1st of November, 1856, deeply regretted and beloved, of typhus fever, Joseph Bower Gray, A.M., M.D., Principal of Berwick College, Maine, United States, aged 39, formerly of Chelmsford, Essex, and eldest son of Mrs. Lucy C. Gray, of South Shoebury Cottage, near Southend, Essex.  
**PUNCH.**—On the 14th inst., at 63, Russell-square, Agnes Sarah, aged 15, the third daughter of James Punch, Esq.

## FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, January 13.

**BANKRUPTS.**—JOSEPH HARBUT, Southampton, licensed victualler—JAMES HENRY SMITH, Oxford-street and Connaught-terrace, Hyde Park, corsetmaker—JOSEPH WHITE-SIDE, Davies-street, Berkeley-square, watch manufacturer—ROBERT HENRY BOLLIN, King's Lynn, carriage builder—EDMUND GODDARD, London-wall, Old Jewry, Fenchurch-street and Aldgate, provision dealer—RICHARD CARPENTER, Museum Tavern, Bloomsbury—GEORGE DAVEY, Murray-street, New North-road, plumber—GEORGE FEARIS, Lambeth-walk, draper—HENRY OSBORN, Water-lane and Great Windmill-street, wine merchant—WILLIAM T. GRAVENOR, Birmingham, hatter—SAMUEL BAXLEY, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, grazier—RICHARD DAVIS, sen., West Bromwich, Staffordshire, coal master—ALFRED HENRY HARROLD, Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, chemist—THOMAS HENRY TRIPNEY, Perranporth, Cornwall, woollen draper—RAMSDEN RAWNSLEY, Halifax, builder—KNOWLTON WILSON, Sheffield, surgeon—JOHN UNWIN, Seacombe, Cheshire, baker—JAMES GRIFFIN, Liverpool, poulterer.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—G. LANKHAM, Inchture, Perthshire, saddler—E. W. DODS and J. T. GALLOWAY, Glasgow, merchants—J. and J. W. VINT, Edinburgh, merchants—T. NESS, Leith, blacksmith—A. LAW, Glasgow, coal merchant.

Friday, January 16.

**BANKRUPTS.**—ROBERT HENRY HILL, GEORGE ROBERT HUDSON, and FREDERICK HUDSON, London-wall, importers—HORATIO BUNTING, Colchester, seedsman—JOSEPH GELSTHORP, Nottingham, builder—JOSEPH BAXTER, Gooch-street, Birmingham, victualler—JOSEPH HENRY CLARKE, Leicester, hatter—WILLIAM DUCKWORTH, Church, near Accrington, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer—WILLIAM BURCH, Back-hill, Hatton-garden, lastmaker—RICHARD HARRISON and JOHN JAMES COLE, Twig Folly, Bethnal-green, barge builders—JOHN OLDHAM, Long-acre, carrier—DAVID SHOVE, Croydon, tallow chandler—WILLIAM T. GRAVENOR, Birmingham, hatter and milliner—THEODORE ROBINSON KENWAY, Birmingham, broker and commission merchant.

**SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.**—ADAM WATSON, Hutchesontown of Glasgow, coal merchant—ALEXANDER AITKENHEAD, Glasgow, baker—EMIL GOLSTON and Co., Glasgow, importers of foreign goods.

## Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, January 16, 1857.

THE English funds have since last Friday experienced considerable fluctuation. The course pursued by the Bank of England, with regard to loans on stock, caused some feeling of depression, which, however, was in some measure counteracted by the settlement of the Neuchâtel disputes. Something has been said of a probability of the Bank of France increasing their capital; this caused a further buoyancy in consols, an impression being entertained that such a step would enable that establishment to afford more accommodation to speculators, thereby easing the money market. But for the pressing demands in our discount markets, Consols would doubtless be considerably higher than their present price, 94, seeing that the political world is in a more tranquil state than it has been for some time.

There has been no very large amount of business in the Stock Exchange this week, attention having been chiefly given to the arrangement of the account, which has passed over very satisfactorily. The rates for carrying over accounts to the end of the month were a shade lighter than last time.

Some bargains have been done in Turkish Six per Cent. at improved prices; but this Stock has never recovered from the heavy fall it had of 11 per cent. a few months ago. It has never been well held, but always a floating, speculative Stock, owing to the fact that 1 per cent. of the loan is liable to be drawn every year. Notwithstanding this, however, a Six per Cent. Stock at 95 is very cheap, especially when the dividends have always been promptly paid.

There has been very little alteration in the Railway Markets generally this week, although in some cases, lower prices have been established, as in the London and North Western, Lancashire and Yorkshire, and Midlands, which average a fall of about a half per cent.

Consols close 93½, 94.  
Aberdeen, —; Caledonian, 61½, 62; Chester and Holyhead, 37, 38; Eastern Counties, 92, 94; Great Northern, 92, 93; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 111, 113; Great Western, 60½, 60¾; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 90, 90½; London and Blackwall, 6½, 7; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 111, 112; London and North-Western, 100, 100½; London and South-Western, 106½, 107½; Midland, 82½, 82¾; North-Eastern (Berwick), 84, 85; South-Eastern (Dover), 74½, 75; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 5½, 6; Dutch

Rhenish, ½ dis. par.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 32½, 33; Great Central of France, 4, 4½ pm.; Great Luxembourg, 4½, 5½; Northern of France, 37½, 37¾; Paris and Lyons, 54, 54½; Royal Danish, 18, 20; Royal Swedish, 1, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 8½, 9.

## CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, January 16, 1857.

WITH the exception of a few thousand quarters of Wheat from Calcutta, the supplies from abroad have been trifling; and though there has been a numerous attendance, but a small trade has been done here. There have also been very few arrivals off the coast during the week. A cargo of Beheira Wheat arrived has been sold at 43s. 6d., and one of Kalafat at 49s. Galatz Maize arrived and on passage has been sold at 37s. 6d. to 38s. 6d. Saidi Beans arrived are held at 35s. 6d., which is 1s. over the ideas of buyers. With a good supply of Foreign Barley and Oats, the trade remains quiet, but prices are maintained.

## BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	217½	217½	217½	217½	217½	216½
3 per Cent. Red.....	94	93½	93½	93½	94	94½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	93½	93½	93½	90½	93½	93½
Consols for Account	94½	94½	94	94	94½	94
New 3 per Cent. An.	94½	94½	94½	94	94½	94½
New 2½ per Cents..	.....	.....	.....	76½	.....	.....
Long Ans. 1860 .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2½	.....
India Stock.....	.....	.....	.....	221	220	220
Ditto Bonds, £1000 .....	3 p	par	.....	.....	1 d	2 p
Ditto, under £1000 .....	par	3 p	3 p	.....	1 d	2 p
Ex. Bills, £1000 .....	1 p	3 p	par	1 d	2 p	2 d
Ditto, £500 .....	4 p	3 p	4 p	2 p	1 d	2 d
Ditto, Small .....	5 p	3 p	.....	2 d	3 p	2 d

## FOREIGN FUNDS.

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

Brazilian Bonds.....	101½	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ....	.....
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents 85	.....	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	107½
Chilian 6 per Cents.....	105	Russian 4½ per Cents....	95½
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	.....	Spanish.....	23½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	64½	Spanish Committee Cer-	.....
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.	98½	of Coup. not fun.....	5½
Equador Bonds.....	.....	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	95½
Mexican Account.....	21½	Turkish New, 4 ditto....	.....
Peruvian 4½ per Cents....	78	Venezuela 4½ per Cents..	35
Portuguese 3 per Cents. 43½	.....		

## ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.

On Monday and during the week the performances will commence with the Comedietta of

### DELICATE GROUND.

After which will be presented the new and original Fairy Extravaganza, entitled

### YOUNG AND HANDSOME,

In which Miss Swanborough, Mrs. Melfort, Miss Thirlwall, Mr. F. Robson, and Mr. J. Rogers will appear.

To conclude with the new Farce called

### CRINOLINE,

In which Mr. F. Robson will appear.

## ITALY AS IT IS, AND AS IT IS TO BE.—

Literary Institution, Edward's-street, Portman-square. Lecture by Professor Saffi, on Thursday, Jan. 22. To commence at eight. Admission:—Reserved Seats, 5s.; Unreserved, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. Tickets at the Institution, at Roland's Library, Berners-street, and at the Office of the Emancipation of Italy Fund Committee, 22, Sloane-street, Knightsbridge.

## DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,

4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gentlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men, &c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, Four, and at Half-past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton; and a new Series of Lectures is now in course of delivery by Dr. Kahn, at a Quarter past Eight, P.M.—Admission, 1s.—Catalogues, containing Lectures as delivered by Dr. Kahn, gratis.

## TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES.

**LIES.**—By her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent (the only patent for these preparations). Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession. ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS and BARLEY are manufactured by a process which entirely removes the acidity and unpleasant flavour, so universally found in similar preparations. They produce Gruel and Barley Water in the highest perfection, and, being manufactured perfectly pure, yield food of the most light and nourishing quality for the Infant, the Invalid, and the Aged. The Barley also makes a delicious Custard Pudding, and is an excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c.

The Patentees publish one only of the numerous testimonials they have received from eminent medical professors, relying more confidently on the intrinsic quality of the articles, of which one trial will not fail to convince the most fastidious of their purity and excellence.

(Copy.)

"Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, February 10, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of barley and groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed)

"A. S. TAYLOR.

"Messrs. Adnam and Co."

**CAUTION.**—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. O. ADNAM.

To be obtained Wholesale at the Manufactory, Maiden-lane, Queen-street, London; and Retail in Packets and Canisters at 6d. and 1s. each, and in Canisters for Families at 2s., 5s., and 10s. each, of all respectable Grocers, Druggists, &c., in Town and Country.

**ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.**

**HARRINGTON PARKER & CO.** are now delivering the October brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 18 gallons and upwards, by **HARRINGTON PARKER & CO., 51, Pall Mall.** November 24th, 1856.

**THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY, RICHIN LANE, CORNHILL.**

Are enabled, by their connexion with the principal wine growers, to supply every description of WINE of the finest qualities at prices for cash far below the average, including their

Alto Douro Ports, at 42s. per dozen.

Genuine ditto, 34s. per dozen.

Superior Pale or Gold Sherries, 30s. to 36s. per dozen.

Champagne, from 42s. to 72s.

Claret, from 30s. to 84s.

Post orders must contain a remittance.

**SPANISH and WESTPHALIA HAMS, 8½d.**

per lb. Good Cheshire Cheese, 5½d., 6½d., and 7½d. per lb. Rich Blue Mould Stilton, 8d., 10d., and 12d. per lb.; matchless do., 14d. per lb. Osborne's famed best Smoked Breakfast Bacon is now in excellent cure. York Hams, large and small, in abundance, and Butters in perfection at reasonable rates. A saving of 15 per cent. to the purchaser of all provisions. Packages gratis.

**OSBORNE'S Cheese Warehouse, 30, Ludgate-hill, St. Paul's.**

Under the Patronage of Royalty and the Authority of the Faculty.

**KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES. — A**

Certain Remedy for Disorders of the Pulmonary Organs: in Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication), they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 1½d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by **THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's-churchyard, London;** and retail by all Druggists.

**FOGS, COUGHS, COLDS.****ONE OF DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC**

WAFERS, allowed to dissolve in the mouth, immediately relieves the most violent fit of coughing, and protects weak lungs from all the irritation of Fogs and Frosts. Sold by all Chemists at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box.

**THE ROYAL SANITARY POLICE OF PRUSSIA****ON DR. DE JONGH'S****LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.**

"In answer to your letter of the 2nd ult., requesting permission to sell DR. DE JONGH'S Cod Liver Oil in bottles, accompanied by his stamp and signature, the Royal Police of Prussia (Königliches-polizei-Præsidium) has the honour of informing you that it has caused the Oil to be submitted to an official investigation, and that the result of such investigation has proved it to be not only the genuine Cod Liver Oil, but, still further, that it is of a kind which distinguishes itself from the Cod Liver Oil in ordinary use, alike by its taste and chemical composition. Considering, moreover, that it has come to their knowledge that physicians generally recommend the use of Dr. DE JONGH'S Oil in preference to the Cod Liver Oil in ordinary use, the Royal Police accedes to your request."

"KÖNIGLICHES POLIZEI-PRÆSIDIUM."

"To A. M. Bismarck, Chemist, Berlin."

**DR. DE JONGH'S COD LIVER OIL**

Has now, in consequence of its marked superiority over every other variety, secured the entire confidence and almost universal preference of the most eminent Medical Practitioners as the most speedy and effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

Sold only in IMPERIAL Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; Pints, 4s. 9d.; Quarts, 9s.; and labelled with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by most respectable Chemists throughout the United Kingdom.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEPOT,

**ANSAR, HARFORD, & CO., 77, STRAND, LONDON, W. C.** DR. DE JONGH'S SOLE BRITISH CONSIGNERS.

**FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.—The**

manifold advantages to the heads of families from the possession of a medicine of known efficacy, that may be resorted to with confidence, and used with success in cases of temporary sickness, occurring in families more or less every day, are so obvious to all, that no question can be raised of its importance to every housekeeper in the kingdom.

For females, these Pills are truly excellent, removing all obstructions, the distressing headache so very prevalent with the sex, depression of spirits, dulness of sight, nervous affections, blotches, pimples, and sallowness of the skin, and produce a healthy complexion.

Sold by **PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London,** and all Medicine Vendors.

Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d. per box.

**HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS**

**PEERLESS REMEDIES FOR THE CURE OF SCURVY.**—Henry Vaughan, of Portsea, respectfully and gratefully informs Professor Holloway that he was suffering for many years with inveterate scurvy; yellow spots appeared on the face and hands, accompanied with distressing languor, weakness of the legs, fetid breath, days without hope, nights without sleep, the distemper only aggravated by medical advice; when, providentially, he was induced to obtain Professor Holloway's medicines, by the aid of which he miraculously regained health and strength in a very short time.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at Professor **HOLLOWAY'S** Establishments, 244, Strand, London, and 80, Maiden-lane, New York; by A. Stampa, Constantinople; A. Guidici, Smyrna; and E. Muir, Malta.

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assortment of TABLE-CUTLERY in the world, all warranted, is on SALE at **WILLIAM S. BURTON'S**, at prices that are remunerative only because of the largeness of the sales—3½ inch ivory-handled table-knives, with high shoulders, 12s. per dozen; desserts to match, 9s. 6d.; if to balance, 6d. per dozen extra; carvers, 4s. 3d. per pair; larger sizes, from 14s. 6d. to 26s. per dozen; extra fine ivory, 32s.; if with silver ferrules, 37s. to 50s.; white bone table-knives, 7s. 6d. per dozen; desserts, 6s. 6d.; carvers, 2s. 3d. per pair; black horn table-knives, 7s. 4d. per dozen; desserts, 6s., carvers, 2s. 6d.; black wood-handled table-knives and forks, 6s. per dozen; table steels from 1s. each. The largest stock in existence of plated dessert knives and forks, in cases and otherwise, and of the new plated fish-carvers.

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

Fiddle or Thread or King's  
Old Silver Brunswick Pattern. Pattern. Pattern.

Table Spoons and Forks per dozen... 38s. .... 48s. .... 60s.  
Dessert ditto and ditto ... 30s. .... 35s. .... 42s.  
Tea ditto ... 18s. .... 24s. .... 30s.  
Tea and Coffee Sets, Cruet, and Liqueur Frames, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.

**CHEMICALLY PURE NICKEL NOT PLATED.**

Table Spoons and Forks Fiddle. Thread. King's.  
per dozen..... 12s. ... 28s. ... 30s.  
Dessert ditto and ditto... 10s. ... 21s. ... 25s.  
Tea ditto..... 5s. ... 11s. ... 12s.

**DISH COVERS and HOT WATER DISHES**

In every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Tin dish covers 6s. 6d. the set of six; block tin, 12s. 3d. to 28s. 9d. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 34s. to 58s. 6d. the set; Britannia metal, with or without silver-plated handles, 76s. 6d. to 110s. 6d. the set; Sheffield plated, 10s. to 16s. 10s. the set; block tin hot water dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia metal, 22s. to 57s.; electro-plated or nickel, full-sized, 12s. 11s.

The additions to these extensive premises (already by far the largest in Europe) are of such a character that the entire of **EIGHT HOUSES** is devoted to the display of the most magnificent stock of **GENERAL HOUSE IRONMONGERY** (including Cutlery, Nickel Silver, Plated Goods, Baths, Brushes, Turnery, Lamps, Gaseliers, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, and Bed-hangings), so arranged in Sixteen Large Show Rooms as to afford to parties furnishing facilities in the selection of goods that cannot be hoped for elsewhere.

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From the *Morning Post*, Oct. 30, 1856.—"Exhibits exquisite artistic feeling in ornamentation, and perfection of mechanism in structure."—From the *Morning Chronicle*, Oct. 30.—"Excellence of design and perfection in workmanship."—From the *Morning Advertiser*, Nov. 1.—"The high repute which Mr. Benson has obtained for the qualities of his manufacture stands second to none."—From the *Morning Herald*, Nov. 3.—"The high standing of Mr. Benson as a London manufacturer must secure for him a large amount of public patronage."—From the *Globe*, Nov. 3.—"All that can be desired, in finish, taste, and design."

**GOLD WATCHES**, Horizontal Movements, Jewelled, &c., accurate time-keepers, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., 5l. 15s., to 15l. 15s. each. Gold Lever Watches, jewelled, and highly-finished movements, 6l. 6s., 8l. 8s., 10l. 10s., 12l. 12s., 14l. 14s., 16l. 16s., to 20 guineas.

**SILVER WATCHES**, Horizontal Movements, Jewelled, &c., exact time-keepers, 2l. 2s., 2l. 15s., 3l. 15s., to 5l. 5s. each. Silver Lever Watches, highly finished, jewelled movements, 3l. 10s., 4l. 10s., 5l. 10s., 6l. 10s., 7l. 10s., to 20 guineas.

A Two Years' Warranty given with every Watch, and sent, carriage paid, to Scotland, Ireland, Wales, or any part of the Kingdom, upon receipt of Post-office or Banker's order, made payable to J. W. BENSON, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London.

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The **PELISSIER SACS**, 21s., 25s., and 28s.

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**BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.**

**THE CONCERTINA**, manufactured solely by the Inventors and Patentees, Messrs. **WHEATSTONE and Co.** The Patent Concertina, 17 1/2s., of superior make, six sided, with double action, to play in five keys. The Concertina having the full compass of notes, price from 4 to 12 guineas.

The **PATENT CONCERT CONCERTINA**, unrivalled in tone and of extra power, as manufactured for Signor Rigondi, and the most eminent performers. These instruments price 12 guineas. Rosewood Concertinas, with 48 ivory keys, double action, may now be had from 4 guineas each.

The **PATENT DUET CONCERTINA** (invented by Messrs. W. and Co.) This novel and extraordinary instrument comprises two separate Concertinas. The Concertina for each hand is complete and independent of the other, the left hand may be used for accompanying on the Piano-forte; either being sufficient for the performance of a melody. Price 1l. 11s. 6d. and 2l. 2s.

Full descriptive lists of Harmoniums, Concertinas, and Music for these instruments may be had on application to **WHEATSTONE and Co., 20, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London.**

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**WILLIAM S. BURTON'S NEW LIST of BEDS, BEDDING, and BEDSTEADS is NOW READY**, and can be had gratis.

The quality of beds, mattresses, &c., of every description he is able to guarantee; they are made on the premises, in the presence of customers; their prices are in harmony with those which have tended to make his house ironmongery establishment the most extensive in the kingdom.

Feather beds.....	from £1 5 0	to £8 0 0
German spring mattresses.....	2 8 0	7 0 0
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**PLETE SETS**, without Springs, on the principle of capillary attraction, avoiding the necessity of extracting stumps or causing any pain.

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Sold by **PROUT and HARSANT, 229, Strand, London,** and all Medicine Vendors.

Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per box.



## THIRTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.

At a GENERAL MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS, held at the Banking-house of the Company, in Princes-street, Mansion House, on THURSDAY, the 15th of January, 1857,

PHILIP WILLIAM FLOWER, Esq., Chairman.  
THOMAS TILSON, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

### DIRECTORS.

William Bird, Esq.  
William Blount, Esq.  
Alderman Sir George Carroll.  
William Miller Christy, Esq.  
Alderman Sir James Duke, Bart., M.P.  
Philip William Flower, Esq.  
George Holgate Foster, Esq.  
Francis Bennett Goldney, Esq.  
William Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P.  
Henry Grace, Esq.  
Archibald Hastie, Esq., M.P.  
William J. Lancaster, Esq.  
Sir John M'Taggart, Bart., M.P.  
George Meek, Esq.  
Ambrose Moore, Esq.  
John Timothy Oxley, Esq.  
John Joseph Silva, Esq.  
George Taylor, Esq.  
Thomas Tilson, Esq.

The Manager—GEORGE POLLARD, Esq.  
Solicitors—Messrs. CLARKE and MORICE.

The following Report was presented:—

With much satisfaction the Directors again meet the Proprietors of the Bank, to place before them the state of their affairs, and the Profit and Loss Account for the Half-year ending the 31st December, 1856.

The Proprietors will perceive that, including the sum of 25,086l. 18s. 6d. brought forward on the 30th of June last, there is a net balance of 84,217l. 4s. 9d., which the Directors have appropriated as follows, viz.:—

£	s.	d.	
37,500	0	0	to the payment of a Dividend of 6l. 5s. per cent. for the half-year (being at the rate of 12½ per cent. per annum) upon 600,000l., the paid-up Capital.
46,500	0	0	to the payment of an additional Bonus of 15s. 6d. per Share, and
217	4	9	to the credit of the Guarantee Fund.
84,217	4	9	

With this addition, the Guarantee Fund amounts to 165,932l. 13s. 10d.

The following gentlemen retire from the direction by rotation, viz.:—

William Miller Christy, Esq.  
Francis Bennett Goldney, Esq.  
William Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P.  
Henry Grace, Esq., and  
Thomas Tilson, Esq.

all of whom offer themselves for re-election.

The Dividend and Bonus, free from income-tax, will be payable on and after Friday, the 23rd inst.

The preceding report having been read to the meeting by the Secretary, a Dividend for the half-year ending the 31st of December last, after the rate of 12½ l. 10s. per cent. per annum, and a further division of 15s. 6d. per Share out of the net profits of the year ending as above, were declared by the Chairman.

Resolved unanimously,—That the report now read be received, and that it be printed for the use of the shareholders.

The following Directors having retired by rotation, were unanimously re-elected, viz.:—

William Miller Christy, Esq.  
Francis Bennett Goldney, Esq.  
William Ormsby Gore, Esq., M.P.  
Henry Grace, Esq., and  
Thomas Tilson, Esq.

Resolved unanimously,—That the thanks of the meeting, with the expression of its confidence, be given to the Directors for their very excellent and able management.

Resolved unanimously,—That its thanks be also most cordially tendered to George Pollard, Esq., the Manager.

(Signed) P. W. FLOWER, Chairman.

Extracted from the Minutes.

JNO. WARDROPE, Secretary.

## LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31, 1856. THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.

Dr.		
To capital paid-up, viz., 60,000 shares at 10l. each .....	£600,000	0 0
To amount due by the Bank .....	7,224,527	13 5
To amount of "The Guarantee Fund," June 30, 1856 .....	£163,266	9 2
To 6 months' interest on ditto, at 3l. per cent. per annum...	2,448	19 11
To undivided profit for the last half-year....	165,715	9 1
To amount carried to profit and loss account .....	25,086	18 6
	113,424	5 11
	£8,128,754	6 11

Cr.		
By Exchequer-bills and India Bonds .....	£1,018,611	5 0
By cash, loans, bills discounted, and other securities.....	7,065,003	1 11
By building, furniture, &c., in Princes-street.....	£36,950	0 0
By ditto, ditto, in Pall-mall...	8,125	0 0
	45,075	0 0
	£8,128,754	6 11

## PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT OF THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDING DEC. 31, 1856.

Dr.		
To current expenses, proportion of building expenses, directors' remuneration, bad debts, income-tax, &c.....	£26,478	16 6
To amount carried to profit and loss, new account, being rebate of interest on bills discounted not yet due .....	27,820	3 2
To amount transferred to the credit of "The Guarantee Fund" .....	217	4 9
To dividend account for the payment of half a year's dividend, at the rate of 12½ per centum per annum, upon 600,000l., amount of paid-up capital upon 60,000 shares .....	37,500	0 0
To ditto for the payment of a bonus of 15s. 6d. per share .....	46,500	0 0
	£138,511	4 5
Cr.		
By balance brought down .....	£113,424	5 11
By undivided profit brought forward from the last half-year .....	25,086	18 6
	£138,511	4 5

## THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.

Established in 1836.

Head Office—Princes-street, Mansion House.

Western Branch—69, Pall-mall.

Subscribed Capital, 3,000,000l. Paid-up Capital, 600,000l.  
Guarantee Fund, 166,000l.

Accounts of parties are kept agreeably to the custom of London bankers.

Parties keeping banking accounts with the bank can at all times transfer to a deposit account such portion of their balance as they may not immediately require, upon which interest at the current rate of the day will be allowed.

Deposits are also received from parties not customers, either at call or for fixed periods, on interest at the market rates.

The agency of joint-stock and other country and foreign banks, undertaken on such terms as may be agreed upon.

Investments in, and sales of, all descriptions of British and foreign securities, bullion, specie, &c., effected.

Dividends on English and foreign funds, on railway and other shares, debentures, and coupons, received without charge to customers. Every other description of banking business and money agency transacted, and letters of credit granted on the Continent, and on the chief commercial towns of the world.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANKING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1847.

The Court of Directors GRANT LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS upon the Company's Banks in South Australia at par.

Approved drafts negotiated or sent for collection. Business with all the Australian Colonies conducted through the Bank's Agents.

Apply at the Company's Offices, 54, Old Broad-street, London.

WILLIAM PURDY, Manager.

London, 1st January, 1857.

## UNITED MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, 54, Charing-cross, London.

Whole Profits divided annually. No charge for Policy Stamps. Every description of Life Assurance effected on equitable terms.

THOMAS PRITCHARD, Resident Director.

### NOTICE OF DIVIDEND.

#### BANK OF DEPOSIT.

No. 3, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.

## THE WARRANTS for the HALF-YEARLY

Interest, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, on Deposit Accounts, to 31st December, are ready for delivery, and payable daily between the hours of 10 and 4.

PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.

10th January, 1857.

Prospectuses and Forms for opening Investment Accounts sent free on application.

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Capital 100,000l. Established 1849.

Office, 27, Gresham-street. Agencies in the principal towns of England and Wales.

This office offers the benefit of assurance in all its branches, and is highly eligible for every description of life assurance.

A new and most important feature, entirely originating with this Company, viz., Marriage Dowries, Life Assurance, and Deferred Annuities included in one policy.

Rates of premium moderate. Annuities granted. Family endowments. Loans on personal and other securities. Forms of proposal and every information may be obtained on application.

By order, ALFRED MELHADO, Manager.

## THE HOUSEHOLDERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY.

### DIRECTORS.

Wm. Ashton, Esq., Horton-house, Wraysbury, Staines.  
The Rev. Thos. Cator, Bryanston-square, and Skelbrook-park, Doncaster.  
Charles Hulse, Esq., Hall-grove, Bagshot.  
F. D. Bullock Webster, Esq., Norfolk-terrace, Hyde-park.  
Arthur P. Onslow, Esq., Lawbrook-house, Shere, Guildford.  
Thomas Pocock, Esq., Southwark-bridge-road.  
Peter Paterson, Esq., jun., Park-road, Holloway.  
James Laughton, Esq., Holm Villa, Lewisham-road.

This Company enables persons, without speculation, to invest large or small sums, at a higher rate of interest than can be obtained from the public funds, and on as secure a basis.

Forms of application to deposit sums of money, at 5 per cent. interest, payable half-yearly, or to purchase shares (the present interest on which is 6 per cent.), may be had on application to

R. HODSON, Sec.

15 and 16, Adam-street, Adelphi.

## RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

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

Price of single truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.—Postage, 1s. Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d.—Postage, 1s. 6d. Unilateral Truss, 42s. and 52s. 6d.—Postage 1s. 6d.

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c. for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price from 7s. 6d. 10s. Postage, 1d.

Manufactory, 228, Piccadilly, London.

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OFFICES—156 (opposite the Peel Statue), Cheapside.

Chairman—MAJOR REED, M.P.

Treasurer—T. SIDNEY, Esq., Alderman.

The objects of this Association are to obtain the immediate repeal of the Acts of Parliament which increased the Property and Income-Tax from 7d. to 16d. in the £, and a more equitable adjustment or a total repeal of the Tax upon Trades and Property.

The Great Central Meeting—Mr. Alderman Sidney in the Chair—will be held at Exeter Hall on Wednesday next, the 21st January, at 6 P.M. for half-past 6 precisely. General Sir J. F. Fitzgerald, M.P., K.C.B.; C. S. Butler, Esq., M.P.; Alderman Challis, M.P.; T. S. Duncombe, Esq., M.P.; John Brady, Esq., M.P.; Geo. Bowyer, Esq., M.P., D.C.L.; Montagu Chambers, Esq., M.P., Q.C.; Thos. Chambers, Esq., M.P.; Apsley Pellatt, Esq., M.P., and other Members of Parliament will attend.

Deputations are expected from several large Provincial Towns.—Admission Tickets may be had at the Offices of the Association, of the Members of the Committee, and at various places in the Metropolis.

CYRUS F. BUOTT, Honorary Secretary.

## ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANN'S SOCIETY for Children of those once in Prosperity, orphans or not.

The Half-yearly Election will take place at the London Tavern on Friday, 18th February next.

New Subscribers are entitled to vote.

Subscriptions gratefully received by the Committee, or by Messrs. Spooner and Co., 27, Gracechurch-street, or E. F. LEEKS, Secretary.

Executors of Benefactors by Will become Life Governors according to the amount of the bequest.

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