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The Leader.

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

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SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855.

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News of the Week.

WAR was all in the ascendant last week. Peace, without interrupting the action of the armies, steps into the foreground, though, as yet, covered by a mask of diplomacy. Such is the rapidity of events resulting in the report that a congress is to assemble on the 1st of next month to arrange the peace between the belligerent parties. Russia has astounded the world by a new invasion—invading the proceedings of the Allies by the sudden, unexpected, unprepared declaration that she accepted the four points as interpreted by the Protocol of the 28th of December. Down to that very day the Emperor was haranguing the population of all the Russias in the most warlike tones. Since it is not understood that the Allies have at all departed from the substance of the conditions which have been so often published, the sudden change of counsel in Russia occasioned natural astonishment, and has been followed up by a still more natural suspicion. That she has meant mischief ever since Peter the Great bequeathed to her the enterprise of undermining every other authority in Europe and taking possession of the Continent for herself, is believed as devoutly as ever; and when the Russian Envoy suddenly announces, on the 7th of January—seven days before the term assigned to his reply—that Russia abandons her refusal to listen, accepts all preliminaries, and desires peace, it is palpable that some new scheme against the independence of Europe has been devised at St. Petersburg.

The conduct of Prussia in part explains, though it does not clear up, the proceedings of her ally. Prussia, who lately refused to supply the contingent Austria claimed in defence of Germanic territory, has recently been mustering all her disposable forces, and putting them in a state of preparation, without declaring for what purpose; intimating that the preparation is only transitory, and evidently being prepared to fall in with the alliance, or to desert. Subsequently, it is reported that she has given her adhesion to the treaty of December 2; which places an agent of Russia once more completely in the council of the Three Powers. The representatives of those Three Powers, however, had not taken a position which entitled them to repel the overtures for peace. The apparently complete acquiescence of Russia would have disarmed resistance, and the Congress

appears to be the natural consequence of the present turn of affairs. Whether the Allies will be more strong in Congress than they have been in the Crimea remains to be seen; but the gravest fears must be entertained that they will now enter into a contest favourable to the enemy.

In the mean while none of the three Allies desist in their active proceedings. In a speech to the Imperial Guard on the 9th instant, the Emperor Napoleon cheered them by the promise that they should soon be assisting their comrades to plant the Eagles of the Empire on the walls of Sebastopol; and our own Admiralty has issued an announcement, that the ports of the Black Sea, and the sea of Azov, in the possession of Russia, will be strictly blockaded.

The United States propose to offer a mediation between the belligerent Powers. This proposition is the result of a natural movement in the United States; it follows from the meeting of American Ministers at Ostend. And whether or not the mediation be accepted, it is a step that promises great results for Europe and for America hereafter. It is true that America is acquiring interests in every country where her ships seek trade; it is true that the Atlantic cannot divide her from the interests of Europe; true that her own prosperity and power entail upon her the duty of sustaining in other less fortunate countries the political influences from which she derives such benefits. There is no doubt a disposition in America, and in our own land, to deal with foreign States too much as if they were unquestionably represented by their constituted Governments. Technically, this is correct and safe; practically, it violates the very spirit of those institutions which regard the people as greater than its officers. There is more than one people on the Continent which is less fortunate than America, in being saddled with a Government that it does not choose, because foreign States have conspired to keep that Government upon it. Take Naples as an example. American politicians can string up a list of such countries. It is not every state in Europe that has combined the intelligence, the public spirit, the common sense, and the good luck, to form for itself a representative Government like that of Sardinia; but to sustain Sardinia against her external enemies, and hold out a hope that the people of Naples would receive a sympathetic support if they could show themselves independently of their base Court—these we conceive to be the duties

of Americans, greater than that of mediating between their felon-flatterer Nicholas and the Britons who share their blood and their political feeling. We hail the intervention of America on the Continent; we must hear more of this mediation before we can be sure that it would command our approval; but in any case we have the utmost confidence, that leading and influential men in America cannot really mingle themselves in European affairs without effecting good.

The story of Sardinia even within the single week is a great and noble episode in the history of Europe. Continuing the development of its representative constitution, softening those extreme desires which might otherwise divide a generally liberal people, Sardinia has placed its Government in such a position, that it is able to undertake the suppression of convents and monasteries; while by her adhesion to the alliance of France and England for maintaining in Turkey the principle of national independence and international justice, she has become an example, and an auxiliary to the upholders of public law in Europe.

We respect individuals who conduct themselves well, and so act as to promote the welfare of others as well as their own: can we apply an opposite principle to States, and equally encourage those who are the murderers of States and those who are the regenerators of States? Lord Panmure, speaking at the Edinburgh Bible Society, cuts the ground from under Mr. John Bright. It will be remembered that at a recent meeting of a Bible Society, Mr. Bright stated, amongst other extenuating circumstances in the case of defendant Russia, that the Emperor Nicholas encourages the consumption of Bibles, and subscribes to the Bible Society. Lord Panmure seems to convict Mr. Bright of an anachronism. The Czar who encouraged the circulation of the Bible in Russia, was, not Nicholas, but Alexander; and Nicholas positively prohibits what his brother promoted. Indeed, the suppression of any printed writing goes so far, as a contemporary observes, that a censor took exception to the Lord's Prayer, "For," said he, "give us this day our daily bread," savours of Socialism, and "thy kingdom come," implies that the people are discontented with their present Emperor." The sort of Christianity which the Emperor really encourages is embodied in the doll and raki that he sent to stimulate the religious instincts and the nerves of the soldiers before Inkerman.



Perhaps, in this country, we ought not seriously to condemn any man for religious bigotry. We have our Czar in every village; or if not, our Ditcher, or our Law, which is the Czar without his grandeur and audacity. The Commission appointed to inquire into the *prima facie* case against the Reverend George Anthony Denison has returned a special verdict—that Mr. Denison's doctrine is not that of the Church of England, but that he has expressly disavowed the doctrine of transubstantiation. In other words, Mr. Denison cannot be called a Romanist; but in the opinion of the Low Church, High Church doctrine is heterodox. High Church thinks exactly the same of Low-Church doctrines. Simeon was right when he cautioned Joseph Wolfe against hastily using that word: "heresy." If Englishmen fling the ancient Fathers and modern evangelical tract-writers at each other's head, they will scandalise those outside the Church enough to break up the establishment. The present case, however, is tainted by something worse than sectarian doctrines—there is personal venom mixed up with it. George Anthony Denison cannot command the absolute approval of any man who takes a serious and consistent view of religious questions. He unites a certain rash caprice with an ambitious enthusiasm, ill-befitting the representative of any consistent party. But he is liked personally, save by the Low Churchmen; and because he invests what they call heresy with the influences derived from personal esteem, they desire to drive him out of the Church. There is a personal conspiracy, as well as a sectarian conspiracy, against Archdeacon Denison; the foul play is so obvious, that it has recoiled on itself. And those churchmen, who would break into the parish church to commit ecclesiastical murder upon Denison, or the benighted dissenter who sits at home and eggs them on, have been detected, and are known. *Josiah Ditcher* is a bad name for a minister of charity—not so bad, perhaps, for a public prosecutor. It sounds like very dirty work. Henry Law is the hedger.

Of all domestic tragedies that have so frequently startled the public lately, that in Foley-place is one of the most startling. In this quiet and virtuous land, a couple are sleeping in their bed, when they are awakened by an infuriate intruder, who shoots the man, wounds the woman, and rushes up-stairs into another room to attempt the destruction of himself. The police are brought in to seize the murderer, Baranelli, an Italian, and the secrets of the house are revealed. Lambert, the murdered man, was Latham, a man of property; the woman with him was not his wife. They had been separating the assassin from another woman in their house, who seems to have roused his vehement nature by alternate tenderness and repulsion. He declares that they had sought to prevent his becoming a father, by persuading her to the commission of a crime. Guilt was latent in that house; Baranelli rendered it flagrant, and made the painful story of its entangled relations the property of the penny-liner.

RENEWED BLOCKADE OF THE DANUBE.

The following has been issued by Government:—

"Admiralty, 10th January, 1855.

"Sir,—With reference to the last paragraph of my letter of the 8th of November last, stating that the French and English admirals in the Black Sea have received orders from their respective Governments to extend the blockade of the mouths of the Danube to all the ports in the Black Sea, and in the Sea of Azoff, which still remain in the possession of the enemy, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to acquaint you, in order that the same may be made known to the mercantile community, that the Governments of England and France have further decided that the blockade in question shall take place on and after the 1st of February next; and that due notice will be given in the *London Gazette*, of the blockade of the particular ports, so soon as the same shall have been effected. I am, &c.

(Signed) W. A. B. HAMILTON.

"To the Secretary at Lloyd's."

THE WAR.

THERE is a decided reaction in the Crimea. Improvements are certainly taking place, as well in material as in disposition to employ it. The feeling of indifference, which so many accounts recently displayed, have given way to the universal expectation of a renewal of the bombardment, and possibly of an assault. It is certain that large reinforcements have arrived, and that the batteries will immediately recommence. Indeed, a late despatch states that the 10th had been fixed for the bombardment. However, similar activity is manifested by the enemy. The latest telegraph tells us that Turkey is again invaded.

"BRALOW, Jan. 9.

"The Russians have crossed the Danube, invaded the Dobrudscha, and taken both Tultscha and Babadagh.

"Sadyk Pacha defended Tultscha as long as possible."

At Sebastopol considerable skirmishing has taken place. On the 20th the Russians made a sortie, which is described in the following, from Lord Raglan's despatch:—

"The only occurrence in the siege operations has been a sortie made by the enemy on both our right and left during the night of the 20th, the one being conducted silently, the other with drums beating and shouting, the first being probably the real object of the advance, as nearer to the Inkerman heights.

"Owing to the extreme darkness of the night, the enemy were enabled to come very near the right attack without being perceived, and, having made a sudden rush upon the most forward parallel, they compelled the men occupying it to withdraw, until reinforced by a party under Major Welsford, of the 97th Regiment, when it was regained possession of, and the Russians retired, not however without occasioning some loss in killed, wounded, and missing, Lieutenant Byron, of the 34th Regiment, being among the latter.

"On the left attack the enemy were met with great gallantry by Lieutenant Gordon, of the 38th Regiment, who, when supported by the covering party of the trenches, under Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy, of the 50th, succeeded in at once driving them back. But here, too, I regret to say the loss was still more severe; Major Müller, of the 50th, fell mortally wounded, and I am concerned to add is since dead, and Captain Frampton and Lieutenant Clarke, both of the 50th Regiment, are missing. Sir Richard England speaks in high terms of the gallantry and vigilance of these troops, and of the distinguished conduct of Lieutenant-Colonel Waddy."

Since the departure of the division of General Liprandi for Bakstchi-Serai and Simpheropol, in anticipation of a movement on the side of Eupatoria, no more masses of Russians have been seen. They keep in their positions on the Belbek, but are busily occupied in digging up the ground both in the town and the country. The French batteries are all armed, but the English works, unfortunately, do not advance with all the celerity that could be desired.

The arrival of Omar Pacha will be an important feature. Letters from Constantinople state that he was well received by the Sultan and the Grand Vizier. All his demands relative to clothing and provisioning the troops he is to command at Eupatoria were acceded to. Up to the 22nd ult., 12,000 men had embarked at Varna for that destination. The French force at Eupatoria had been made up to a division. It was believed that the whole of the intended Turkish force would be assembled there by the 6th of January, and a movement towards Simpheropol would immediately take place. General Osten-Sacken, on the other hand, would take the offensive against Eupatoria with 45,000 infantry, 9000 cavalry, and 80 guns.

Later accounts say that Omar Pacha had gone to Balaklava—this was dated the 28th. The following telegraph relates to this:—

"VIENNA, Friday Evening, Jan. 5.

"The following is reliable intelligence from the Crimea of the 26th of December:—

"The Russians are taking up a position on the Alma, in order to ward off any attack upon Sebastopol from the north—probably a precautionary measure against the Turks at Eupatoria."

The following telegraphic intelligence, received by the *Vienna Presse* from Bucharest, requires confirmation:—

"Prince Stirby is raising an auxiliary corps of 10,000 Wallachians, to assist the Turks in their operations against the Russians."

The French army before Sebastopol will form two corps under Generals Pelissier and Bosquet; the first will prosecute the siege, and the second is to act in the field. General Canrobert will exercise the chief command as hitherto.

"A letter from Constantinople received by the last mail confirms," says the *Constitutionnel*, "the intelligence that the Russians have abandoned the ground in front of the Quarantine fort, occupied by a small village. The French soldiers hurried in to seize on

all they could get of vegetables from the gardens, articles of furniture, and even the doors and windows from the cottages. General Bizot had six windows placed aside to serve as General Canrobert's dining-room—when erected. "All that," says a letter from a French officer, "was done under a sharp fire of musketry, which, however, only wounded two men slightly. I saw Captain de Marivault, of the navy, carrying away with the greatest precaution a window, which he protected with infinite address with his body against the balls. Near him, I saw an artilleryman gathering a ball in one of the gardens. A ball knocked out of his hands what he had collected; grumbling at being so treated, he again set about his work, and finished it without further molestation. Such examples of *sang-froid* are by no means rare."

On the 21st of December, General Alonville, with a large force of cavalry and a battalion of Chasseurs, made a reconnaissance in the direction of Baidar. The Russians observing the movement came down in large forces, but the French having observed the exact position of the enemy, returned with a few prisoners, and with a loss of four men, killed and wounded. On the night of the 21st the Russians made two sorties on the English and French lines, and were repulsed.

The news received at St. Petersburg is trifling. It consists of the continued reiteration, "That nothing of importance had occurred."

The French are constructing an aqueduct near Kamiesch Bay, which will provide the ships with fresh water when completed.

Advices from Balaklava of the 30th of December state that the railway was to be commenced at once.

There has been another tempest in the Black Sea, causing some disasters. Two English ships suffered damage.

Sir George Brown will return to England for a time, to re-establish his health.

Admiral Dundas arrived at Malta with the *Britannia* and the *Trafalgar*, and will take his passage in the *Vectis* for France. The Duke of Cambridge has also landed from the Thames, and will remain to recruit his health.

The number of troops who embarked at Marseilles from the 12th November to the 31st ult., was 11,290 infantry and 1966 cavalry, making a total of 13,236 men; 963 horses and mules were embarked during the same period.

RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS.

The movements of Russian troops are not rendered less active by anything that is taking place at Vienna. Russian infantry, cavalry, and artillery are steadily advancing towards the Austrian frontier, as well as through Odessa to the Crimea. The whole of the 1st corps of infantry and a division of Grenadiers have been concentrated on the right bank of the Vistula. The landed proprietors have been called upon to provide immediately provisions and provender.

"WARSAW, Jan. 4.

"Three Belgian rifle manufacturers have engaged to found a manufactory of arms here, and are daily expected. Prince Paskiewitch and the Emperor will make a tour of inspection, which will include all the headquarters of the active army corps. General von Dehn, the head of the engineering service, arrived yesterday, and is to inspect all the fortresses in this kingdom. The heavy snow-fall has put a stop to all travelling by railway."

"WARSAW, Jan. 5.

"General Berg leaves to-morrow for Finland, to organise his army for the expected Baltic campaign in the spring.

"Captain Jemowitch has arrived with 10,000 first-rate rifles, made with all the recent improvements. He bought them in Belgium, having been sent thither especially for that purpose."

THE AUSTRIAN ARMY ON THE FRONTIER.

The Austrian forces now stationed in the city and neighbourhood of Cracow amount to 52,000 men of all arms, with sixty-eight pieces of ordnance, divided into four parks, which can be united in five days. The army corps stands in direct communication with that of Lemberg, which numbers 42,000 men. The junction of the two might be effected without great difficulty, either for joint action or for union with the army in East Gallicia and the Bukovina, as circumstances might require. The latter army corps may number 100,000 men; that of Transylvania has a strength of 130,000 men; and that of the Principalities about 50,000.

NOTES OF THE SIEGE.

WINTER CLOTHING.

The *Herald* correspondent says:—

"Each soldier has been supplied with one flannel Guernsey shirt, one pair of gloves, two pair of socks, and one woollen comforter. Now I am aware that these things look well when only written down, but the articles must be seen to be appreciated. In the first place, the flannel shirt is about the thickness of an ordinary silk pocket-handkerchief, and will wear about ten days

for a fortnight. When it is gone the men have had their winter clothing, and must do without the little warmth afforded as they best can. The same remarks apply to the socks. The gloves are good if they would only last, but for the work our men have they require at least five or six pair for the whole winter. But the crowning absurdity is the "comforter!" It is a strip of very fine audibly-coloured wool, about two inches wide and three feet long, about the size of an ordinary brace. Literally it would not make a decent neck-tie for a child. It is useless for the authorities at home to try and contradict what I have now asserted. I have many of these articles in my possession, and as specimens of "winter clothing" for a campaign they are certainly the greatest curiosities I have seen in the Crimea. The officers laugh at the things, and ask, is this really the supply about which so much fuss was made in England, and for sending which the home authorities got such praise? The men look on them with perfect contempt and disgust, and willingly exchange their whole stock of "winter clothing" for one comfortable bread-bag."

ENDURANCE OF THE GUARDS.

"It is singular to note how differently hardships affect the new regiments and those which have been out here from the commencement. Take the Guards, for instance. On parade they look a collection of gaunt dirty scarecrows, only by their consummate discipline which a Guardsman never forgets, which no amount of suffering ever induces him to break through, can you recognise the remains of the most perfect corps of infantry in the world. The officers look anything but officers—at least in a Londoner's notion; the men all look as if risen from some dangerous sickness. Compare these men with newly-arrived line regiments—the latter look the picture of neatness, models of robust health, men whom you would back to go through anything. Let in the course of a month many, very many, of these new men have died, and all the rest are 'seedy,' dirty invalids, while the Guards look as gaunt and unchanged as ever. Five or six weeks puts the new regiment on its legs, and from that time forward it rivals the oldest regiments in bone, dirt, and wretchedness; and singularly enough the mortality ceases. If a man gets through the first month or six weeks in camp without sickness, he has nothing to dread from the climate of the Crimea."

An officer, grown listless with travel, gives us the following

SKETCH OF BALAKLAVA.

"In the main street almost every house is now a shop store; a morsel of bread, 12 inches by 4, announces at some Jew, Greek, or Maltese rascal supplies spirits, beer, groceries, &c.; an unbroken string of carts, wagons, arabas with dromedaries, and pack ponies, fills the centre of the street, while under the projecting eaves of the shops is a crowd of officers and men, mingled with mule-horses. The men are drinking ale and porter at 6d. or 2s. a bottle, and the generality have a thick crust of butter or cheese on it, in their hands. The officers are bawling for tea, hams, jams, tacks, candles, 'gregos,' American chairs, brandy, tobacco, or butter, and cramming them into holsters and saddle-bags, or securing them as best they can for transport to camp. In the midst of the mud, clamour, and confusion you see scattered here and there one of the newly-arrived mounted staff corps, in fanciful helmet, and tunic, braided with black cord, and mounted on a bald Spanish horse, looking, to say the truth, very much as if they had just escaped from Astley's, or were the advanced guard of some equestrian troop coming to perform a circus in the village. These 'nice young men' loiter about in the mire, or stand sentry with drawn sword at a ruined house near the entrance to the town in the vain hope of preserving some order among the throng of travellers. An unhappy attempt at imitating an index finger, in mud or charcoal, on a white wall, pointing to a very narrow and excessively filthy alley, serves as a guide to the Post-office—that haven of hope and centre of interest for every man who has a heart and a name. Whether it be mail day or not, I would not think of leaving Balaklava without a call at the Post-office, for there is always the chance of a letter or a paper having been overlooked. I must say that civility and untiring patience in replying to interrogatories, at a high rate, characterise the officials at our Post-office; at least, so far as my experience goes. Such a scene as I have vainly attempted to portray is never to be forgotten by one who has witnessed the reality. My wanderings have extended round the world. I have dwelt in both hemispheres and ploughed every ocean; the streets of London and Paris, of Calcutta and Cape Town, of Hobart Town and Sydney, are familiar to me. I have mingled among the 'kingcobs'—excuse the spelling, you know I know better—in the Chouh of Benares and the Bazaars of Patna; I have looked with a longing eye on knick-knackery in the Palais Royal and the passages at Brussels; the Piazza San Marco at Venice and the Duomo of Milan have bewildered me with their present beauty or past associations; but that little filthy street in Balaklava, with its occupants, has afforded me more food for reflection. The impression produced will be more lasting. It is a lesson in life—a chapter in history. The scene is worthy of a philosopher, and one who possesses the gift of describing what he sees and feels."

The officer has time to find amusement everywhere. Here is some derived from

GENERAL ORDERS.

"The orderly has just brought in the General Orders, and here is a transcript from them:—

"Head-quarters before Sebastopol, Dec. 10, 1854.
"1. Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to appoint General the Right Hon. Fitzroy James Henry Lord Raglan, G.C.B., to be a Field-Marshal in the Army, and the commission to bear date the 5th of November, 1854.

"2. Field-Marshal Lord Raglan has the satisfaction to announce to the army that the vegetables that have been sent for their use are to be issued free of all charge, according to the instructions he has received from the War-office."

"Now tell me seriously—if you can—whether this delightfully abrupt transition does not approach the ludicrous—whether it does not complete that one step said to exist between the sublime and the ridiculous? Her Majesty honours the commander of her armies in the field with the highest military rank she can bestow. The announcement appears in General Orders here. The eye is thereupon dazzled with the full blaze of the glory of the Field-Marshal's baton. Scarcely can imagination even realise the glittering vision when the newly-created Field-Marshal has the satisfaction to announce to the gallant troops who contributed to win that glorious trophy for him that a grateful nation will not charge them for the cabbages and carrots which they ate a month ago, but that they shall be a gratuitous addition to the salt pork they have ill digested.

"We have had a hearty laugh about this dear delightful General Order. If unanimous as to the first paragraph being worthy of our dear Sovereign, we are all equally agreed that the second one is in beautiful keeping with the spirit of the War-office. It is redolent of the shop from which it emanates. Who cannot picture to himself the unctuous complacency with which a close-fisted, hard-hearted war-office official at length decided on conferring on the British soldier in the Crimea the inappreciable boon of not enforcing payment of his arrears due for 'taties and greens.'"

THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT IN THE CAMP.

We extract from the *Times* some portion of a leading article referring to the rumours so liberally bandied about respecting their correspondent:—

"A certain amount of vague gossiping has prevailed for the last few days, at our expense, among the minor official gentry, their toadies, and the echoes of these great authorities at the Military Clubs. It has been said that the correspondent of this journal, now present with the army, had been expelled from the Crimea, in consequence of his animadversions upon the notorious incompetency of the Staff of the British army. Had there been one grain of truth in the statement, it would only have reflected additional discredit upon men who were so conscious of their own shortcomings and neglect that they had endeavoured to get rid of an impartial witness. Nor would such a course, had it even been adopted—which it has not—have been discreditably to the person concerned, but it would have been weak and silly in the extreme. Hundreds of volunteers would have stepped forward in the place of the regular correspondent dismissed. A single impartial witness would have been banished, and some hundreds of others would have been substituted in his place, who would have written with all the acrimony of personal suffering and personal indignation. We need not, however, enter upon this point, for, whatever faults may be found in Lord Raglan's Staff, they are not such mere lunatics as their very intelligent friends in England presume them to be. Let us, then, more for their sakes than for any concern we feel in the matter, inform the inventors and propagators of this silly story that it is a simple falsehood from beginning to end. The *Times* correspondent has been as much expelled from the Crimea as the Monument from Monument-yard. The gentleman who has so ably and conscientiously discharged his duty to his employers and to the English public had accompanied the army from its departure from these shores, remained with it at Gallipoli and Varna, and crossed with it to the Crimea. He had taken his share of cholera, fatigue, hunger, danger, and privation with the army, and had contrived in the intervals of these calls upon his endurance to write and forward the descriptions of that army's exploits which have principally made them known to the English people. At last, in ill health, and foreseeing that the campaign would be a long one, he applied to head-quarters—though certainly not to Lord Raglan's—for leave of absence for one fortnight, that he might cross over to Constantinople and purchase some articles of clothing—a few furs, a stove, and such little matters as might enable him to get through the winter alive. A temporary substitute was appointed to act in his place, and upon his arrival at Balaklava, our 'Special Correspondent,' the *delicia* of Downing-street, took advantage of his furlough. He left Balaklava December 4, reached Constantinople in due course, left Constantinople on his return on the 24th of December, and has long since rejoined the army. Meanwhile, we beg to give the most absolute and unqualified contradiction to the silly story which has been set afloat at the expense of a gentleman who would not

have excited so much indignation if he had not told the one thing that wounds the official mind—'Turkey.'"

GALLANTRY IN THE TRENCHES.

A corporal of the Fourth relates the gallantry as well as the activity displayed in the trenches:—

"We are busily at work throwing up trenches within 300 or 250 yards of the town, and the Russians are as hard at work doing the same to stop us. The regiments of the third and fourth divisions take turn about in those advanced trenches, and there is sharp rifle practice for protecting parties. The trench is lined with men who look over, and every Russian they lay an eye on is fired at. At the same time, the very moment the Russian sees a head over the breast-work he does the same. It often happens that two see each other, so the quickest eye and steadiest arm have the best chance. The Russians are pretty good shots. It is nothing strange to have the cap knocked off the head, or the cheeks grazed, or pieces cut out of the collar or shoulders of the coat. Gents fond of duelling ought to come here for a few days to practice their hands. The ships and forts keep up a continual fire of grape shot and shell on our parties. Three days ago our regiment was in the trenches; we had one man knocked to pieces and two more wounded by grape. The same day a very feeling circumstance took place. Two Russian soldiers were coming down a street; says one of our men, 'By the powers but they have a woman to protect them.' 'Bad luck to me,' says another, 'if she goes onside I'll have a slap at them.' They would not chance a shot for fear of hitting the woman. But she was not four paces from the Russians when whiz go the Minié rifles and down tumbles one of them; the other started off at a good run."

MISCELLANIES FROM BEFORE SEBASTOPOL.

The following is an extract from the letter of an officer of the 2nd Division, dated Inkerman, 16th December:—

"An artillery officer, a few days ago, told me that the French had 146 guns in position, and were now waiting our being ready. Any news of this kind, however, is thought nothing of, we look only for true news from home—the *Times* our standard of truth. Our 13-inch mortars are being got up as fast as our poor worn-out horses can pull them—32 horses to one gun. From the rain the roads are in a sad state, and now we are busy macadamizing them. The poor Turks work very languidly at this sort of work.

"This Division very much regrets the resignation of Sir De Lacy Evans, looked upon as one of our ablest generals—he was the pride of the division. In one respect I am glad he has gone, for he would have sunk under the exposures we endure now, remembering his age to be 70.

"General Pennefather, who succeeded Sir De Lacy, has had a very severe attack of choleraic diarrhoea. For two days he was in a most critical position. He has been sent to Balaklava; but in a note to me to-night he states his hope of being able to rejoin us before Christmas. General Buller commands us at present.

"With great difficulty supplies are got up from Balaklava. Cavalry are pressed into the commissariat service, and we have to send to Balaklava (seven miles) for our forage; while our horses and mules are all dying, those of the French are fat and up to their work. Our ambulance corps would be most useful, were it not cumbered with poor pensioners, who are not fit to take care of themselves, much less of mules, &c.

"The minds of the medicos out here are in a sad state of irritation, with great good reason. They do their duty notwithstanding the difficulties thrown in their way by the military authorities. Their great exertions are never noticed, but should one of their members slip in the least thing, down comes a censure on the whole of us. On the morning on which the sick arrived at Balaklava, which caused the General Order, a medical officer went to Lord Raglan and said, 'My Lord, if you will give me an order for boats, I will undertake to have every man put on board ship.' This his Lordship would or could not do."

A SKETCH FROM BALAKLAVA.

Here is a graphic picture, some of the details of which are absolutely comic in their misery. It is from the *Morning Herald*:—

"The very ragged, gaunt, hungry-looking men, with matted beard and moustaches, features grimed with dirt, and torn greatcoats stiff with successive layers of mud—these men whose whole appearance speaks toil and suffering, and who instantly remind you of the very lowest and most impoverished class of Irish peasantry, are the picked soldiers from our different foot regiments, strong men selected to carry up provisions for the rest of the camp. Mixed with these are about 200 horsemen, whose lank, feeble studs, covered with huge 'raws,' seem barely able to move about with their riders through the thick, tenacious mud. The horsemen themselves are all pretty much alike—that is, they are all ragged, and all muddy; yet on examining these men closely, you perceive that some have dingy brass helmets on their heads, others the small Scotch cap of the 'Greys,' the remnants of red trousers indicate a Hussar, while a headress curiously misshapen discovers a Lancer. From all these facts you suddenly rush to the con-

clusion that the queer-looking *cortège* is cavalry, or, rather, all that remains of the nine fine regiments which two months ago landed in the Crimea. Yes, the 1st Royal Dragoons, the Scots Greys, the 5th Dragoon Guards, the 6th Enniskillen Dragoons, the 17th Lancers, the 4th Light Dragoons, the 8th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons, and 11th Hussars—that formerly had an effective strength of some 2600 sabres, cannot now among them all mount 200 men in a state fit for even temporary service. The Scots Greys are numerically the strongest regiment out here. It mounts 70 men, out of which only about 25 men and horses are fit for service in the field. For some three or four weeks past we have known that our cavalry, as an arm of the service, was no more; but still, out of compliment, it was spoken of as a division, and was, therefore, on the whole, a pleasant fiction to believe in. But now all our cherished fancies are destroyed—the term cavalry has no signification; the 15 or 20 men remaining out of each regiment are all formed into one corps, and used in carrying biscuit up to the camp. Each soldier leads one horse, which is always such a mass of bones, sores, and general dilapidations, as would excite the indignation of that most polite of philanthropists, the secretary of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The led horse carries one bag of biscuit, and frequently is unable to bear this weight (80 lbs.) more than half the distance to the camp, when they fall and get rid of two burdens—their lives and their biscuits—together. Among these cavalry stalk all kinds of officers, some mounted, some on foot. The rough, heavy-looking men in tarpaulin coats, sou'-wester caps, and high boots are generally officers in the Guards. The very 'seedy' looking individuals, in dilapidated garments, with bread bags tied round their legs, are officers from the naval brigade. The mounted men, who mostly resemble shipwrecked mariners, who have stranded somewhere on a mud bank and waded through it to the shore, are cavalry officers. Among these motley characters, gentlemen walk about with great-coats, made out of their blankets by the simple process of cutting holes in it for their arms. These garments, though primitive-looking, are warm, and to attain that desideratum there is nothing one would not wear in the Crimea. Some of the common soldiers mount Russian great-coats, others have extraordinary-looking habiliments, made somehow out of morsels of old sails—the remnants of the wrecks which have drifted in from outside the harbour. Just around the landing-places—or rather what are supposed to act as such—are crowds of lounging Turks, who concentrate all their feeble energies upon purloining a morsel of biscuit from the bags which are piled up on shore."

RELATIVE STRENGTH OF RUSSIA AND THE ALLIES.

The correspondent of the *Herald* seems to fear that our recent endeavours have been equalled by the enemy:—

"The small 'cohorn' are to be moved into a little breastwork at the Ovens, and employed in throwing 5½-inch shell among the troops working the batteries, and into the nearest guard-houses and troop-stations. These little mortars, which two men can run away with with perfect ease, will certainly do as much service in this way as their larger comrades. Their range is not above 1200 or 1300 yards, but from the Ovens at that range they can command most of the south side of the town, and nearly all the batteries opposed to the English.

"As far as I can judge from carefully surveying, the external means of defence at the disposal of the enemy fully equal our means of attack. The whole place is literally circle within circle of redoubts, all of which are grim and dark with cannon. Fortunately, the insane project of trying to destroy these earthworks is now no longer talked of. It is upon the town, and those in it, that we wish to produce an effect with our mortars; the trenches and redoubts must all be taken at the point of the bayonet.

"All that I fear is, that the enemy have mounted as many mortars as ourselves. Those who are generally well-informed on these points say they have not, and I sincerely hope they are right, for although these mortars would not shield them from the effects of ours, we should suffer heavily in working the batteries. The Russians have lately been busy inside their redoubts; they now, of course, know well we are getting up mortars, and I cannot help thinking we shall find them as well prepared with those engines as ourselves. It is too much to suppose that such an arsenal as Sebastopol would be without mortars, and it is almost too much to suppose that, if they were, the Russians would neglect to use them. A week or ten days now must solve all doubts on the subject. If they have them we shall suffer almost as severely from their bombardment as they will from ours."

BRITISH COOLNESS.

A French soldier thus testifies to the coolness of the English soldiers under occasional fire:—

"The English are the most free and easy men we know. The following, which occurs under our eyes, will appear, perhaps, scarcely credible. In the trenches they light a fire, make their tea, and then, sitting down on the back of the trench, quietly smoke. The sentinel now and then goes and looks over the parapet, and, if he sees nothing, he comes down again among his comrades. A shell falls, but no one takes any notice of it. If one of the party should be hit, two of his comrades

rise up and carry him away with the greatest coolness; the others do not stir. With us we are careful not to make any fire. We suffer more in the trenches from this circumstance, but we have less casualties, as the smoke of a fire forms a good mark for the enemy's batteries."

WANT OF MANAGEMENT AT HEAD-QUARTERS.

An officer, writing on the 16th of December, gives a catalogue of complaints which, it is painful to remark, are corroborated by many writers:—

"One of the worst and most culpable items of Lord Raglan's want of forethought has been, it appears to me, the little care he has taken to prevent sickness among the men. I wish you could see our condition at the moment I am writing. Yesterday (the 15th) we had rain all day, and it poured incessantly all night. Towards morning the wind became more northerly, and, instead of rain, snow fell. The ground is now white, notwithstanding the slush and mud, and it continues snowing heavily. In the ravine the water is flowing with the noise and fulness of a considerable stream. An order has just been given for seventy men to go into Balaklava for the rations of salt pork and biscuit for the regiment; the *bât* horses, from neglect of shoeing, inattention, and overwork, have foundered days ago. These men have not been able to get any breakfast, because the little brushwood they have collected would not burn in such weather. Some of the men have been out in the trenches or on picket all night, and are drenched through. Can you wonder at there being disease! Notwithstanding the immense number of sick sent away lately, there are this time six hundred sick in the Light Division to-day. In General Orders there appears a notification 'that in future the issue of fuel will be limited to the troops encamped above Sebastopol.' Now, would not any one seeing this order imagine that we, in common with others, had had fuel issued to us? Yet, I assure you, upon my honour, we have never had one ounce issued to us since we have been here. And as to there being fuel at Balaklava for us, it might as well be in London; for the authorities know—or ought to know, if they cared to do so—that we have not the means of bringing it up. We have hard work, from the fact of no roads having been attempted to be constructed until the weather was too bad to make them; and from the failure of our limited means of transport to get up the daily allowance of pork and biscuit for the men, they are frequently compelled to subsist on half-rations. Do you remember Lord Raglan promising in his Alma despatch that he would take steps to bring up the officers' *bât* horses as soon as possible? They have never been brought up yet, and some regiments are to this day without the baggage they had to leave in the transports on landing. Unless persons are sent out to erect the wooden houses, which we read are coming to us, we shall never get them; they will remain as lumber at Balaklava, or be monopolised elsewhere. From the constant exposure to the weather, the little rest at night, the small allowance of food, and the great difficulty of cooking it, the want of proper clothing, and other matters, you can scarcely conceive what the men encamped before Sebastopol and engaged in the siege operations have been suffering; from what I hear, I am quite sure that Lord Raglan, who is never seen among us, has no idea of it. At head-quarters, where there are all the luxuries of a good house and a good table, matters are very different, and at Balaklava, and near it, the troops have many advantages which cannot be obtained here. They can always get their full rations, and are in the way of procuring many things from the ships in harbour. We who are here can see what a different result there would have been had only a moderate amount of the caution and forethought been exercised by our military powers which our allies have exhibited. Instead of being diminished to a mere handful of effective men, as we are at present, from disease and loss in battle, we should have been a good efficient force. Dazzled by despatches and brilliant displays of personal prowess and hazardous exploits, you people in England may not now see this; but I expect even you, when you come to 'pay the bill,' may have a suspicion that some of the items in the account are a little higher than they need have been. I know very well that, were one of your City houses to conduct their affairs as I have seen the great military establishment in the Crimea carried on, there would be but one result, and that would be announced in the *Gazette* too, though not an extraordinary one for the purpose perhaps. We should think ourselves well off if we had the means of hutting ourselves, but we have no timber for roofing, and it is cruel to ask the men, who are half dead from their ordinary work and fatigue duties, to do any extra labour. A few have contrived to get huts erected, and, though no servant would live in such a dwelling in England, I assure you their proprietors are envied enough here."

GIVING THE TURK HIS DUE.

The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* thus extenuates the character of the Turkish soldiers, who, it appears have scarcely got a fair chance:—

"It ought not to be lost sight of, in speaking of the Turks, that they are our allies; and, in justice it must be observed that they are contending with difficulties which they cannot adequately provide against. The Turkish Government does not know how to meet the exigencies of such a war as this. See the difficulties

that exist for victualling our own troops, and reflect upon what a commissariat the Turks must have to look to for their supplies! The Turkish troops in the Crimea have not received pay for upwards of a year, and have been starving ever since their arrival in that wretched country. Of late the British commissariat has undertaken to send them provisions, and this out of commiseration for their sufferings. The Turkish authorities, nevertheless, pretend to be zealously caring for the wants of the troops, and to be getting ready abundant supplies for the forces that have been sent to the Crimea. This is a sad country, and it is sickening to make such revelations as the following. An intelligent commissariat officer called upon the Minister of War the other day, to make inquiry as to what provisions were being sent up for the Sultan's troops in the Crimea. Everything was ready. A steamer in the port, laden with abundant stores, was under orders to sail that night for Balaklava; and the proffered aid of the British commissariat would not be needed, and was gratefully declined. The assistant commissary, however, having, in his residence here, learnt how to value the assertions of a Turkish pacha, took note of the steamer's name, and very quietly walked down to the port, and went on board her. The provisions for upwards of 12,000 soldiers—the ample supplies—consisted of sufficient biscuit for the one day's consumption of 500 men! In justice, it must be admitted that when unfortunate soldiers never get their pay, and have nothing to eat, they cannot be expected to fight; the only matter for astonishment is how they manage to run away! The common Turk is a good soldier, but the army is wretchedly officered. The Turkish soldier, well fed, and well commanded, will fight as well as any man."

The following is from a Constantinople letter published in the *Courrier de Marseille*:—

"The sad conduct of the Turkish troops in the affair of the 25th of October must be well remembered. The deplorable flight of the Turkish troops could only be attributed to the conduct of the two chiefs, who were the first to fly before the enemy. It was on that day that the Russians were enabled without resistance to take possession of two redoubts which had been placed in charge of the Turks. By order of the Sultan, a special military commission was formed to examine the charges brought against the two generals. All the complaints being fully supported, Suliman Pacha and Halet Bey were condemned to degradation and to seven years' hard labour. The sentence was carried into effect on the Place of the Seraskierat, in presence of the garrison of Constantinople and an immense crowd. After a reprimand from the Minister of War, who warmly inveighed against their cowardice, they had the insignia of their rank torn from them, as well as all their decorations. The soldiers appointed to execute this duty did it with a kind of brutal satisfaction, which was loudly applauded by the people. Immediately after the troops had filed off, the two prisoners were conducted to the steamer which is to convey them to Cyprus, where they will work in the galleys."

ADMIRALS HAMELIN AND BRUAT.

The following is the farewell address of Admiral Hamelin, on resigning the command of the Black Sea fleet to Admiral Bruat:—

"Officers and Sailors,—Being raised to a dignity, which is partly of your creation, I have received orders to return to France with all my staff.

"I am happy to leave the squadron in the hands of an admiral, whose experience and intrepidity render him so worthy of such a command.

"Officers and Sailors,—When history shall recount the campaign of the Black Sea and the Crimea, a page will be reserved for you worthy of the glorious antecedents of our navy.

"The Emperor has listened to several applications made to him for the reward you have deserved. His just mind will at a later period think of the remainder. That he will do so, the warm support of our Minister of Marine is for me an assurance. *Vive l'Empereur!*"

"The Admiral of France,
"HAMELIN."

Vice-Admiral Bruat, on succeeding to the command, published the following order of the day:—

"Officers and Seamen,—We are about to lose our worthy chief; his illustrious services have received their reward. After having called on me to second him, the Emperor has called on me to replace him. Faithful to the traditions bequeathed on us by a glorious past, we shall continue to lend to our valiant army and to our brave allies that warm co-operation to which he has already rendered such flattering and cordial justice. On the day of combat the same patriotic cry will still rally us round the flag of France—*Vive l'Empereur!*"

INCIDENTS.

A NEW RUSSIAN RIFLE CORPS.—A letter from St. Petersburg states that the crown serfs have offered a contingent of 60,000 men, to be employed as sharpshooters. Among them are to be all the ermine hunters, who are estimated at 20,000. It is known that this animal can only be aimed at from a considerable distance, and must be hit in the nose to avoid injuring the skin. The whole of these hunters, so the letter says, are to be immediately organised

and sent to the Crimea. They are to be armed with the Minié rifle.

GENERAL BOSQUET.—The English residents at Pau have presented a handsome silver-gilt chased coffee service, purchased by small collections made among themselves, to Madame Bosquet, the mother of the French general who so gallantly brought up the troops under his command to the aid of the British at Inkerman.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH THE CRIMEA.—Mr. Liddell, the engineer of the new Leicester and Hitchin Railway in connexion with the Midland, has obtained leave of absence for two months, in order to fulfil an important duty with which Government has intrusted him. This is no other than the laying of a submarine cable for telegraphic purposes from Varna to either Cape Chersonese or Balaklava. The cable is ready, and Mr. Liddell is also on the point of sailing to complete his commission of thus bridging the stormy Euxine, 300 miles across, for the light of intelligence between the allied armies in the Crimea and their respective Governments.

MEDICAL NEGLECT—GENERAL ORDER.—The following is a General Order of Lord Raglan, expressing great dissatisfaction at the results of the Court of Inquiry respecting the neglect of the sick and wounded on board the Avon:—

"It having been represented to the Commander of the Forces that the 297 sick and wounded on board the steam-ship Avon, under orders to proceed to Scutari, had not received that care and attention to which they were entitled, the Commander of the Forces directed a Court of Inquiry to meet on board that ship, on Saturday, the 2nd of December.

"The Court, of which Colonel Cameron, of the 42nd Highlanders, was President, after making a personal inspection of the ship, and receiving evidence, has made a report to the Commander of the Forces.

"The report takes notice of several deficiencies, which, in the opinion of the Court might, with due care, have been remedied.

"The report particularly draws the attention of the Commander of the Forces to the want of a sufficient number of medical men and hospital attendants for the service of the sick and wounded on board.

"The report further states, that this deficiency of medical men and attendants was known to Dr. Lawson, the principal medical officer at Balaklava, but that he took no steps to have it supplied.

"In this opinion, after a careful perusal of the evidence, the Commander of the Forces fully concurs.

"Lord Raglan has seen with pain and sorrow the wretched and want of interest which Dr. Lawson exhibited, as appears by the evidence, with respect both to the due care and the sufficient supply of what was requisite for the comfort and well-doing of the suffering men who were to be placed on board the Avon, and he is compelled to visit such conduct with the severest censure.

"The Inspector-General of Hospitals will take immediate steps to relieve Dr. Lawson from his present charge.

"The Commander of the Forces is unable to exonerate Dr. Hall, the Inspector-General of Hospitals, from blame in this matter, as it was his duty, either by personal inspection, or by the reports of his subordinates, to have ascertained that the ship was furnished with everything necessary for the comfort of the many sick and wounded on board which the public service could by any possibility afford."

HOW THE ZOUAVES DO THEIR WORK.—At night two of them will go out with five or six muskets strapped to their backs. As it is quite dark, they are enabled to creep round the Russian sentries and get close to the walls, when they, as rapidly as possible, fire their weapons. Immediately the Russian artillerymen fly to their guns; a storming is expected, and off goes every gun that bears in the direction of the French works. As soon as the zouaves have alarmed one extremity they rush to the other, and again musketry, rapid musketry, is heard, and again the artillery set to work, and fire with all possible zeal for some twenty minutes, when, hearing nothing more of the foe, they consider that a goodly number has been repulsed, whereas the two zouaves have quietly retreated to their tents, and had a hearty laugh with their comrades over the hubbub they have created in the renowned Sebastopol.

SHOOTING THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.—On Christmas-day, two soldiers of the 99th, at Chatham, entered the barrack-room during the time the troops were at chapel or away, and, after expending their military ardour in words, proceeded to take the barrack-room table, on which they roughly sketched a figure to represent the Emperor Nicholas, placing the table on end against the wall, the figure serving as a target. They then exhibited their intense hatred of the autocrat by loading their muskets and firing several rounds at the imaginary figure, their military enthusiasm being only stopped by some of their comrades coming in, attracted by the reports. A court-martial will inquire into this, as it is against the articles of war to waste ammunition.

THE GOAT OF THE 23RD.—The celebrated snow-white goat presented by her Majesty to the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers is dead. After weathering the campaign in Bulgaria, and marching proudly at the head of his regiment from Kalamita Bay to Sebastopol, he has at last fallen without wearing the Alma medal he had earned on the way. His stately demeanour, and reverend beard, made him a prominent feature in the appearance of the regiment as it moved along, and the gap left by his absence will force a recollection of the fine animal upon the memory of every one familiar with the gallant 23rd. He had been hunted, and every care had been taken to protect him against the exposure and inclement weather, but all this attention was unavailing.

LORD RAGLAN'S LENIENCY.—At the general court-martial, held before Sebastopol, on the 18th December, Private Francis Hagerty, 4th Regiment, was tried for having struck an officer and a sergeant, while in the execution of their duty. The prisoner was drunk. He was found guilty, and sentenced to 50 lashes and 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour, which Lord Raglan confirmed; but remarks: "The offences of which the prisoner has been very properly found guilty, are of so serious a character as to justify the infliction of the whole punishment awarded by the court; but, in consideration of the youth and inexperience of the prisoner, and the circumstance under which the crimes were committed, and in the hope that his expressions of sorrow and contrition are sincere, the Commander of the Forces is induced to remit all punishment, and to award his pardon; thus affording him an immediate opportunity of showing, by his conduct, that he is not unworthy of the lenity that is now extended to him."

COMFORTS FOR THE CRIMEA.—The dealers of Campbellton have resolved to present a cask of about fifty gallons of whisky—upwards of 700 gallons in all—for the use of the army in the Crimea. The Duke of Newcastle has conveyed the thanks of the Government to the distillers for their generous offer. Three hundred pair of oxen have just been embarked at Cologne, on board a magnificent steamer for the Crimea. They are destined for the allied armies.

SIR GEORGE BROWN.—The correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

"I regret to have to mention that, since I last wrote, General Sir George Brown has been compelled from the state of his wound to counter-order the arrangements being made for his reception in camp, and to relinquish for the present his intention of resuming the command of the Light Division. He has been suffering for some days past in general health, though not to such an extent as to occasion any anxiety in the minds of his friends respecting his speedy recovery. The wound in the arm, however, has not healed so favourably, in consequence of this illness, and it has been thought advisable by his medical attendants that he should leave the Crimea for change of scene and climate. It is understood that the general will proceed to Malta, and make a sojourn there until his health and wound are improved."

THE QUEEN AND THE ARMY.

A GENERAL order has been issued in the camp which has given great and general satisfaction to both officers and men. Her Majesty's approbation, and the promise of a medal were enthusiastically received:—

GENERAL ORDER.

"Head-quarters, before Sebastopol,
24th December, 1854.

"The Commander of the Forces has the greatest satisfaction in publishing to the army two despatches from the Minister of War, the one expressing the Queen's entire approbation of the conduct of the troops at the battle of Inkerman, the other signifying her Majesty's gracious intention of conferring a medal upon all the officers and soldiers of the army who have been engaged in the arduous and brilliant campaign in the Crimea.

"The Commander of the Forces congratulates the army on receiving so distinguished a mark of her Majesty's favour and high appreciation of their gallant exertions; and he deems it his duty at the same time to draw the particular attention of all to the following passage in the Duke of Newcastle's despatch of the 27th inst.:—'Let not any private soldier in the ranks believe that his conduct is unheeded—the Queen thanks him—his country honours him.'"

"War Department, 27th November, 1854.

"My Lord,—I received on the 22nd instant your lordship's despatch of the 8th of this month, communicating the intelligence of the glorious battle of the 5th, in which a determined attack by vastly superior numbers of the enemy were completely repulsed by the unflinching steadiness and gallantry of the allied armies.

"I immediately laid before the Queen the details of this important victory, and it is now my grateful duty to express to your lordship her Majesty's high appreciation of the noble exertions of her troops in a conflict which is unsurpassed in the annals of war for persever-

ing valour and chivalrous devotion. The strength and fury of the attacks, repeatedly renewed by fresh columns with a desperation which appeared to be irresistible, were spent in vain against the unbroken lines and the matchless intrepidity of the men they had to encounter. Such attacks could only be repulsed by that cool courage under circumstances the most adverse, and that confidence of victory which have ever animated the British army.

"The banks of the Alma proved that no advantages of position can withstand the impetuous assault of the army under your command. The heights of Inkerman have now shown that the dense columns of an entire army are unable to force the ranks of less than one-fourth their numbers in the hand-to-hand encounters with the bayonet which characterised this bloody day.

"Her Majesty has observed with the liveliest feelings of gratification the manner in which the troops of her ally, the Emperor of the French, came to the aid of the divisions of the British army engaged in this numerically unequal contest. The Queen is deeply sensible of the cordial co-operation of the French Commander-in-chief, General Canrobert, and the gallant conduct of that distinguished officer, General Bosquet, and her Majesty recognises in the cheers with which the men of both nations encouraged each other in their united charge, proofs of the esteem and admiration mutually engendered by the campaign and the deeds of heroism it has produced.

"The Queen desires that your lordship will receive her thanks for your conduct throughout this noble and successful struggle, and that you will take measures for making known her no less warm approval of the services of all the officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers, who have so gloriously won by their blood, freely shed, fresh honours for the army of a country which sympathises as deeply with their privations and exertions as it glories in their victories and exults in their fame. Let not any private soldier in those ranks believe that his conduct is unheeded. The Queen thanks him, his country honours him.

"Her Majesty will anxiously expect the further despatch in which your lordship proposes to name those officers whose services have been especially worthy notice. In the mean time, I am commanded by her Majesty to signify her approbation of the admirable behaviour of Lieutenant-General Sir George Brown, and her regret that he has been wounded in the action. Her Majesty has received with feelings of no ordinary pleasure your lordship's report of the manner in which Lieutenant-General his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge distinguished himself. That one of the illustrious members of her royal house should be associated with the toils and glories of such an army, is to the Queen a source of great pride and congratulation.

"To Major Bentinck, Major-General Codrington,* Brigadier-Generals Adams, Torrens, and Buller, your lordship will be pleased to convey the Queen's sympathy in their wounds, and thanks for their services.

"To the other officers named by your lordship, I am directed to express her Majesty's approbation. The gallant conduct of Lieutenant-General Sir De Lacy Evans has attracted the Queen's especial thanks. Weak from a bed of sickness, he rose at the sound of the battle—not to claim his share in prominent command, but to aid with his veteran counsel and assistance the junior officer upon whom, in his absence, had devolved the duty of leading his division.

"Proud of the victory won by her brave army—grateful to those who wear the laurels of this great conflict—the Queen is painfully affected by the heavy loss which has been incurred, and deeply sensible of what is owing to the dead. Those illustrious men cannot indeed receive the thanks of their Sovereigns which have so often cheered the soldier in his severest trials, but their blood has not been shed in vain. Laid low in their grave of victory, their names will be cherished for ever by a grateful country, and posterity will look upon the list of officers who have fallen as a proof of the ardent courage and zeal with which they pointed out the path of honour to no less willing followers.

"The loss of Lieutenant-General the Honourable Sir George Cathcart is to the Queen and to her people a cause of sorrow which even dims the triumph of this great occasion. His loyalty, his patriotism, and self-devotion were not less conspicuous than his high military reputation. One of a family of warriors, he was an honour to them and an ornament to his profession. Arrived in his native land from a colony to which he had succeeded in restoring peace and contentment, he obeyed at a moment's notice the call of duty, and hastened to join that army in which the Queen and the country fondly hoped he would have lived to win increased renown.

"The death of Brigadier-General Strangways and Brigadier-General Goldie has added to the sorrow which mingles in the rejoicing of this memorable battle.

The Queen sympathises in the loss sustained by the families of her officers and soldiers, but her Majesty bids them reflect with her, and derive consolation from the thought, that they fell in the sacred cause of justice, and in the ranks of a noble army. I have the ho-

* Major-General Codrington is erroneously stated to have been wounded.

nour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient humble servant,
"NEWCASTLE.

"Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c."

"My Lord,—I have received the Queen's commands to signify to your lordship her Majesty's gracious intention to confer a medal upon all the officers and soldiers of the army who have been engaged in the arduous and brilliant campaign in the Crimea.

"This medal will bear on it the word 'Crimea,' with an appropriate device—a design for which has been ordered to be prepared.

"It is also her Majesty's desire that clasps, with the names of 'Alma' and 'Inkerman' inscribed upon them, shall be accorded to those who have been in either, or both of those hard-fought battles, and that the same names shall in future be borne on the colours of all the regiments which were engaged on those bloody and glorious days.

"Your lordship will be pleased to convey to the army this Royal command, an additional proof of her Majesty's appreciation of its noble services, and her sympathy with its valour and renown.

"I have the honour to be, my lord, your lordship's obedient humble servant,
"NEWCASTLE.

"Field-Marshal Lord Raglan, G.C.B.,
&c., &c., &c."

"By order,
(Signed) "J. B. B. ESTCOURT, Adj. Gen."

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF THE CRIMEA SHIPS.

THE Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Candia*, Captain Field, has arrived at Southampton, from the Crimea, to which she conveyed 1160 French troops from Marseilles, landing them in such good order and condition as to call forth the thanks of the admiral in command of the French squadron in Kamiesch-bay, which were officially conveyed to Captain Field by Vice-Admiral Dundas. The *Candia* brings invalided troops of various regiments—the whole under the command of Lieutenant Streatfield, of the 44th, and in medical charge of Staff Assistant-Surgeon Reade. She also brings the following invalided officers:—Captain Hume and Lieutenant Barnston, of the 55th Regiment; Brevet-Major Thompson, 10th Hussars, wounded at Inkerman; Lieutenant Newenham, 68th Regiment; Assistant-Surgeon Wilson, 7th Hussars; Captain Kennedy, 77th Regiment; Lieutenant Clarke, 20th Fusiliers; Captain Bamford, 63rd Regiment; Lieutenants Granville and Greenwood, 23rd Fusiliers; Brevet-Major Yates, Royal Artillery; Captain Tryon, 7th Fusiliers. A passenger by the *Candia*, who caused some amusement, was the dog formerly belonging to the Russian governor of Balaklava, which was taken prisoner by the British, and was actually wounded in the leg during a skirmish. He now belongs to Captain Field, of the *Candia*, and limps about the deck, making friends with every one. Thousands of people crowded the docks to catch a sight of the wounded soldiers, and the greatest sympathy for their condition was manifested. Refreshments of all kinds were spontaneously tendered to the men, and one firm in Southampton (Messrs. Cooksey) sent a waggon containing five kilderkins of porter, with tobacco, &c., as a present to the men, but the commanding officer declined to accept it!

The Peninsular and Oriental Company's steamer *Rajah* has also arrived from the Black Sea. She took out a cargo of stores for the government, and has brought home a cargo of fruit and emery stone, and a large number of Russian trophies, consisting of muskets, daggers, guns, pistols, helmets, coats, pouches, and swords. One of the coats belonged to a Russian cavalry soldier, who was killed at Balaklava in the brilliant charge of the Scotch Greys. A gash in the coat shows that the Russian was killed by a sword thrust just below the shoulder-blade. The colour of the coat is light blue, faced with gold lace, and edged with black fur. The swords are shorter than those used by the English. Some of the muskets are longer than Brown Bess. There are heaps of trophies taken from the Russians at Constantinople. It is a singular fact that nine-tenths of those with gun-shot wounds who came home in the *Himalaya* and *Candia* were injured between the knee and foot, whereas the greater portion of the Russians appear to have been shot in the upper part of their bodies.

Her Majesty's screw steam ship *St. Jean d'Acre*, 600 horse-power, Captain the Hon. H. Keppel, sailed from Queenstown, Dublin, on Saturday morning for the Crimea, with drafts from several regiments, and also having on board Major-General Lord Rokeby and Major-General Barnard, appointed to commands in the expeditionary army. The steamer left Plymouth at 4 p.m. on Wednesday, and arrived next day in Cork Harbour at 3 p.m.; and so sudden and unexpected was her arrival, and so rapidly was the embarkation of the men carried on, that some officers who were to have sailed in her happening to be absent on a shooting excursion were left behind.

The loading of the ship *Saladin* with stores and wooden huts for the French army in the East having been completed, that ship, in tow of the steamer *William McCormick*, left Southampton on Saturday morning. The *Saladin* has on board 250 huts, complete, each capable of sheltering 30 men; also 1000 barrels of pork, 200 puncheons of rum, and other stores. The *William McCormick*, besides 420 tons of coals, takes out 300 barrels of pork. The total number of wooden barracks to be shipped from Southampton is 1800. It appears that the delay in despatching them has not arisen at Southampton, nor is it the fault of the contractor, but it has been caused by the arrangements necessary for loading the ships, some of them not having full crews, and the narrowness of the hatchways, &c., rendering stowage difficult. It has also been deemed indispensable for each ship to have her quota of the barracks entirely complete in all their details, and it has been difficult to arrange this, in consequence of detached portions being received at various times and by different trains.

The Alfred, screw steam-transport, is at Deptford, being fitted as a baking establishment for the Black Sea. It is stated that another vessel will be fitted as a flour-mill, which, with the baking establishment, will supply sweet new bread to the troops in the Crimea. Surely some means will also be adopted for supplying the troops with fresh roasted coffee.

The Royal mail steamship *Avon*, Captain Ellison, arrived at Southampton on Monday, from the Black Sea, Constantinople, Malta, and Gibraltar, bringing about 200 invalids and wounded soldiers and officers from the British army in the East.

Her Majesty's steamer *Sampson*, with sick and wounded from the Black Sea, arrived at Portsmouth on Thursday morning, at 11 A.M.

SHIPPING SPECULATIONS FOR THE CRIMEA.

WE are indebted to the *Globe* for a very lucid and acute summary of some rather curious proceedings which have taken place at the Mansion House. The speculation out of which the inquiry arose, supposing it even to be thoroughly genuine, might be dangerous to the public from the want of necessary knowledge displayed by the principal. The *Globe* says:—

"We have already called attention to attempts made by some of the Autolycei of our age to do a stroke of business in what are called Crimean speculations. Whether the case now under investigation by the City authorities be one of that kind or not we shall not attempt to determine, but leave the facts as we find them, unexplained.

"There is a person who signs himself 'W. Wardroper, 4, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street,' otherwise 'W. B., 114, Fenchurch-street,' otherwise 'F. W. W., 77, Leadenhall-street,' who manifests great anxiety for the welfare of our army in the Crimea, and, it must be confessed, a respectable desire for his own. He wishes to establish a free market for the troops at Balaklava, and he acts in this manner. In the *Times* of Christmas-day he published a letter, announcing that he had chartered a vessel for the Crimea, in which he intended to sail himself, and offering to take charge of contributions for the troops at the seat of war. Mr. Aldridge, a merchant, desiring to make a shipment, betook himself to 4, Railway-place, for information. At first he found no one there. The second time he was more successful; but the information he received was so unbusiness-like, indeed absurd, that he determined to have nothing to do with the concern. Two days afterwards Mr. Aldridge received, on behalf of his firm, a flattering invitation to send grocery for disposal in the Crimea, in charge of 'W. Wardroper,' who was about 'to visit the seat of war for pleasure and amusement, as well as profit;' but Mr. Aldridge declined this delicate request. On the 1st instant, 'W. B.' advertised for a storekeeper, at a salary of 150*l.*, who must have 800*l.* or 400*l.* immediately at command. The advertisement was answered at the suggestion of Mr. Aldridge, and the reply came from 'W. Wardroper' on the 3rd of January. On the same day 'F. W. W.' advertised capitalists that he wanted 2000*l.* or 3000*l.* for 'investment in a safe and very remunerative undertaking connected with the export of goods to the Crimea.' 'F. W. W.' turned out to be 'W. Wardroper,' and the security offered for the capital was 'a mortgage upon the alleged ship and freight.' This was so unsatisfactory that no 'capitalist' would advance the money. At the same time a letter appeared in a morning journal, in which W. Wardroper applauded the press for patriotically keeping alive the sympathy for the sufferings and privations of the army, declared that 'large quantities of goods and articles of comfort for our deserving troops' had been forwarded to him, and 'implored' merchants and manufacturers to send him goods at cost price, which he would dispose of at a fair price and at a low commission. Mr. Aldridge, putting all these things together, knowing that the said Wardroper was an invalid, knowing also, from personal experience, the difficulty attending the distribution of goods at Balaklava, thought this was a case for investi-

gation; and accordingly he made his statement, accompanying it with Wardroper's documents, to the Mansion House authorities on Saturday.

"But the singular part of the case is to come. Mr. Wardroper was sent for, and appeared in court. Questioned by Alderman Wilson, he admitted the publication of the circulars and advertisements; admitted that he had not yet chartered a ship; and admitted that he knew nothing of shipping business; but he insisted that his speculation was *bona fide*; and declared that in such quantities had goods been received that he should probably charter two or more vessels; and that one ship was 'all the same as chartered.' He explained that he had advertised for 3000*l.*, but was not sure it would be wanted; and that he had called for 300*l.* with a clerk, in order to lay it out for that official's behoof. The magistrate, as well as he might, seemed astounded at these statements; and his astonishment was not removed when, at the close of the investigation, a professional gentleman entered the court on behalf of Wardroper, and declared that the speculation was not at all likely to succeed, but that the intentions of his client were quite *bona fide*. However, it is not at all surprising that Alderman Wilson instructed the police to make a searching investigation into the mystery; nor, under the circumstances, that Wardroper volunteered his assistance. The importance of the inquiry cannot be overestimated; for anything like knavery in connexion with the noble exertions of all classes to testify their sense of the heroism of our troops, and practically to ameliorate the hardships of war, would not only be disgusting in itself, but would damp the general ardour. So far as the facts have been stated, it seems impossible to arrive at any other conclusion than this, that Mr. Wardroper is either one of the most self-deluded or designing of men."

On a subsequent occasion, Mr. Aldridge said he had been waited upon by a lady who represented herself to be the wife of Mr. Wardroper, and who stated that her husband had been in a totally incapacitated and helpless condition during the last seven years, and that she apprehended he had fallen into hands from which it would be hard to release him without damage to himself. He subsequently received a letter from the same lady, in which it was stated, after a description of the weakness by which Mr. Wardroper was afflicted, that he had been made the instrument of other people's designs.

A "Reader of the *Times*" forwarded another advertisement, containing a different address to the others, but of similar character. It was ascertained to have emanated from Mr. Wardroper.

After much discussion and surmise, Mr. Parry, the barrister, appeared in court on behalf of Mr. Wardroper. He stated that some error in the time specified occasioned his absence, and it was finally agreed that the inquiry should be adjourned until twelve o'clock on Saturday (this day).

MESSRS. PRICE AND THE ORDNANCE OFFICE.

THE writer of the City article of the *Times* has exposed at some length a case of official apathy or indifference, which is calculated to materially affect the comforts, possibly the lives, of our army in the Crimea. The long statement of the *Times* is summed up carefully by the *Globe*:—

"A specific instance of delay is stated in the money article of the *Times*, which is useful as exposing the general nature of the obstructions that hinder the working of our official departments. One of the greatest hardships in the Crimea is the cold, aggravated by the wet. Another is the difficulty of cooking, from the want of fuel and convenient apparatus. Both these really grievous hardships might be remedied by one easily-obtained and highly-portable contrivance—a very compact kind of stove, in which is used candle material. A few pounds' weight of fuel cake will go as far as a hundredweight of coals; the cost being 8*d.* per pound. Three pounds weight will keep a stove alive for warming purposes throughout twenty-four hours; six pounds will enable the stove to boil one quart of water or bake three loaves for every hour throughout twenty-four. The company could furnish 400 boxes containing 48 pounds, and 200 stoves per diem. Here are warmth and cookery secured to the army; more than a week's cooking of bread for a troop, a fortnight's warmth for as many as can gather round the stove, can be sent in a candlebox, the stove going out with the first box. The idea occurred to the managers of the company last month, and on the 23rd they went with a stove and a few fuel cakes, and showed the apparatus to the Secretary at War. It need not be said that Mr. Sidney Herbert was gratified. As little need it be said that no question can exist as to the power of the company to fulfil its contract; quite as little respecting the disinterestedness of the company or the *bona fides* of the offer. Any requisite arrangements might have been made, analogous to that which has now been adopted in seeking the assistance of the Crimea Fund Committee to carry out the aid, and to mediate between the company and the public, as a guarantee against the slightest perversion of a patriotic offer to selfish purposes in business. The high character of the company for benevolence as well as probity would secure it against

y suspicion with those who are well informed; but on those who are not well informed must be prevented from suspecting. All that was perfectly easy. Not so the official adoption of the plan. Unhappily the matter did not rest with the War-office, but with the Ordnance-office; and these gentlemen were told that they must order for contracts in the usual way. Tenders were accordingly sent in on the 26th of December; no replies have yet been received from the Ordnance. For our own part, as we know something of the time required for the bit of the simplest instrument in a public office, as soon as the affair gets beyond the influence exerted by a alous chief, we are not surprised at the lapse of what after all not much more than half a month!"

It is very evident, from the letters written on the subject, that the conduct of the Messrs. Price is dictated alike by good feeling and sound commercial pravity.

THE HOSPITALS IN THE EAST.

THE correspondent of the *Times* at Scutari, who is doing good service by his philanthropism at the hospitals, gives us some intelligence, part of which is included in the letter of the Rev. S. Godolphin Osborne:—

"I understand that the Sultan Serai, a large building no great distance from the General Hospital, has been given up for the use of the sick and wounded. This affords space for from 400 to 500 more patients, and with the accommodation provided in the upper story of the stables near the Barrack Hospital, may be regarded as a fair reserve against another influx of invalids from the Crimea. I trust, however, that, as the army gets better supplied with warm clothing, and has its other wants more abundantly met from home, the amount of sickness which we have hitherto had to deplore in its ranks may be diminished. The officers who have last come down here state that a good stock of warm clothing had been distributed before they left; but if this be so it is certainly strange that the sick have not yet shared in the benefits and comforts of that distribution. No former rivals have reached Scutari in greater wretchedness, and, in their helplessness, and prostration, than those most recently brought down."

Many of them are in a state of almost complete nudity, all are dirty to a degree which those who know the British soldier by his peace aspect would not credit, and there are among them cases of mortified toes, and exposure and defective circulation, which it is easy to perceive result, like the other forms of sickness prevalent, from the excessive hardships which the men have had to undergo. I mentioned in my last letter that an application had been made to me for warm clothing by a surgeon on behalf of a regiment ordered direct from the Crimea to the Crimea, and totally unprovided with the means of withstanding so sudden a change of temperature. The application was made on the ground that prevention was better than cure, and I knew so much of the mortality that had taken place among the regiments sent out that I did not think I should be justified in refusing. I, however, undertook to supply at once what was wanted conditionally, for if on arriving at Balaklava the things were not found to be requisite they were to be handed over to the Rev. Mr. Hayward and other chaplains there, for the use of the sick and wounded. This arrangement was thankfully acceded to, and yesterday I put on board the *Golden Fleece* for the 6th Foot (660 strong) a stock of flannels, drawers, and socks, which I hope will keep them warm and in good spirits until they get into Sebastopol. If I have erred in this departing somewhat from the strict interpretation of my trust, I am sure that the subscribers to the Fund will overlook an act which enables them to say that they have contributed in so important a manner to the physical comfort of a whole regiment of the line on its way to confront the enemy.

"The last batch of sisters and nurses, sent out under the charge of Miss Stanley, are still at Therapia, but after considerable negotiation an arrangement has been made by which about twenty of them are to be employed here. One-half come in as additional hands, the other to supply vacancies which from one cause or other have arisen in the staff which Miss Nightingale brought with her. While the good which the nurses have done is incalculable and admitted by every one, the success of the experiment as a feature of the medical department of the army on war service cannot be considered as decisively established until certain religious dissensions which have arisen are set at rest. Among those whose services Miss Nightingale has bestowed with are five white-veiled nuns, whose previous convent lives had not sufficiently qualified them for the duties of nursing. Their removal has given umbrage to the Roman Catholic chaplains. Miss Nightingale is quite right in endeavouring to put the establishment upon a proper business-like footing; doing so thus early will, I fear, make her a good number of enemies. Whether she succeeds or fails, she will at least have the satisfaction of knowing that she has already done an incalculable amount of good, and that in two months, when there was no one else to act, she has been the real purveyor of these vast establishments, providing what could not be obtained through the regular channels of the service, and especially from her

extra kitchen supplying comforts, without which many a poor fellow would have died. Her name and benevolent services are the theme of frequent and grateful praise among the men in the trenches, and she has made the Barrack Hospital so comfortable that the convalescents begin to show a decided reluctance to leave it.

"Some presents from the Queen have been received here, including essence of beef, soap, eau de Cologne, toilet vinegar, &c. Whether the contributions of charitable people at home will ever arrive safely must in great measure depend upon the care with which they inform those to whom the parcels are addressed of the mode of transmission. The Turkish Custom-house is a Maelström from which nothing that ever finds its way there is, without great difficulty, recovered."

AN IMPARTIAL WITNESS IN THE HOSPITAL.

The Rev. S. G. Osborne, who has been at Scutari, doing all in his power to aid the efforts of the hospital authorities, bears the following testimony:—

"I am now bound to say that nothing can exceed the kind way in which my efforts for our poor sick and wounded men have been appreciated by the Minister and Secretary of War. My suggestions have been received in the same grateful spirit, and I do firmly believe that that which the Government have desired from the first will be obtained. I know no energy, no expense, nor pains are being spared. I can see no reason to doubt that, with the machinery and staff Lord W. Paulet will soon possess, with the active support of the Government so substantially afforded him—he will soon bring all the hospital departments, and the transport of the sick into that condition which humanity and policy alike demand. I am not now writing to defend or to accuse, but that I may comfort those over whose relatives the 'hospital' fate may hang, as not the most but yet a dreaded cloud. I can give them my solemn conviction that I believe the Duke of Newcastle will strain every nerve, use all possible means to secure the best treatment of the sick and wounded. You cannot speak to him on the subject, and not see that the 'man,' the 'Christian,' is touched as well as the Minister.

"Knowing, as I do, the prudence, the zeal, the patient endurance with which Miss Nightingale, the Bracebridges, all the sisters, are working; remembering that where the legitimate sources of supply fail; there is no hesitation in seeking voluntary aid; and knowing how that aid watches every opportunity for employment, the English may rest assured that there will be no want of effort nor of means to meet the sick or wounded men's necessities."

RUSSIAN APOLOGY FOR MURDER.

THE *St. Petersburg Journal* contains the following most lame and discreditable apology for the cold-blooded barbarities committed by Russian officers and soldiers on the field of battle; and to render the apology of these infamous practices more scandalous, attributes them to Christian zeal and religious fervour:

"In the Anglo-French press, and even in Parliament, the reproaches cast by our enemies upon the cruelty of our brave soldiers has found an echo. Attempts have been made to spread the belief that our soldiers were accustomed to murder wounded men left on the field of battle. We know that Prince Menschikoff immediately replied to this odious accusation.

"We shall limit ourselves to reminding that magnanimity and commiseration are qualities universally recognised in the Russian people. Even writers who are opposed to us do not think of questioning this. Who can think that a people with whom the axiom, 'Thou shalt not smite a fallen foe,' has become proverbial, could be guilty of such excesses?"

"But, whilst in casting back this reproach attempted to be levelled against our whole army, we certainly shall not justify some isolated cases that may perhaps have occurred. These cases, if they came to the knowledge of the military authorities, have doubtless been punished with all the severity of our military code.

"If such cases have occurred, they must for the most part be ascribed to the indignation which the conduct of the allied troops called forth among our soldiers (!). It must not be forgotten that Russian soldiers defend the soil of their country—their native hearths—attacked by foreigners allied with the enemies of Christianity—foreigners who neither spare churches, cloisters, nor the holy bells, and that, in the eyes of Russian soldiers, such assaults are sacrileges calling for vengeance.

"It cannot be denied that the plunder and ruining of the church of Cherson—of this most ancient temple—which our soldiers looked upon from the ramparts of Sebastopol, filled them with just indignation.

"The defence of a people who are assailed in that which is holiest and dearest to their hearts, will oftentimes necessarily assume a wild character, and break out into demonstrations resulting from the state of things.

"Besides, why should we not bear in mind the conduct of our enemies?"

"Why, for instance, should we not mention that the Anglo-French tirailleurs during the battle of the 24th, when they could not resist the shock of our bayonets (!),

threw themselves on the ground and pretended to be wounded, and then when our troops passed, rose up and fired at their legs? Such, and the like things, will suffice to render comprehensible, at least, the exasperation of Russian soldiers. Let us finally call to mind, that while our enemies think fit to accuse us of cruelty, the prisoners we take from them render us more justice. The chiefs of the allied armies have received from Prince Menschikoff irresistible proofs of this truth."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL has been in Paris during the week. The object of his visit was said to be purely a domestic one. We observe, however, that he has dined with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in company with Sir William Temple, Marshal Nugent, Baron Hubner, and M. de Persigny. On Wednesday Lord John Russell had a private interview with the Emperor. Admiral Hamelin has arrived in Paris.

The return of Prince Napoleon to France is now announced in the *Moniteur* in the following official language:—"Prince Napoleon, notwithstanding his severe sufferings, was preparing to leave Constantinople to return to the Crimea, but the Emperor having been informed by the medical men that the state of health of the Prince would not allow of his continuing the campaign, has ordered him to return to France."

THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR PEACE.—According to an article in the *Débats*, signed by M. de Sacy, and founded on Vienna correspondence, giving an account of the interpretation of the four guarantees agreed to by the Allies at the conference, and accepted after some delay by Prince Gortschakoff, it was insisted that the anterior treaties between Turkey and Russia must be revised, the Black Sea be free, and the naval forces of each power determined. But the Western Powers reserved the right to take advantage of the eventualities of the war, and intimated possible conditions that might arise therefrom, among others, the destruction of the fortress of Ismail, and the establishment in its place of a neutral fortress. They might also, perhaps, insist on the destruction of Sebastopol, the demolition of its forts, of its arsenals, and a prohibition of their re-erection, or the establishment of any military port which might threaten the independence of Turkey. Prince Gortschakoff dissented strongly from these conditions, and declared he had no power to make such concessions. But on the evening of the 6th of January he received the order to accept, without reserve, the written protocol as a basis of negotiation.

Sardinia has signed the Protocol of the 10th of April last, the fifth article of which provided for the admission of other powers of Europe to the alliance, and has thereby joined the Western Powers.

News of a fresh invasion of the Dobrukscha by the Russian troops is, perhaps, explained by the following later despatch from a Russian source:—"A Turkish detachment, having crossed the Danube into Bessarabia, has been defeated by the Russians."

The *Morning Post* Paris correspondent writes that the Western Powers have determined to occupy some portion of Russian territory, Bessarabia, or the Crimea, after the conclusion of peace.

On the other hand, letters from Vienna report that Prince Gortschakoff remarked during the conference that "doubtless the Czar would allow the Allies to establish Balaklava as a point of retreat. No further concession," he continued, "could be expected at a moment when the victorious Russian army was opposed to the decimated allied forces, and completely invested the latter." In a private circle, the Russian diplomatist is further reported to have communicated "that the conditions laid before him were not in accordance with the fundamental principle of Russian policy, and that consequently their acceptance at St. Petersburg would be very difficult; and that in his own opinion the most the Emperor Nicholas could do to save Germany from the horrors of war, would be to offer no interruption to the withdrawal of the Allies from the Crimea."

Owing to the mildness of the season the Baltic is still open, and the movements of neutral vessels from Russian ports are unimpeded. Danish, Swedish, and Dutch vessels are the principal carriers; and notwithstanding the prohibition, rye and grain are exported.

At St. Petersburg, Lord John Russell's declaration in Parliament that the Allies were content to leave Russia a great and powerful state, has been adopted as the refrain of a popular political song, the inscription of which is—"O how sour are the grapes."

Prussia declines to mobilise her forces in aid of Austria, but obtains from Russia an engagement not to attack Austria. Bavaria, Saxony, and Wurtemberg support Prussia. Austria appeals to the Diet.

The convention between Austria and France for securing the tranquillity of Italy is not to be signed until the treaty of December 2nd has resulted in an offensive as well as defensive alliance.

The *Morning Chronicle* correspondent in Paris mentions a rumour of a project for making the Archduke Louis, brother of the Emperor Francis Joseph, King of Poland.

The French Ambassador at Vienna has presented to the Austrian Emperor the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, in return for the Order of St. Stephen.

At a levee held on the morning of New Year's-day, at his palace in Coblenz, the Prince of Prussia told the assembled officers that various portions of the army were already fully prepared for war, and it might easily happen that very soon the whole of the army might be called to arms. "Should that be so, he would repeat to them what he had said to them last year: it was for the King to point out to them towards which side they were to front, and on which side they were to fight; it was for the army to think only how it could best preserve and increase its glory and honour."

In the Sardinian Chambers, the suppression of Monasteries Bill is pending. The bill for a general register of lands has been carried by a majority of 68 against 52. General Dabormida has resigned his seat in the Sardinian Cabinet, and Count Cavour has accepted the office of Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Bonelli's electric loom, which will supersede the Jacquard looms, is exciting great interest at Turin. It will be one of the most remarkable inventions to be seen at the Universal Exhibition in Paris. The Tuscan Government has decreed the cessation of the state of siege at Leghorn from the 2nd inst., but forbids the bearing of arms without special license. The following provision is a good specimen of Austrianism:—"All offences against the interior or exterior security of the state, or against public order, as also all cases of murder or infliction of wounds, are to be judged with the greatest possible despatch, and before all other matters. Whenever the offences above alluded to are not sufficiently serious according to the ordinary laws in force to warrant the immediate imprisonment of the delinquent, the governor is empowered to order such imprisonment whenever he shall judge it necessary for the sake of maintaining public tranquillity." The Marquis of Normanby has succeeded Sir Henry L. Bulwer as British Minister to Tuscany.

King Bomba has been publicly weeping at a procession of the Madonna through the streets of Naples. He has, it is said, renewed the contract with his Swiss troops for 30 years. The quarrel with the Jesuits has been made up by the General of the Order, and the Jesuits are now more powerful than ever at Naples.

The French *Moniteur* has the following respecting the French army of occupation in the Papal States:—

"The Emperor, in deciding that the effective force of French troops at Rome should be diminished in proportion to the security now enjoyed in the Papal States, in his solicitude for the cause of the Church and the Holy See, has consented that until further order the army of occupation shall not be reduced below 3500 men."

Prince Lucien Murat having been accused by the liberal Piedmontese press of being in league with the Jesuits, wrote a letter to the Deputy Brofferio repudiating the connexion, and treating the Jesuits with contempt. The Prince has since written to the French papers, which reproduced his letter, to say that the translation from the Italian was incorrect.

In Spain there have been serious disturbances at Malaga:—

"The National Guard of Malaga," says the Madrid correspondent of *La Presse*, "has seized the first opportunity of making a pronunciamiento against the present Ministry. Malaga is a focus of progressist opinions; there are parties who like Espartero very well, but they seemed to be very disinclined to approve the policy of conciliation he is now following. The disturbances that have just taken place in that city are a broad hint to the Duke de la Vittoria that he must separate from Messrs. O'Donnell, Luzurriaga, and a few more of the other Ministers."

The Governor of Malaga, a brother of Marshal O'Donnell, was obliged to fly for his life.

On the 2nd inst., Espartero made the following declaration in the Cortes:

"Gentlemen,—I am about to speak to the nation legitimately represented in this place. The idol I adore has been, and always will be, the liberty of my country. To consolidate it on a firm and indestructible basis I shall be ready to sacrifice my life, and, what is worth still more, my reputation. But, gentlemen, without obedience to the laws, and without the preservation of public order, liberty is impossible. (Applause.) I will employ all my efforts to preserve it. I count on you, on your enlightenment, your talents, and your virtues; I count also on the national guard, I count on the army, I count on the entire nation. With such powerful support, if any men should attempt to violate the laws, or to trouble public order—whether they call themselves anarchists, or proselytes of despotism—on them will fall the sword of the law; and if they should escape it, they will fly covered with confusion and opprobrium. Our country will thus be purified, and liberty will be for ever established."

The proposition of M. Pareda, who demanded that the bills voted by the Congress before the Constitution should not be submitted to the Royal sanction, has been rejected by 144 votes against 66.

The Duc de Sevillano, the Minister of Finance, has paid out of his private funds several debts due by the State, particularly 2,000,000 reals to the household of the Queen, 5,500,000, which remained due of the half-year's dividend of July, and nearly 3,000,000 which were due to the troops of Navarre. It is said, indeed, that the total he has advanced for the public service

amounts to no less than 14,000,000 reals; and that the committee on the budget have resolved to propose a reduction of 500,000 reals in the allowance of the Duchess de Montpensier.

The reception of M. Berryer at the French Academy is fixed for the 25th of January.

In the rules of the French Exhibition the space for works of art is not limited. M. Cornelius, a well-known German artist, is about to send all his works—two hundred pictures.

MILITARY CONVENTION BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

For some days past the German papers have been speaking of a military convention concluded between Prussia and Austria, which the latter Power has called upon Prussia to fulfil. The version which the papers give of this convention being erroneous, we are glad to be enabled to lay the text of the article before our readers. It is as follows:—

"MILITARY CONVENTION ANNEXED TO THE CONVENTION CONCLUDED BETWEEN AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA, ON THE 20TH OF APRIL, 1854.

"Art. 1. Austria engages herself to add to the 150,000 men who are assembled in Hungary, on the Danube, and on the Saur, 100,000 men, who will together compose a second army—and that as soon as the necessity of the measure shall be felt, and at periods which she will appoint in accordance with Prussia. The troops mobilised in Galicia, in Transylvania, in Moravia, and joined in Galicia, as a *corps d'armée*, or in separate bodies, will remain in intimate relations with the military forces of Prussia.

"Art. 2. Prussia engages herself, on her side, to concentrate, according to the circumstances, 100,000 men within the space of thirty-six days; to wit, one-third of these forces in Eastern Prussia, and the two others at Posen or at Breslau. Besides this, she binds herself to raise her army to the number of 200,000 men, if the circumstances should require it, in coming to an understanding each time in that respect with Austria.

"Art. 3. The military convention of the Germanic Confederation preserves all its force as respects Prussia and Austria.

"Art. 4. The Minister of War in Prussia and the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial army engage themselves mutually to make to each other all the communications necessary to insure the maintenance of the troops at the amount determined on above, their organisation, and their meeting at the periods fixed, as well as the places of their meeting.

"Art. 5. Austria and Prussia will reciprocally accredit superior officers to the two contracting States, as soon as Prussia shall have commenced placing her army on a war-footing, in order to arrive at a complete understanding with respect to the measures which they will have to adopt. Superior officers will be afterwards accredited to the two armies.

"Art. 6. The direction to be given to these armies when united shall be based on this principle, that the object of the support which the two Powers are to afford each other reciprocally is merely to repulse an attack.

"The present convention has been passed at Berlin on this 20th of April, 1854.

(Signed) "O. TH. DE MANTEUFFEL,
HENRY BARON DE HESS,
General of Artillery."

THE MURDER IN FOLEY-PLACE.

On the morning of the Sabbath, in broad day-light, and in an opulent quarter of the metropolis, we have just witnessed a crime of extraordinary magnitude and fearfulness.

At No. 5, Foley-place, Portland-road, resided a Mr. and Mrs. Lambert, the tenants of the house. On an upper floor lived a Mrs. Williamson, and apartments had also been occupied under the same roof by an Italian named Luigi Baranelli. Between this man and Mrs. Williamson an intimacy appears to have arisen, the sequel of which was a quarrel between him and Mr. Lambert. Into this part of the transaction we need enter no further than to say that Baranelli was desired to quit his lodgings, which he did some ten days ago. On Sunday morning, about half-past nine, he presented himself at the door of the house, and was admitted by the servant. After exchanging a few words with her he proceeded to the door of the back parlour, where, as the girl had informed him, her master and mistress were in bed, entered the apartment, shot Mr. Lambert through the head as he lay asleep, and discharged a second pistol with almost equally fatal effect into the breast of Mrs. Lambert as she started up in alarm. He then rushed upstairs and endeavoured to gain admission into the room where Mrs. Williamson was; but, not succeeding in the attempt, he ran up to another room on the floor above, and there shot himself through the head just as a police-constable got to the door. His own statement, volunteered as he lay between life and death, with the blood gushing from his mouth, compressed into the compass of half-a-dozen lines the narrative of this frightful tragedy:—"I this

morning went to the house No. 5, Foley-place, when the street door was opened to me by the servant. I forced my way into the bedroom, placed the pistol at the back of Mr. Lambert's head and shot him, and then shot Mrs. Lambert, and then ran upstairs, when I loaded a pistol again, and shot myself, and I hope I shall soon die." It further appears that on Friday, the 5th, he prepared a small remembrance of himself, in the shape of a note and a portrait, addressed to Mrs. Williamson, and that on Saturday evening he purchased the pistols with which the deed was committed. He must then have risen on the following morning and put this dreadful design into execution.

What will strike the reader most forcibly in this appalling story is the disproportion apparently subsisting between the provocation and the crime. The only motive for the deed seems to have arisen out of the exclusion of the murderer from the house. This proceeding was probably attended with angry words, but the worst Baranelli says of Mr. Lambert is, "that he threatened to strike him," to which he adds that he "became desperate from that time." In consequence, therefore, of a difference of this nature he resolves upon murder; and, apparently upon suicide; commits a treble crime with unflinching determination, and puts the whole case upon record by a voluntary statement, without any expression of contrition or remorse. Nothing can be more trivial or commonplace than the alleged circumstances of the quarrel; nothing more truly frightful than the consummation which it received at his hands.

Mrs. Lambert, although severely injured, is expected to recover—the murderer also. A coroner's inquest has been held on the body of Mr. Lambert, but the proceedings have been adjourned until the 17th. At the inquiry, however, some facts were elicited. The brother of the murdered man gave evidence, and said that his real name was Latham—that of Lambert having been assumed. He had been separated from his wife eight or nine years since, and had lately been living with the woman calling herself Mrs. Lambert. The connexion had given annoyance to his friends, and it is said that the house in Foley-place had been taken with the intention of establishing her in some way of business, with a view to dissolving the intimacy. It may be also remarked that the house had borne a character by no means uncommon in the neighbourhood.

STATEMENT OF THE MURDERER.

In one of the smaller parcels which Baranelli thrust on the woman who opened the door to him on Sunday morning, a pocket-book was found, which contained the following letter and "Memorandum":—

"63, Newman-street,

"The night of the 4th of January.

"Sir,—I beg of you to pardon me. I dishonour you. I dishonour our dear Italy. But it is not my own fault. From the first moment I arrived in this country—since ten years' exile—it has been a place of suffering to me. I have never had one hour of peace. I have been called by the name of an assassin; and as an assassin I must act. I am a Roman! I am an Italian! It is enough! In a little memorandum-book of mine you will perceive the cause. There is something of love in the matter.

"Remember my name to all my friends, and in dying I say farewell to Italy.

"LUIGI BARANELLI.

"M. Conforti, 53, Old Compton-street, Soho."

"MEMORANDUM.

"The cause of my desperation is the Lamberts. When I left the hospital some time since I wished to return into the country. This Lambert kept me in London, and with false flattery wrote to my club, giving notice that I and Madame Williamson had become attached to each other. In conclusion, a flame was lighted in our hearts, which hurried us onward to the point of impropriety, though Madame Williamson was both an experienced and capricious woman. In that moment of love our reason deserted us, and she swore to be true to me many times more than if I were her husband, and I, for my part, the same. Our love was mutual from the first, and cost the honour of Madame Williamson: She, being alarmed at her situation, discovered (confessed) all to the Lamberts, who immediately began to meddle in the business, and Mrs. Lambert discovered to Mrs. Williamson a purpose of her own. As the state of my health would not allow me to go out of England, I remained in London, and my affection for Madame Williamson increased. At this time I found that M. Kolozdy and M. Zambelli had become, through the Lamberts, equally attached to Madame Williamson. When the Lamberts found that they wished to take her out of England, they attempted directly to cause a separation between them. The Lamberts also prevented the husband of Madame Williamson from coming back to her; and, with regard to myself, Madame Williamson confessed to me that they always spoke disparagingly of me, and attempted, by every means, to cause the greatest disagreement between us; and they succeeded to this extent, that Madame Williamson said she wanted to love me no more. She also told me that Madame Lam-

had promised to give her as sweetheart a Sardinian g man, who was to be lodged in her house. When Lambert did know my 'accident' with Madame Amson, he came to me and acted as if I had been if and an assassin, expelling me on the instant from ouse, and having no regard to the state of my h. Upon this I called Mr. Lambert 'a ruffian and ef.' And I can prove this, as he let apartments certain Mrs. —, first prostitute of Regent- who, to my knowledge, kept two gentlemen her until daybreak. And I will show him to be a as he robbed a golden bracelet and a ring, which ys he left on a bed belonging to Mr. Smith, who s at 35, Newman-street, Oxford-street. Mr. — Madame Williamson are witnesses of this theft. I gain, Mr. and Madame Lambert are, in effect, two as and two thieves. It was not enough for them ve had the satisfaction of expelling me from their , but they have said to everybody that I am a , a thief, and an assassin, and all the worst calum- hat could be uttered they have applied to me. Ah! am the offended—who was forced on to a love for I am now suffering, and to be insulted for it! oned by my sweetheart, I lost my reason and e a madman. I resolved to destroy myself, but, doing so, I said within myself, I will see those ave despised me (*qui me méprisent*)—those who caused me to lose entirely my senses. I resolved ak to the Lamberts, and after that to die in peace. y brains! I lost myself. God forgive my excess. lost. I am a dying, desperate man. God forgive eat many faults of which I have been guilty. The erts have made me an assassin. I recommend to y daughter, because the little one is innocent. I Roman and an honest Italian, as you will perceive y certificates. Since I am in England they call hief and an assassin. By doing so they cause me as such. I shall be able to say that I have been inated by —, of —, in Kent. Open my flesh I am dead, and you shall certify how I have been l. Yes, open my lacerated flesh and you will be shed. If I have done wrong, it is the law that punish me, and not the doctor nor the priest. Ah! you did assassinate me, and you have occasioned rimes. You have my life—what do you want Oh! good God! pardon in this horrible moment die content.

"LUIGI BARANELLI."

anelli is a tailor, and when residing at Pens- followed that occupation. The latter portion statement is actually aimed at a medical gen- n who, Baranelli alleges, had wilfully treated rongfully for cancer.

POLICE CASES.

"Civilisation" as we have called it, has been ated in various ways this week. At Worship-

a Martin, a carpenter, in Green-street, Bethnal- was brought before Mr. Hammill, upon a charge ing and wounding his wife.

complainant, a delicate-looking young woman, appeared with her left arm suspended in a sling, as evidently in a state of extreme suffering and y, stated that she had only been a short time d to the prisoner, with whom she had lived upon nhappy terms that she was compelled to separate im a few weeks since, and had since depended for t upon her own unsustained exertions. On the us evening, she accompanied a female friend ; Standard Theatre; on leaving they entered oining public-house, but observing the prisoner ng in front of the bar, she hastily retreated into eet, feeling apprehensive that he would subject , some personal violence. She soon heard foot- dvancing rapidly behind her, and was immediately vertaken by the prisoner, who exclaimed with an 'Take that, you —,' and made a violent blow ome sharp instrument in the direction of her left

She felt satisfied that the thrust was intended : breast; but it took effect in the upper part of t arm, on which the head of her infant was resting time, and inflicted a dreadful wound from which od poured down so furiously that the front of her was completely saturated. The prisoner hastily off as soon as he had stabbed her; but she raised y of "Police," and "Murder," and he was brought most immediately in the custody of an officer. being asked if he had any observations to make in r to the charge, the prisoner said: "I know did it, but I hope that you will deal with me as ly as you can, as I was greatly provoked at the

Hammill said it was a very serious case, and uld order the prisoner to be remanded for the l completion of the depositions.

Clerkenwell, Joseph Cheetham, a respectably- d young man, an apprentice to a builder, was ed on summons before Mr. Corrie with assault- ith intent, and administering a deleterious per- to Emily Lowe. The prosecutrix, a quiet- ng country girl, said:—

at present live at Low-street, Chingford, Essex. e 14th of December I met the defendant in Upper-

street, Islington. He was at the time paying attention to my sister. I asked him how she was; he then asked me to take a walk with him. I told him I could not—it was so late. He replied, 'Oh, there is a friend come from Chingford, and if you get leave for half an hour I will take you to your sister.' I then went and asked my mistress to go out to see a friend for half an hour; she allowed me to go, but when I got out of doors I could not at first meet the defendant. At last he came up, and we walked along until we came to a 'dark place in Highbury; he then pushed me up against the wall.' [The witness here entered into some particulars of the alleged assault.] "He then put something to my mouth and I became insensible. When I recovered, I got up and went home. I did not tell my mistress what had happened to me."

This is the main fact. It appeared in examina- tion that the girl did not complain to her mistress, although asked what had happened, as "she pre- sented the appearance of having been poisoned." Her mistress wrote to her mother, and she went home, but made no examination, nor did the doctor do so. The doctor treated her for poison. All this is very vague and unsatisfactory; some doubt having even been cast on the identity of the prisoner, who has a great character for being a reader of the Bible. The magistrate could only dismiss the charge. He said:—

"This is one of the most extraordinary tales, if true, that was ever related by a young girl; if untrue, it only shows to what curious cunning and danger persons are exposed when such charges are preferred. The evidence of the complainant is wholly unsubstantiated as to the identity of the defendant; for although the boy (a witness) has sworn that he was the party, he said, on an after occasion, he was doubtful of it. Again, if the girl had been violated, there was no trouble taken to ascertain it at the time the circumstance happened; and from the length of time that had intervened no jury could decide that it was really the defendant who had committed the offence. I do not, therefore, think that I can commit the defendant for trial for the offence."

Love.—At Worship-street, Frederick Knowles was charged with having threatened the life of a young woman named Eliza Usher.

The prisoner had formerly paid his addresses to the complainant, who, on finding he was a married man, refused to have anything more to say to him. The pri- soner, however, had continued to molest her, and one evening, was found by complainant's brother pacing to and fro before the house where she was in service, in Buccleuch-terrace, Upper Clapton. He had a loaded pistol in each hand. The complainant's brother was in the act of remonstrating with him when the prisoner rushed to the door of the house and commenced ringing the bell, which was answered by complainant's master, under whose direction he was secured. During the struggle the prisoner threw down two pistols loaded with powder and ball.

Police-constable Cooke, No. 267, stated that the pri- soner was given into his custody by the complainant's master for having threatened the life of his servant, and, on hearing the charge, he exclaimed, "Yes, I meant to put one bullet through her heart, and the other through my own."

On being called upon for his defence, the prisoner, who shed tears and exhibited extreme agitation, ear- nestly disclaimed all intention to injure the complainant, and said that she was well aware of the affection he entertained for her, and that he would not hurt a hair of her head.

Mr. D'Eyncourt said that the desperate intentions of the prisoner were rendered sufficiently manifest by the whole of his conduct and demeanour, and he should order him to enter into his own recognisances in 200*l.*, and to produce two substantial sureties in 100*l.* each, to be answerable for his good behaviour for the next twelve months.

HORRIBLE TREATMENT OF A CHILD.—On the evening of the 28th of December, a policeman on duty in Greyhound-court, Strand, heard a moan, and on looking down found an infant lying quite naked in a pool of water, which was freezing round the child's head. It was a remarkably frosty night. The mother, Harriett Nelson, was found, and taken to Bow-street, when Mr. Jardine committed her for trial.

KING, THE POLICE THIEF-TRAINER.—This case has been further inquired into. With reference to the prisoner, it should be stated that he never was one of the organised force of "detectives," although always permitted, for some reason which requires explanation, to perform the duties of his office in private clothes. It also appears that the prisoner was not actually in the force at the time of his apprehension upon the present charge. He had just been dismissed by the commissioners, chiefly in consequence of the part he had taken in the prosecution already referred to. He then immediately opened a coffee-house in King-street, Soho, which is still being carried on by his wife. The case was adjourned until next Thursday.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST THE POLICE.—A man was charged at the Middlesex Sessions with assault- ing a policeman, but he defended himself on the ground that the policeman had kissed his wife. The evidence was conflicting, the policeman denying the charge, and the man with other witnesses affirming it. The jury were puzzled, but ended by acquitting the prisoner, but "without imputing perjury to the policeman."

THE REV. MR. DAVIES AND THE LONDON MISSION.

WITH the termination of the proceedings brought against the Rev. Mr. Ainslie, for his ill-starred "Defence of the Innocent," we thought we had heard the last of the case of Mr. Davies, the unlucky letter-writer, who has had the misfortune to scanda- lise the whole London Mission by his epistolary effusions. It seems, however, that though Mr. Ainslie very prudently backed out, with a signifi- cant declaration that he had lost confidence in the veracity of Mr. Davies, the latter has retained sufficient confidence in himself to proceed. Thus, during the past week, those who take an interest in missionary matters, and the alleged frailties of holy men, have been regaled with another edition of the evidence, consequent upon Mr. Davies bringing an action against the *Banner*, for the very decisive opinion it has expressed touching the charges against him. All the particulars respecting the letter from Wellingborough have been once more raked up and sifted, as if for the purpose of piquing the prurient curiosity of the public, and making us wonder what it can be that a missionary could possibly write to his wife, which could only be alluded to, and not so much as named, much less published. Much more creditable would it have been for the London Mis- sion, and those who manage its affairs, if the matter had been hushed up, or quietly suffered to die a natural death, instead of being submitted to double arbitration, lasting thrice as long as an investigation in a court of law, and entailing an amount of expense out of all proportion to the object to be gained by the inquiry. The character of Mr. Davies had need be very precious to justify the outlay in- curred for clearing it in the eyes of the religious world.

CARDINAL WISEMAN AND THE IMMA- CULATE CONCEPTION.

A PASTORAL from Cardinal Wiseman, of which the following is an abstract, relative to the recent defi- nition of this doctrine as an article of faith, and dated from Rome, was read on Sunday in all the Catholic chapels of London and the surrounding district:—

"Nicholas, by the Divine mercy, of the Holy Roman Church, of the title of St. Pudentiana, Cardinal Priest and Archbishop of Westminster, to our dearly beloved brethren and children in Christ, the clergy secular and regular, and the faithful of the said diocese.

"Health and benediction in the Lord.

"Although in the course of a few days we hope to begin our journey homeward, we cannot resist the earnest desire which we feel of making you partakers in the consolation and joy which we have experienced in the few last days. Neither can we consider it becoming, dearly beloved in Christ, that you should have to receive through the ordinary channels of public information tidings of events most interesting to every Catholic heart, or that you should learn the important decision pronounced by the Sovereign Pontiff from any one but your own pastor, who had announced to you his inten- tion of assisting at it, and who had the happiness and honour of hearing it from the very lips of the Holy Father.

"You are aware, then, dearly beloved, that upon his paternal invitation he hastened hither to join our most eminent and illustrious brethren in the great cause of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother of God, which, having been already examined and dis- cussed with great maturity, was about to receive its final examination and decision."

After detailing the preliminary measures adopted by the Holy Pontiff to ascertain the sense of the living Church, no less "the pillar and the ground of truth" than that of the first centuries upon the doctrine plainly held on the subject of the Imma- culate Conception, the pastoral states:—

"Having at length determined that the time was come for dogmatically pronouncing on the subject, and desirous of giving all due publicity and solemnity to this greatest exercise of the sublime power conferred by our Lord on the prince of the Apostles and their suc- cessors, the Sovereign Pontiff invited to Rome a certain number of prelates from each country to represent its hierarchy. At the same time he expressed his readiness to see as many others as could conveniently come to attend the noble function appointed for the 8th of De- cember."

After stating that beyond all anticipation were the results of this general intimation of the Holy

Father's will, and that as early as November prelates, many of whom represented distinguished sees, commenced arriving in Rome, and that every day brought additions to their numbers, the pastoral continues:—

"On four different days did this truly ecclesiastical assembly meet under the presidency of three cardinals, distinguished for piety, theological learning, and experience—Brunelli, Caterini, and Santucci—and attended upon by a choice assembly of divines, secular and regular. The bull prepared for its last revision had been communicated to them, and every portion of it frankly and acutely discussed.

"All was now ready, and the great day approached—a day for ever memorable in the Church's annals—the day in which the greatest prerogative of holiness ever conferred on creature—exemption from the stain of original sin—was to be dogmatically declared, as it had been firmly believed to belong to the purest of beings, after Him who chose and fitted her to be His mother.

"You will, of course, understand, dearly beloved in Christ, that the Church pretends to no new revelations, but claims the unfailing assistance of the Holy Spirit to guide her into all truth, and the teaching in her of her divine Founder, to the consummation of the world; and therefore the perfect assurance that whatever she is found at any time to be universally teaching, and what the Vicar of Christ pronounces to be her doctrine, has been that of the Catholic Church from the beginning, and consequently a portion of that deposit of faith and a part of that revealed truth which was intrusted to her by the Author and Finisher of her faith. It is not, therefore, to announce to the world any new discovery, nor to demonstrate by argument a particular theory, that this venerable assembly was convened in the magnificent Basilica of St. Peter, on the memorable 8th of December, just elapsed. It was as successor to him over whose ashes and under the shadow of whose chair he stands to pronounce a decree of unfailing certainty, that the immunity of the ever-blessed Virgin Mother of God; the eternal Word incarnate, and the Spotless Lamb had been a doctrine revealed from the beginning, and if hitherto only received in blessed faith, henceforth by virtue of his decree to be believed by all with explicit faith—that is, as a distinct and separate dogma, no longer involved in the general belief of what the Church teaches."

The pastoral then describes the assembly of the prelates in the Vatican Chapel of the Palace and the opening ceremonies, and states that the procession set forth and presented, one of the noblest ecclesiastical spectacles ever witnessed even in St. Peter's. It then continues:—

"We will not attempt to describe the magnificent celebration of the holy sacrifice which followed. All the special grandeur which accompanies it when offered up by the Sovereign Pontiff in the greatest of churches was this year immensely enhanced by the additional attendance of so many prelates. No regal or imperial ceremony could be more august than the procession of these 200 prelates, as each singly approached, to do homage to the head of the Church before the mass commenced. The office of Tierce was first chanted, the Gospel and Epistle were, according to custom, sung in Greek as well as in Latin; and it was a quarter past eleven when the last note of the Evangelist sounded over the shrine of St. Peter; and a silence took place such as it is difficult to imagine in a crowd of 30,000 or 40,000 persons who filled the church. Every breath was held, every nerve was strained, and attention of eye and ear was keenly directed towards the Pontiff's throne. The venerable Dean of the Sacred College, the Cardinal Macchi, in his 86th year, but still in enjoyment of full mental vigour, approached the steps, accompanied by a Greek and an Armenian bishop, as supporters and witnesses of his petition, together with twelve senior archbishops of the Western Church, who were assisted at the throne by the officers of the household, who are official witnesses of such important transactions. Kneeling there, the eminent postulant, in the name of his brethren and the whole Catholic episcopate, supplicated the Holy Father to pronounce his dogmatical definition of the immaculate conception of the ever-glorious Virgin Mary.

"The Pontiff assented, but called upon all to join him in invoking the light and grace of the Holy Spirit at such a solemn moment. He knelt, and in his clear, sonorous, and most musical voice intoned the hymn, 'Veni Creator Spiritus.' The choir sung the first verse, and, according to practice, was going to continue, when the entire congregation, not only of assembled bishops and clergy, but of crowds of people, spontaneously and simultaneously, and with admirable harmony, took up the song, and with a loud voice as the sound of many waters, but one as the expression of a single heart, filled the whole Basilica with such a strain as perhaps never before struck against its golden vaults. It was grand beyond conception; it was sublime; and came nearer to the realisation of what St. John heard of heavenly music than anything which he or others have ever before listened to; and it was repeated at each alternate verse with as perfect a regularity as if the whole multitude had been trained to answer the choir. But still more sublime than this glorious strain was the silence which ensued. Standing at his throne, the Holy Father commenced the reading of the solemn decree, by which,

as Superior Pastor of the visible head of the Universal Church, as successor of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, and as vicar of Jesus Christ on earth, he authoritatively and dogmatically pronounced that immunity from original sin, or, in other words, the immaculate conception of the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, the mother of God, is a revealed doctrine of the Catholic Church.

"He had, however, not proceeded far, before his tears and sobs interrupted his speech, and it was only by an effort which evidently cost him great exertion that he could make his words struggle through the tide of his emotions, and rise audible above the flood of his overpowering feelings. He succeeded, indeed, so that we had the happiness of hearing every word and syllable of that most memorable decree; but that flood of tender devotion drew after itself corresponding sentiments from the souls of others, so that scarce a dry eye was to be seen amid those who witnessed this touching scene. The cannon's voice gave the signal of the happy accomplishment of so many fervent desires to the whole city, and the prolonged peals of gladness from the olden towers of basilicas and the belfries of modern churches represented the claim of the earlier and later periods of unchangeable Catholicity.

"The Cardinal Dean returned before the throne to return thanks, and accompanied by the proper official personages, to request that the official deed should be drawn up of the proceedings, and the Bull issued containing the decree just pronounced. The mass then continued, and at the *Te Deum* which closed it all the people joined, and with the same overwhelming melody as they had introduced into the invocation of the Holy Ghost."

The pastoral, after touching slightly upon the great festival of the Sunday following, concludes thus:—

"Rejoice, then, dearly beloved; again, we say, rejoice. Rejoice in the Lord, who has so graciously bestowed upon His Church so signal a blessing, whereby the piety of her children has been wonderfully excited; and their love for their Mother in Heaven greatly increased.

"Rejoice that to her fresh glory has been given, and a new jewel to brighten the crown she wears, that we may hope for new favours and graces from her affectionate and powerful intercession. Rejoice that through this glorious event the unity of the Church, the peace and love that reign among its pastors, their docility to their head, their attachment to the see of Peter, and the piety and learning of so many of them, have been so convincingly exhibited.

"And, though absent in body, yet in spirit present with you, we rejoice with you, and pray to God that from this special joy He will raise more solid graces, fruit of the blessing which the Holy Father, through our hands, sends down upon you.

"Given out of the Flaminian Gate of Rome, and appointed to be read in all the churches and chapels of our diocese on the Sunday following its publication, this 14th day of December, 1854.

"N. CARDINAL WISEMAN."

PROCEEDINGS AGAINST ARCHDEACON DENISON.

A COMMISSION, appointed by His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, consisting of the Right Rev. the Bishop Carr, Rector of Bath; the Rev. R. Pole, Rural Dean and Rector of Yeovilton; the Rev. Charles Langdon, Rector of Queen Camel; the Rev. R. Colston Phillips, Rector of Cacklington; and the Rev. Charles Otway Mayne, Rural Dean and Rector of Midsomer Norton, for the purpose of making inquiry as to the grounds of certain charges, brought by the Rev. Joseph Ditcher, Vicar of South Brent, against the Venerable George Anthony Denison, the Archdeacon of Taunton, for that he the said George Anthony Denison did, on Sunday, the 7th day of August, 1853, on Sunday, the 6th day of November, in the same year, and on Sunday, the 14th day of May, 1854, in the cathedral church of Wells, preach three several sermons, and afterwards write and publish, or cause to be published, the said sermons, in which he did advisedly maintain or affirm certain positions or doctrines, to wit:—

"That the body and blood of Christ being really present after an immaterial and spiritual manner, in the consecrated bread and wine, are therein and thereby given to all, and are received by all who come to the Lord's table, that to all who come to the Lord's table, to those who eat and drink worthily, and to those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are given, and that by all who come to the Lord's table, by those who eat and drink worthily, and by those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are received, and that the universal reception of the inward part or thing signified of the sacrament, in and by the outward sign, is a part of the doctrine itself—that worship is due to the real though invisible and supernatural presence of the body and blood of Christ in the Holy Eucharist under the form of bread and wine—that the act of consecration makes the real presence, that the act of consecration makes the real sacrament, through the operation of the Holy Ghost, to be Christ's body and blood—that in the Lord's Supper the outward

parts or signs, and the inward parts or things signified are so joined together by the act of consecration, that to receive the one is to receive the other, and that all who receive the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper receive the body and blood of Christ, all which positions and doctrines are complained to be directly contrary or repugnant to the doctrine of the Church of England, and especially to the articles of religion as by law established."

Dr. Phillimore and Mr. A. Kinglake, as deputy-registrars of the court of the Archdeacon of Taunton, appeared for the Archdeacon, and Dr. Bayford for the promoter.

A considerable discussion ensued between the counsel on each side on points raised *in limine* by Dr. Phillimore, who objected to the jurisdiction of the commission, and urged that there being two parties in the Church of England, known as "high" and "low" church, there could be no greater mockery than to call upon a person to defend himself against a tribunal studiously selected from those who held exactly opposite opinions to the person arraigned.

Dr. Bayford contended that the *exceptio judicis* was at variance with the Act of Parliament which authorised the sittings of such a commission, neither was it competent to any clerk to object to his bishop or archbishop.

The principal proceedings consisted of the examinations of several witnesses in proof of the delivery and publication of the sermons objected to. The court then considered the validity of the doctrines enunciated, and the "finding" was as follows:—

"The commissioners, after due consideration of the depositions taken before them, and of certain printed sermons numbered 1, 2, and 3; and of documents annexed to the depositions, declare their unanimous opinion—First, that as respects the preaching and publishing, or making known or public the above sermons by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Taunton, within the diocese of Bath and Wells; there is sufficient *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings. Secondly, the commissioners, having carefully examined the aforesaid sermons and the charges specified in the commission, declare their unanimous opinion that the proposition of the Venerable the Archdeacon Taunton, that to all who come to the Lord's table, to those who eat and drink worthily, and to those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are given, and that by all who come to the Lord's table, by those who eat and drink worthily, and by those who eat and drink unworthily, the body and blood of Christ are received, is directly contrary or repugnant to the doctrine of the Church of England, and especially to the articles of religion, and that the doctrines as set forth in the aforesaid sermons with reference to the real presence in the Holy Eucharist are unsupported by the articles, taken in their literal and grammatical sense, are contrary to the doctrines and teaching of the Church of England, and have a very dangerous tendency. The commissioners are therefore of opinion, secondly, that there is sufficient *prima facie* ground for instituting further proceedings. The commissioners, at the same time, think it due to the Venerable Archdeacon to state that, in the sermons under consideration, he has expressed his full assent and consent to the articles of religion, and that he has *ex animo* condemned the doctrines of the Church of Rome, and particularly the Roman doctrine of transubstantiation."

The greatest possible excitement has prevailed at Clevedon, and in the neighbourhood, during the sittings of the commission. The general opinion is, that the proceedings have been grossly unfair. The court is constituted almost entirely of "Low" Churchmen, and the Archdeacon does not possess the right held even by a prisoner, that of challenging a jury which may be prejudiced. It may be doubted whether the Church is strengthened by allowing a court so packed to decide serious doctrinal points.

The following letter from Dr. Wolff was written in reply to a remonstrance received from a friend on account of the evidence he gave at the inquiry:—

January 10, 1855.

"My dear Friend;—I am very much obliged to you for your kind present of your sermon on 'Antichrist,' which I have not yet received. I also thank you for the openness with which you write to me on the subject of the evidence I gave in favour of one of the most sincere of men—George A. Denison.

"In the years 1819-21 I was the pupil, as you are aware, of that man of God—the Rev. Charles Simeon. I one day declared one of his (Simeon's) adversaries *in doctrine* to be a heretic, when good old Simeon gently, but seriously, reproved me, saying, 'I perceive that you came lately from Rome, where one hears immediately the outcry "Heresy! heresy!" We ought to be very cautious in declaring any one who differs from our mode of interpretation a heretic; and I deplore,' Simeon continued, 'that such a condemning spirit has entered in a great degree even among pious and sincere men in the Protestant community!'

"Now, my dear friend, these words of good old Simeon have never been forgotten by me, and it was in consequence of the admonition I received from that man of God that I declined signing any paper against Doctor

Hampden; and to protest against the spirit of St. Dominic, which is now revived against that man of God—the Archdeacon of Taunton.

“The Record declares heretics all those who preach the personal reign of Jesus Christ, among which number you are; and yet I shall be rejoiced to give evidence in your behalf whenever called upon.

“Yours, affectionately,
“JOSEPH WOLFF.

“Isle Brewers, near Taunton, Somerset.”

THE EMPEROR AND THE IMPERIAL GUARD.

The Emperor on Tuesday reviewed several detachments of the Imperial Guard preparatory to their departure for the Crimea. His Majesty was loudly cheered. He addressed to them the following speech, which was so effective that many of the soldiers, in their emotion, shed tears:—

“The French nation, by its sovereign will, has resuscitated many things which were thought for ever dead, and to-day the Empire is reconstituted; intimate alliance exists with our ancient enemies; the flag of France waves with honour on those distant shores where the bold flight of our Eagles had not before ventured; the Imperial Guard, the heroic representation of military glory and honour, is now before me, surrounding the Emperor as formerly, wearing the same uniform, carrying the same flag, and having, especially, in their hearts the same sentiments of devotion to their country. Receive, then, these flags, which will lead you to victory as they led your fathers, as they have just led your comrades. Go, and take your share of what still remains of danger to be overcome and glory to be earned; you will soon have received the noble baptism which is your ambition, and you will have lent your assistance to plant our Eagles upon the walls of Sebastopol.”

METROPOLITAN COMMISSION OF SEWERS.

Mr. F. O. Ward has given notice of the following important motion for the next Committee of the Metropolitan Commissioners of Sewers:—

“Whereas a large proportion of the houses ravaged by cholera and typhus in the Metropolitan Sewers District are cesspool houses situate within reach of existing Sewers;

“And whereas experience has shown that, by private improvements, consisting mainly in the abolition of cesspools, open privies, and untrapped sinks, and the substitution of tubular house drains, trapped water-closets, and trapped sinks with water duly laid on, such houses may be freed from the ravages of cholera and typhus, and of other allied forms of sickness and mortality;

“And whereas, notwithstanding the great advantage and small cost of such improvements, experience has further shown that the owners and occupants of such houses, sometimes because of poverty or ignorance, sometimes because of the shortness of their term of occupancy, sometimes on account of divided or disputed ownership, and from a variety of other causes, are unwilling or unable themselves to execute such improvements;

“And whereas, considering the limited means at the disposal of this Commission, and the length of time which must necessarily elapse before large works of arterial drainage can be brought to completion, the execution of such private house improvements on an extended scale appears to be the course by which this Commission may effect the most rapid and considerable abatement of sickness and mortality, and may most immediately and completely put districts heretofore ravaged by cholera in a state of defence against future invasions of that pestilence, and may effect the largest reduction of the pecuniary burdens imposed on the rate-payers of the London parishes by preventible sickness and premature deaths, and by the excess of orphanage and widowhood thereby entailed;

“And whereas a heavy responsibility will rest on this Commission if, in presence of the fact that districts in which such improvements have been extensively carried out, enjoyed, during the late cholera epidemic, a large abatement of the mortality they had suffered during previous cholera epidemics before such improvements had been effected, this Commission should, nevertheless, neglect to exercise its powers, under the Act, of extending like improvements throughout the metropolis;

“And whereas it appears that the borrowing powers of this Commission for the aforesaid purposes are insufficient, partly by reason of the security of the private improvement rates being held technically defective in the money-market, and partly by reason of the Commission having already borrowed nearly to the full limit fixed in the Act;

“That, therefore, application be made by this Commission to Parliament, immediately on its meeting, for such extension of its borrowing powers, and such amendment of the technical defects in the security of the private improvement rates as shall be necessary to enable it to raise the money requisite for forthwith executing private improvements in 20,000 cesspool houses, situate within reach of existing sewers;

“That immediately on the acquisition of the requisite

powers and funds, the District Engineering Inspectors of this Commission be instructed to prepare plans, and the Secretary to serve notices, for the immediate improvement, as aforesaid, of 20,000 cesspool houses, such houses being chosen in fair proportions from among the worst houses of the several rated districts, precedence being in each district given to such houses as can be dealt with in groups or blocks, and the costs being distributed in each case over a term not exceeding thirty years.”

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

(From the Registrar-General's Return.)

In the first week of the year the deaths of 1404 persons, namely 671 males and 733 females, were registered in the metropolis. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54 the average number of deaths was 1313. With a correction for increase of population, necessary for the purpose of comparison, this average becomes 1444, a result which differs to no great extent from the number of deaths as returned last week.

Of the 1404 deaths, 692 occurred under 20 years of age, 193 at 20 years and under 40, 213 at 40 and under 60, and 246 at 60 years and under 80, and 60 were deaths of octogenarians. Of 335 which were caused by zymotic diseases, 265 occurred in the first vicennial; of 36 referred to small-pox, 6 were those of persons who had attained their twentieth year. Of 140 cases in which phthisis (consumption) was fatal, 19 occurred under 20 years of age, 76 in the period 20-40, 37 in the period 40-60, and the remaining 8 under 80 years of age.

The return of this week contains two new tables. The first table exhibits for the first time the occupations of the males who died in London at the four vicennial periods 20-40, 40-60, 60-80, and 80 and upwards, in juxtaposition with the numbers of the living enumerated at the last census (1851). The investigations, of which this is an example, will assist in determining the influence of occupation on life and longevity.

The second table shows the distribution of small-pox, measles, scarlatina, whooping-cough, diarrhoea, and typhus over the several sub-districts of London; thus, it will be observed that small-pox has been chiefly fatal in the north, east, and south districts, while no death from small-pox occurred in the west districts. Measles prevails chiefly in Bethnal-green and St. George-in-the-East. Scarlatina is widely diffused, and proved fatal in 85 instances. Whooping-cough was fatal in 64 cases. The west, north, and south districts suffered from diarrhoea; the east and south districts from typhus.

Last week the births of 908 boys and 879 girls, in all 1787 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1845-54, the average number was 1546.

LOSS OF THE CANNING WITH NINETY PASSENGERS.

By the arrival of the General Steam Navigation Company's mail steamer John Bull, in the river, from Hamburg, we are apprised of a most lamentable fatal shipwreck—that of the George Canning, a fine ship, 700 tons burden, one of the Hamburg and New York packets, with every soul on board, at the mouth of the Elbe, during an awful storm which visited that coast on New Year's-day.

The unfortunate ship was lost on the south side of the entrance to the Elbe, on what is called the Scarborough (a sand similar to the Maplin, at the mouth of the River Thames). She sailed from New York for Hamburg, on the 3rd of December, with a cargo of sundry merchandise, and, it is reported, above fifty passengers. She had a favourable run across, and arrived off Heligoland on the evening of the 31st of December, all well, when the outburst of the gale compelled her captain (Mr. Jacobs) to heave to, and await a more favourable opportunity of running into the Elbe. Up to nine o'clock that evening, the storm continued with all possible fury. Several ships that were lying in the river were driven ashore and wrecked. One vessel, a brig, called the Rytham, belonging to London, in ballast, was blown at the top of the high tide over the bank of the river into a field, from which it will be impossible to extricate her. Another English vessel, a schooner, the Stately, Captain Whiting, from London for Brake, with a cargo of tar oil, was totally lost near Newwreck, and upwards of sixty vessels lost their anchors. The melancholy fate of the George Canning was first brought to light on Tuesday morning last, by a quantity of wreck being washed up near Cuxhaven, with the name of the vessel on the fragments; and later in the day a tin box, with the whole of the papers therein, was found on the beach, as also portions of her cabins, sundry merchandise, india-rubber shoes, shoe-nails, and passengers' baggage, &c., leaving little doubt that the vessel must have quickly gone to pieces, and that all belonging to her, about ninety persons in number, perished. Pilots have since gone out to discover the wreck, but have been unable to do so, in consequence of the heavy sea still running. Several bodies have been washed ashore.

LORD ELGIN AT LIVERPOOL.

LORD ELGIN has just arrived at Liverpool from Canada. He was received by the Mayor, &c., with much respect. After visiting St. George's Hall, they proceeded to the Town Hall, where the members of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, and those of the American Chamber of Commerce, presented addresses of congratulation.

Lord Elgin, in responding to the compliment paid him, said:—

“They would all understand the feelings of pleasure and gratification with which he had received those addresses—particularly as they had been received by one who had been engaged in the service of his country for several years in such a remote part of the Empire—from bodies filling so high a position as those who now honoured him with congratulations. The tale of his administration of affairs in America was very simply and easily told. He went out in January, 1847, with two objects in view. In the first place it had been his earnest endeavour to place the colonists in such a position politically and economically as would leave them nothing to envy in the condition of other people on earth, not excepting that of their neighbours and prosperous citizens in the United States. He might say, without egotism, that in undertaking this task, he considered it of no ordinary difficulty and magnitude. In the report of Lord Durham on Canadian affairs, the respective conditions of the territories lying on opposite sides of the boundary line separating the United States and the British Provinces was contrasted, and even if later evidence were required of the hopeless entanglement of Canadian affairs, it would be found in the recently published pamphlet of his distinguished and immediate predecessor. He felt, however, great as was the task, it was his duty to undertake it, because he felt confident that upon no other condition than its fulfilment could the connexion between England and the Canadas be permanently maintained. The other view was not of inferior importance. It was to place the commercial relations of the United States and the British Provinces on such a footing that they should not, if possible, at any future period, furnish occasion to estrangement or alienation between those two kindred nations; and he thought that both of those objects he had, to some extent at least, accomplished. Indeed, he imagined he might say that nine-tenths of the people of Canada were now of opinion that their condition in connexion with England contrasted favourably with that of any other people in the civilised world, and he believed also that the intimate commercial relationship which would spring up between the United States and Canada when the Reciprocity Treaty came into full operation, would render Canada in its affairs, not a barrier or a severance, but a link that would unite the kindred people of the United States and England.”

His lordship concluded his address by cordially acknowledging the kindness with which he had been received, and resumed his seat amid loud cheering.

AMERICAN NEWS.

By the arrival of the Pacific we have American news to the 28th ultimo. Among the passengers was Lord Elgin, who, previous to his departure, was presented with an address by the Quebec Council. Sir Edmund Head, the new Governor of Canada, had been sworn in.

In the House of Representatives the Committee of Foreign Affairs had concluded a resolution requesting the President to tender to the Powers engaged in the present war the mediation of the United States in such a manner as in his judgment may seem most likely to lead to a pacification. Mr. Chase, a senator, had stated his intention to bring in a bill to abolish African slavery in all the territories belonging to the United States.

The news from the gold mines was of a satisfactory character, and a lump of quartz gold, weighing 160½lb., had been found.

The Russian ship Kamtschatka had arrived at San Francisco, after having escaped the ships of the allies.

The affairs in Central America, says the Times correspondent, are again occupying public attention, in consequence of the Central American Land and Mining Company's scheme. The story of this new speculation is briefly this:—

“The former King of Mosquito, in a drunken fit, in 1838 or 1839, made a grant of a large portion (or it may be the whole) of his dominions, amounting in all to about 30,000,000 acres, to an Englishman, named Rennick, and three Jamaica traders, named Samuel Shepherd, Peter Shepherd, and S. T. Haly, out of which grew in those days a species of scrip and paper titles, and other things, which were well known in Jamaica, and even in Threadneedle-street. But in due course the whole affair blew up. King Robert Charles Frederick died, and King George William Clarence was proclaimed in his place. The first act of his new Majesty was to revoke his father's gifts, lest he should have nothing to reign over; and when the first Californians crossed the Isthmus the Shepherds were at Greytown, hawking about their worthless paper titles. A purchaser was at length found, and a flibustering company has been organised for emigrating to that

country, taking possession of these lands, and founding a new Republic. They profess that they are going, unarmed, on a peaceful mission; but I am assured by good authority that they have a supply of arms; and we know the leader to be Colonel Kinney, a Texas gentleman of fortune, courage, and skill. The Administration are said to favour the movement. Nicaragua and Costa Rica have both protested against it.

"It was stated some time since that a military governor would probably be appointed over the Mormons. Lieutenant-Colonel Steptoe, of the army, has received the appointment, with the understanding, however, that he shall leave the army. It is doubtful whether he will accept the appointment on such terms. The Mormons are strong enough to give this country great trouble, and will, no doubt, do so. The men are well drilled, and, having bold, determined leaders, will be put down with difficulty."

VARIETIES.

EMIGRATION FROM LIVERPOOL LAST YEAR.

DURING the last year 210,742 persons left Liverpool as emigrants, being at the rate of more than 4000 each week. For their conveyance 957 ships were employed. The greatest amount of emigration took place during the first quarter of the year. During that period the number of persons who emigrated was 37,611, being 5782 less than in the three corresponding months of the previous year. The official tables show a large increase in the emigration to the North American colonies. The number of vessels which left Liverpool for Australian ports under Government inspection during the year was 107, of an aggregate tonnage of 126,184 tons. In the first quarter of the year 12 passenger ships left Liverpool for Australian ports, of an aggregate tonnage of 15,138 tons, with a total number of 5450 emigrants. In the second quarter the number of emigrants was 13,687. In the quarter ending September it was 12,195. In the last quarter of the year the number of emigrants from Liverpool was 10,310. The shortest passage to Melbourne was made in 69½ days; and the voyage from Melbourne to Liverpool was made by the Lightning in the unprecedented short period of 63 days.

THE O'CONNELLS AND THE MILITIA.

In reference to the appointment to commissions in the Irish militia of the members for Clonmel and Tralee, the *Nation* observes:—"Wonders will never cease, we suppose; but the greatest wonder of the age has actually come to pass at last. Let the butchers of Hercules-street, and the coalporters of Burgh-quay—let Garry-owen and Clonmel hear it and phillieue, and Conciliation-hall shudder through all its meal-bins—John O'Connell has, at last, abandoned the eternal principles of moral force, and joined the militia. Oh, tragedy! and oh, farce! to see the two sons of O'Connell turned crimps for the British Government. In Kerry, Captain Daniel twirls his moustache, amid a picket of able-bodied paupers from the auxiliaries of Dingle. In Dublin, Captain John, fired with more than the martial ardour of Gilpin, quite forgets his former self; swathes his doughty body in a scarlet sash; girds an abhorred and stigmatised sword to his thigh; and, for 12s. a day, undertakes to shed the blood of all the Russians by single drops, and by buckets, by wholesale and retail."

PRINCE ALBERT, CAMBRIDGE MEN, AND THE CRIMEA.

His Royal Highness Prince Albert, the Chancellor of the University, having offered a gold medal for the encouragement of English poetry, the Vice-Chancellor has given notice that the prize will be given to such resident undergraduate as shall compose the best poem on "The War in the Crimea." The poems are to be sent in on or before the 31st of March next, and are not to exceed 200 lines in length.

MORE AMERICAN GOLD FIELDS.

The Burlington, Vt., *Free Press* says that William Hankerson, a returned Californian of Springfield, Mass., has lately been exploring the State of Vermont, in search of the precious metals, and has found deposits of gold on the Gulf Stream, so called, in the south-western part of Plymouth, at the head of Black River; also in the towns of Sherburne, Stockbridge, Pittsfield, Barnard, Bridgewater and Woodstock, on the Quechee. The gold thus found is purer than that found in California, and is worth one dollar more per ounce. In some of the places enumerated above, Mr. Hankerson got fifty cents worth of gold from a pan of dirt, which would be considered more than a fair yield in the California diggings.

AUSTRALIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

Among the curiosities which will be sent from Australia to the Paris Exhibition is part of a trunk of a gum-tree now growing at Botany Bay, on which the great navigator La Perouse carved his name when he anchored off that part of the coast. The Governor-General has given permission for its removal. The French will be delighted with a memorial of their great countryman, in all probability carved by his own hand.

DR. BARTH.

Letters have been received which throw great doubt on the authenticity of the announcement of the death of this celebrated traveller.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The Queen and Prince, with the Princess Royal and Princess Alice, attended by the Viscountess Canning, Major-General the Hon. Charles Grey, Colonel F. H. Seymour, and the Master of the Household, left Osborne at two o'clock on Tuesday, and proceeded to Windsor Castle, where the Royal party arrived at a quarter past five.

Her Majesty was received at the Windsor Railway Station by a Guard of Honour of the Royal Bucks Militia, with the Band of the Regiment.

Lieut.-General Sir De Lacy Evans had the honour of being invited to Windsor Castle, but was prevented by indisposition from obeying her Majesty's commands.

The dinner parties of the week have included the Duchess of Kent, the Marquis and Marchioness of Abercorn, the Ladies Harriet and Louisa Hamilton, the Earl of Clarendon, Viscount Torrington, Lady Fanny Howard, Baroness de Speth, Sir George Couper, and Major-General Wylde.

THE EARL OF CARDIGAN, we understand, has arrived in Paris, from Marseilles, en route from the seat of war in the Crimea. His Lordship is daily expected to arrive in town, en route for Dean Park, Northamptonshire.

THE BISHOP OF NEW ZEALAND.—Dr. Selwyn intends taking his departure from England for his distant diocese in the course of a few days.

NEW SCHOOL OF MUSKETRY, HYTE.—In a remote corner of the kingdom, on the coast of Kent, about 18 miles from Dover, is a new military establishment, of the existence of which the great majority of the public are probably not aware. It owes its origin to the introduction of the Minié rifle into the army, and has been established since April, 1853. Guided by his experience of our military system, the Commander-in-Chief judged that, if it were left to the commanding officers of regiments to see that the men under them were properly instructed in the use of the new weapon, they would fail in securing throughout the army that uniformity of practice so essential to efficiency, he advised the creation of a special establishment which might serve at once as a training-school for our infantry and marines. The school is found to work well.

HABEAS CORPUS IN CALIFORNIA.—A love of "*habeas corpus*" seems a characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon race. In San Francisco some American lawyers have been amusing themselves in this way. In the Twelfth District Court a petition was filed for a writ of *habeas corpus* to bring before Judge Norton three Russian prisoners, alleged to be held illegally as prisoners of war by the English prize crew on board the Sitka, now lying in our harbour. The illegality of their present confinement is based on the fact set forth that they were brought out of British possessions into the state of California, and cannot, by reason of such removal, be longer held lawfully in British custody. A writ of *habeas corpus* was issued, returnable before this court on Monday last, but early on the morning of the Sabbath the ship quietly hoisted her anchors and put to sea.

NEWSPAPERS SENT ABROAD.—A very large number of newspapers for places abroad, upon which a postage ought to have been prepaid, being continually posted without such prepayment, the Post-office authorities have issued a notice, recommending persons who are in the habit of transmitting newspapers to foreign countries, or to any of the colonies, to satisfy themselves, by inquiry at the Post-office, whether or not any postage is payable upon them in this country, before they deposit their newspapers in the letter-box. Newspapers for foreign parts, which have been improperly posted unpaid, are detained and sent to the Dead Letter-office.

ASSAULTS ON SCRIPTURE-READERS IN CARLOW.—At the Carlow Petty Sessions on Monday seven persons, two of whom were females, were committed for trial at the assizes for aggravated assaults on Scripture-readers.

A NEW NATIONAL PARTY.—BRISTOL.—At a crowded meeting, held in the Coopers' Hall, King-street, on Wednesday evening last, after a Lecture on the Diplomatic Antecedents and Probable Issues of the Present War, by Henry N. Barnett, Esq., the following resolution was unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting regards the systematic contempt for the rights of oppressed and struggling nationalities evinced by the diplomatic representatives of Great Britain with deep regret and strong disapprobation; that our alliances, direct and indirect, with some of the fiercest despotic powers of the Continent is a violation of our warmest national sentiments, and is inconsistent with our most sacred national obligations; that the secrecy of our whole diplomatic system is fraught with international dishonour and domestic peril; that the origin, conduct, and present aspects of the war abundantly confirm these positions; that for the correction of past mistakes, and as a provision against future evils, it is desirable that the people should organise themselves for the purpose of giving prompt and emphatic expression to their sentiments on questions of foreign policy; and that a local committee be forthwith appointed for the purpose of corresponding with other committees, and for carrying into effect the principles of this resolution." A committee was appointed accordingly, and it is hoped that measures will immediately be taken to secure for this ancient and important city the honour of energetic action on these pressing matters.

NEGLECT IN THE HIMALAYA.—At Portsmouth an inquiry has taken place relative to the death of John Williams, seaman of the Himalaya. On landing he was taken to the Union, and died in seven hours. It appears his case was neglected on board.

POSTAGE TO THE CRIMEA, &c.—Mails for the army in the Crimea, the hospital at Scutari, and the Black Sea fleet, are frequently despatched. The charges, which must be paid in advance, are, letters, 3d. quarter of an ounce, and newspapers, 2d. each.

CAMP IN THE EAST INDIES.—We hear that the Marquis of Dalhousie has approved of a camp being formed at Umballah, to continue for a few months.

MUSICAL AND CLERICAL.—"A Church-goer" complains to a Kentish paper that in a church in the Isle of Thanet the air of "Sally Brown" has been substituted for the beautiful and sublime "Benedictus."—(Sydney Smith said once that there was no reason why the Devil should have all the best tunes.)

QUEEN POMARE IN PARIS.—Her Otahaitan Majesty announces her intention of visiting Paris during the Exhibition. She will land at Bordeaux, and have a monument erected in that city to commemorate her visit.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, January 13.

AN article in the *Constitutionnel* of yesterday sent down the French funds again. It was to the effect that the ambassadors at Vienna had admitted certain Russian reservations to the four points.

These reservations it was thought impossible the Western Governments would approve. The negotiations began to be considered in Paris delusive, and such is said to be the opinion of the French Government.

Private letters received in town yesterday from the camp before Sebastopol, and dated the 28th ult., report the weather to be dry and frosty, and the transit of ammunition and provisions from Balaklava to the camp was assisted by the arrival of a number of mules. It was not expected, however, that any decisive attack would be made before the 10th or 12th of January. The health and spirits of the army were improved.

It is stated by the *Moniteur de l'Armée* that the Government has resolved to send General Pelissier to Sebastopol to direct the works of siege, leaving General Bosquet at the head of the movable army, but continuing the supreme command with General Canrobert.

M. Mavrocordato, acting as *ad interim* Minister of the Interior at Athens, addressed a circular on the 18th to the Prefects, enjoining "strict neutrality as the duty, the watchword, and the true interest of Greece."

The Portuguese Cortes were opened on the 2nd of January by the King Regent. The speech contained no allusion to the European war. Its view of internal affairs was cheerful.

Captain Brock, late Governor of Eupatoria, reached Malta by the French steamer, and was to proceed to England, *via* Marseilles, by the Vectis. Admiral Dundas, on reaching the island, declined to receive a salute or a guard of honour. He comes to England, *via* Marseilles, by the Vectis.

The Russian government is organising the Baltic army for the spring campaign, and has purchased 10,000 first-rate rifles in Belgium.

A private letter from Nice reports another slight shock of earthquake on Friday, the 5th instant.

A despatch, dated December 30, was received late last night, from Lord Raglan. He says:—"The Russians continue to withdraw from the valley of the Tchernaya, whilst they have constructed defensive works on the heights above, which would imply a difficulty of maintaining their troops in the field." Stores, wooden houses, &c., were being constantly received, but difficulty was experienced in the disembarkation, owing to the smallness of the harbour, which is very much crowded.

THE MILITIA.

The Northumberland Militia assembled for permanent duty at Alnwick on Tuesday. It is stated that the North York Rifles will go into garrison in Stirling Castle. The South Durham Militia has volunteered for the Mediterranean. The 1st Royal Cornwall Rangers are 1051 rank and file when all embodied, but the greatest number yet embodied has been about 410 men. The 2nd Cornwall consists of 215 rank and file, but the largest number which has been yet embodied has been from 80 to 85.

During the past week there has been a good deal of volunteering going on at Brighton from the Sussex Militia into the regulars, the 94th Regiment having received the largest number. The men muster every morning for drill at the Royal Brunswick Cricket-ground.

The Artillery battalion of the Royal Sussex Militia are to be embodied on the 2nd of February, for coast duty at Eastbourne, which is to be their head-quarters.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In come-tax is, we believe, *in strictness* payable quarterly; on the 20th of June, the 20th of September, the 20th of December, and the 20th of March in each year. This is according to the act; nevertheless, the income-tax is collected half-yearly, we are therefore induced to suppose that there must be some authority for the practice. We are happy to oblige our correspondents, but it is altogether foreign to the practice of this journal to answer these questions.

All letters for the Editor should be addressed to 7, Wellington-street, Strand, London.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. 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.

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

We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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

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The Leader.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1855.

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.

RUSSIA WINNING THE GAME.

RUSSIA, it is supposed, has gained another victory, more pregnant with advantages than those of Alma or Inkerman. She has persuaded the Three Powers to listen to the sound of "peace," and may possibly persuade them to grant it to her. Russia does not make such proposals for nothing. It is not Christian charity that induces her: Christian charity made her incite her soldiers, with blasphemy and raki, to mangle and to murder their fallen foes, whom the desperate onslaught of column after column had failed to shatter or repulse. It is not her love for England, whom she seemed unable to frighten or to cheat; for France, whom she refused to recognise; or for Austria, her rebellious consulate. It is her love for herself and her own objects; the peace will be beneficial to her alone. This is so palpable that the Allies could hardly justify themselves in conceding peace to popular clamour—especially as popular clamour does not call upon them to do so. They cannot be acting in the interest of commerce. The war prosecuted to the end would do more for commerce than a peace which will enable Russia to shut up the Eastern half of the European continent against civilisation. We scout the idea that any one of the powers can be so foolish and so base as to sacrifice a just cause to the double-dealing fears of Prussia. There remains but one inference—that they precipitate a peace in fear of the impulse that war might give to certain impatient nationalities—at which English statesmen sneer—and to the liberties of certain provinces. In a word, they fear that in the tumult of war, the peoples may become too important, and may be asking something for themselves—that if Crowns fall out, their subjects may get their own; and the quarrel is patched up to renew the conspiracy against Poland, Italy, and

Hungary—to prevent Prussians from depriving King Cliquot of that Prussia which he misrules and degrades—to prevent the heart and brain of France from rising in disgust at the odious imposture of a spurious dynasty—and possibly to prevent Englishmen from regaining those rights which CROMWELL won for them, which Somers recorded, which William ratified; but which the effeminate trading spirit of modern times has induced them to surrender. That *might* be the motive for patching up the conspiracy with Russia, and for restoring to her the permission of renewing her encroachments upon Europe under the cover of a flag of truce.

If such notions lurk, possibly unexpressed, in the brains of statesmen, let them beware. They have in this country roused a spirit to support them in their war, which will not subside at their bidding. War may have its dangers, but peace may be more dangerous.

It is hardly possible that Russia will accept conditions which would not stultify all that has been done, neutralise all that has been gained, in 1854. Our Government has boasted of the alliances effected in the interests of the war. It has brought the ancient enmities of France and England into alliance; and while Louis Napoleon needs our aid, he will assist to prolong a union which every day of prolongation helps to cement between the peoples. Remove the occasion suddenly, and the union may be severed. The occasion has induced Turkey, whose Government had already thrown open her commerce to the West, to seek admission into the European system, and effectually to bring the Ottoman empire within the range of Christian civilisation. Let the war result in enclosing Turkey within the limits of Europe proper, by placing a civilised in lieu of a Russianised rule on each side and behind her, and further conquests must have awaited European industry. Already is there speculation as to the profits which her lands might yield to a European colonisation; and her coal-fields at Heraclea, from which English industry has been excluded, promise to supply the steam-generating power which would really bring her within the jurisdiction of commerce. Undo what has been done—set free Russia, uncrippled in strength, and bound only by the whimsies of treaties, and Turkey will be surrendered to Orthodox-Greek conspiracies, to dismemberment, barbarism, decay. Of all the alliances, perhaps that with Austria was the most signal, as it was the most unexpected, and it might well have involved her adoption of a wiser and more liberal policy towards her dependencies. Is that to be all abandoned?—Is Austria to be gratuitously released from her new and better responsibilities, and restored to the dangerous possibilities of a renewed Russian alliance? For such would be the effect of peace.

There is no peace. Russian autoeracy is an evil power. The Czar's designs are criminal, even according to the code of Kings and Conferences. He played the hypocrite in 1848; but in 1853 he threw off the mask, and in 1854 he would fain have begun the subjugation of Europe. He is frightened at present, and copies the professions of the Evil One when sick. But Satan was Satan still, although professing; and so is the Czar. There is but one mode of dealing with him so as to make Europe—the Europe of Crowns and Cabinets, as well as the Europe of nations and peoples—safe against his attacks: it is to cripple him, or rather to destroy him. The power of the Czar exists solely in the dishonest fears of the King class. He is convicted, and if they are honest he will be sentenced and dealt with according to law.

If they are not honest, they will compromise the felony, and conclude peace. But let them beware. Let them dread to publish the terms. There is a duty to the living—and to the dead.

THE "IMMACULATE CONCEPTION."

Quieta non movere is a rule which the authorities of the Vatican disdain to observe.

Secure in the ignorance of the multitude, the indifference of "society," the complicity of thrones, and the contempt of philosophers; secure in the lofty citadel of a faith which was declared from the first immutable, and which only yesterday was incomplete; infallible enough to resist all the inroads of science and literature; elastic enough to comprehend all the caprices of disordered imaginations; expansive enough to consecrate new altars in disguised Pantheons to new parodies of Pagan worship and new burlesques of heathen adoration, the Roman Church, by a sublime fatality of perdition, celebrates, with intoxicating raptures, the retrospective heresy of the best and purest of her saints, martyrs, doctors, and confessors. If it were not fatality, it is a singular passion, this impatience to stir up questions that have subsided, and in reopening that of the Immaculate Conception, to trust a new phenomenon of theological discovery before the eyes of a public very ill adapted to the consideration of dogmatic subtleties, at a period the most unhappy.

Let us pause for a moment to protest against any imputation of irreverence. It is not our concern, as public journalists, to make profession of faith, still less of doubt or incredulity. We defend free thought in the sense of liberty of conscience *for all*, not in the sense of hostility to any creed, of antagonism to any sincere conviction. But a Papal Bull that claims universal assent provokes and demands universal discussion wheresoever speech and writing are free. A free press is not so much a privilege as a responsibility, an obligation. Let us use it with the moderation of true courage and with the dignity of self-respect.

There was no necessity to consider the question at all. Some slight theoretical disputation had arisen, but difference of opinion on the point has *always* existed in the Church. There are Fathers whose view of the subject is diametrically opposed to that of the Pope and of those who have urged Pius IX. to his present dangerous attempt at definition. On the whole, however, the subject of the Virgin Mary, and the immediate circumstances attending her birth, was one that agitated no great number of minds in Europe; it troubled no genealogical stream, and had no influence on the succession of property—the one thing which excites real anxiety in our day. If there was some diversity of conviction within the Roman Church, it was the consequence of a freedom which in some places is enabling the Church to adapt itself to the growing opinion of the day, and which it is hoped by the few who intellectually divorce the faith from the system will gradually reform it without open disruption.

Why, then, this new-born anxiety to prove that the Virgin Mary did not share the sin dogmatically recognised to be inherent in human nature? The spirit of the suggestion is evident. However sublime may be the conception of Divinity taking to itself the frailties of the flesh, and undergoing mortal agony in order to the redemption of a fallen race, there does remain to carnal minds a strong repulsion at the idea of bringing purity in personal identity with impurity, divinity with sin, and placing the immaculate in such direct relation to the maculate as child to parent.

Hence the desire to show that the Virgin Mother was herself not human, so far as she did not share in the distinctive incident of fallen humanity. But if the Virgin was immaculate, did the immaculateness extend to the parents of the Virgin? And if there is a revulsion in the idea of rendering divinity the child of sin, is there anything gained by removing it to the relation of grandchild to sin? The triviality of this question is not ours, it is inherent in the attempt to remove the Virgin Mary out of the category of human nature. Extricate her, and her parents still remain to impart the hereditary taint of sin, if such taint exist at all. To acknowledge the Virgin Mary to be human in all respects, until she became the vessel of divine favour; is, indeed, to accept the dogmatic miracle of Christianity in its simplest, purest, and most intelligible form. The tendency of opinion within the Roman Church to accept it in that form has existed from the earliest days when such subjects were mooted at all; and its tacit persistence ought to have occasioned no anxiety. Yet it did so.

But to whom? We repeat, to certain aged intriguers, and to certain ardent neophytes who had adopted the theory of development, who were angry at encountering confutation, and who appealed from the text of ancient Fathers to the Pope. This was hardly fair. Poor Pius the Ninth is not one of the strong brothers. Impressionable, undecided, impulsive, he is just the man to be the puppet of the ambitious ecclesiastics who, from their Sacred College, would fain control the world. The world declines dictation. Even Naples repudiates the secondary dignity of a Fief of the Church. Piedmont resolves the suppression of convents, after having exiled a factious and conspiring Archbishop. Throughout Italy only the very ignorant remain sunk in superstition; the educated are content to pay the tribute of conforming indifference to a power not so much detested as despised. The sovereign Pontiff himself totters superbly, propped up by Austrian and Bonapartist bayonets. Remove that uncomfortable support, and he would fall to the ground, for all the tiara which the immaculate Isabella the Second of Spain has recently placed upon his head. Feeble in health, in nerve, in will, epileptic, shaken alternately by a double remorse for the past and a double terror for the future, Pius the Ninth grasps the fiction of a spiritual supremacy, because his temporal dominion is but the shadow of a precarious sufferance. Sustained by the disgrace of France and the political convenience of Austria, crowned by the decorous Isabella the Second, he is the most signal instance of a puppet ruler that ever exposed the cruelty and the falseness of impotence to the world. There is a native African potentate of whom it is said that after he has dined every day, his trumpeters go forth and proclaim that the other monarchs of the world are permitted to dine. Having made up his mind (with the assistance of other and stronger minds) upon the inscrutable mystery of the Immaculate Conception, Pius proclaims from his throne what the Catholic Church may think.

In these late proceedings he has placed himself at issue with the real supporters of the Church. Naples is sullen and suspicious in her adhesion; Piedmont is openly schismatic; what remains of the Church of France bitterly resents an arbitrary definition, asserted without the authority of a General Council—the only authority traditionally capable of establishing a dogma. The Pope has ceased to be a spiritual despot; in the attempt to make him an instrument of their petty dictation, the Cardinals have only made him

an irritant. If anything has risked the gradual march of the Holy Catholic Church into a new century without total disruption, it is this foolish attempt to stake its existence upon a new axiom of dogmatic physiology uttered in the fifth decade of the nineteenth century.

THE DITCHER-DENISON CASE.

ONCE more there is a ferment among the men of the pulpit and the altar touching the sacred essences of what are called the doctrines of the Church of England. Rome, with great pomp and circumstance, settles to her own content what she deems an awful dogma, the Immaculate Conception; England is actually debating her dogmas at this very day, but with proctors, not with priests; cannot agree respecting the bread and wine, and their effect upon the worthy and the unworthy; cannot agree whether written words mean this thing or that; demands the assent of all to the assertion, that these unsettled doctrines are the highest truths we possess. Think of the pretensions of a Church that admits of doubts, that tolerates two, or more than two, interpretations of the same dogma; one party taking a "high," another a "low" view of what they say concerns eternal life and eternal misery! To such a pitch of perfection have the differences arrived, and so neatly are the followers of each section organised, that they distinguish each other by technical terms! There are the Pharisees and Sadducees, the followers of Omar, and the followers of Ali; the Big-endians and the Little-endians, the High and the Low. Upon one point only are they agreed: both, nay all, for there are more than two, unite in looking upon Church property as sacred to the uses, and solely for the behoof of Churchmen. Certainly we are signalling no new thing, but an old one; yet this old thing, perennially interesting, bursts forth with all the freshness of a novelty in a new illustration—the case of Mr. GEORGE ANTHONY DENISON.

The Vicar of East Brent and Archdeacon of Taunton is not unknown to our readers. We believe him to be a conscientious minister and a high-spirited gentleman, blameless in life, learned, courteous, benevolent; personally held in high esteem and affection by all; but as a public man, somewhat hasty and capricious in his moods, and occasionally doing things not altogether creditable nor consistent, such as his junction with the Derbyites in 1852; on the whole, he is one, we believe, who strives honestly to do his best in the not very easy position of an active and thoughtful minister of the Church of England. As might be expected from a man of this stamp, GEORGE ANTHONY DENISON is a staunch friend of that more logical, more learned, and more tolerant section of the Church of England called the High Church party. He lives in the very camp of his section, and commands its respect if not its confidence. But in the same district there are members of that less tolerant, less learned, less courteous section of the Church, known to the curious in Ecclesiastical zoology as Low—parsons-like Archdeacon LAW, who take a "very low view" indeed of the traditions and doctrines of the English Church. The antagonism of these two sections, once typified by GORHAM and EXETER, now by LAW and DENISON, has broken out into open conflict, and the unseemly spectacle is again witnessed of two Christian priests contending, by proxy, about the most sacred essences of their common religion.

The immediate origin of the present contention, in its simple elements, is easily told. Some months ago, when Mr. DENISON held the office of examining chaplain for the late

Bishop of Bath and Wells, he preached two sermons, and subsequently, when he had, if we remember rightly, relinquished that office, he preached a third—all three touching the doctrine of "the real presence of body and blood of Christ in the sacramental bread and wine." These sermons were printed and published, and scattered far and wide. They gave great offence to the Low Church parsons; Archdeacon LAW took the opportunity of his quarterly residence in the cathedral city to go gossiping about them among the grocers of Wells (we were not aware of the sacramental efficacy of grocers); and the Reverend JOSIAH DITCHER, Vicar of South Brent, the adjoining parish to the more celebrated East Brent, incited it would seem by Mr. LAW, founded charges of heresy upon them, and preferred the said charges before the authorities. These charges were, generally, that the doctrine taught in the sermons was contrary to the doctrine of the Church of England. At first the matter came only under the cognisance of the late Bishop of Bath and Wells, who decided it himself, without sending the case before a court, declaring that Mr. DENISON might hold, but not teach, the doctrine he had taught in his sermons. From Dr. BAGOT, Mr. DITCHER, the prosecutor, carried his grievance to the Archbishop of Canterbury; and Dr. JOHN BIRD SUMNER, although constitutionally inclined to peace, seems to have felt bound to do more than look into this matter. Accordingly, he issued a commission, consisting of five clergymen of the diocese of Bath and Wells, who were to inquire ostensibly as to the grounds there were for further proceedings; but whose real business seems to have been to collect evidence to make out a *prima facie* case. Mr. DENISON protested very energetically and formally against the whole proceeding, and declared that as the matter had already been settled between him and his then diocesan, it would be a violation of the law to try him twice for the same offence. Dr. SUMNER did not hearken unto these protestations and arguments, but named his commissioners and set them to work. Last week they commenced operations at Clevedon, in Somersetshire, and this week they have arrived at a decision. It may safely be said that the inquiry before them was frivolous in the last degree. It might have been expected that they would overrule an objection to their jurisdiction; but that they should refuse to hear evidence that one or more of them were incapacitated by their antecedents for the post they occupied, because the objection was urged too late, is certainly not to their credit. That they should have declined to hear arguments respecting the allegation of heresy, might not unnaturally have been looked for, because they deemed themselves competent to decide the question without argument; but, if so, why this mockery of an inquisition?

The real question was, whether Mr. DENISON taught false doctrine? The evidence of that lay in the sermons, if anywhere: their authorship was not, could not be disputed; and the five Commissioners might just as well have read the sermons and have uttered their opinion in Lambeth Palace as in Wason's Hotel, Clevedon. For, practically, all we learn by this inquiry is, that Mr. DENISON preached the sermons; that Mr. DITCHER and Archdeacon LAW took offence thereat; that Mr. Masters published them, and that they were pretty extensively circulated; that Mr. JOHN GIFFORD EVERETT, grocer and draper of Wells, was tormented by Archdeacon LAW early last year, to give evidence about the preaching of these sermons—very useful knowledge, no doubt, but not much to the point—and lastly, which is

to the point, that the Commissioners think the doctrine taught in the sermons contrary to the doctrine of the Church of England, and, therefore, heresy, a conclusion as easily arrived at without as with an inquiry. But here is the peculiarity of the business: the Commissioners, while putting forward the accusation of heresy, feel bound to state that in these very sermons Mr. DENISON gives his assent and consent to the doctrines of the Church of England, and expressly repudiates the Roman doctrine of transubstantiation. Could anything more nicely illustrate the charming ambiguity of the world-famous doctrines of this English Church of ours? Mr. DENISON clearly believes what he utters, and it cannot be questioned that his sermons contain, not his own views self-evolved, but what he conscientiously thinks he finds in the Articles of Religion. We are bound to believe that the five Commissioners are equally conscientious and equally learned, yet they arrive at an opposite conclusion! Such is the Church of England.

Whether Mr. DENISON is justly or unjustly accused we cannot say. It is not our province to decide on doctrinal or on legal questions. But there are one or two other points on which we may speak—the motives of the chief movers in this matter. Is it true, as alleged at the inquiry, that one or more of the inquisitors was personally hostile to Mr. DENISON; is it true that the whole of them are known to entertain doctrinal opinions contrary to those of the accused; is it true, as the grocer stated, that Archdeacon LAW urged him, almost prompted him to act in the matter; is it true that Mr. DENISON, some years ago, mortally offended Mr. LAW by removing a monument from the church of East Brent which Mr. LAW had caused to be set up there? Is it not true that only two years ago Mr. LAW publicly prescribed, as a remedy for the evils of the Church, the calmant "repose;" and if so, how is it that we find this apostle of "repose" suddenly becoming alert and aggressive as the promoter of contention; this rector, too unwell to do his proper duties, yet who suddenly awakes, engages in active converse with that most distinguished of grocers, Mr. EVERETT, and stands two days in court, witness at an exciting inquiry? Is it true that more than one Low Churchman round about the neighbourhood of Wells would willingly abolish both the sacraments, and yet still retain their hold if they could upon those goodly benefices they received to teach the doctrines of the Church of England? Certainly there would be more "repose" if there were fewer conscience-troubling dogmas and duties.

For our part, we have no personal interest in this matter, other than that which every citizen has in the triumph of justice. Clearly somebody is wrong down in those pleasant western places. Clearly the doctrines of the Church of England are not definite, but indefinite things; for if there be two, why not three or four interpretations of the articles? Yet men of the two or three or four interpretations all sign, we will not say subscribe, the articles! As we have often said before, such proceedings cannot promote the moral health of this nation; cannot help to sustain its conscientiousness; cannot strengthen its honesty, but the reverse; cannot elevate the spirit and purify the substance of the whole people. If a DENISON be found heretical and subjected to deprivation, how many more ought to quit the Church voluntarily who think with him; but if DENISON should not go forth an excommunicate, ought LAW and DITCHER to remain? Do they believe in the whole of the articles; do they revere both the sacraments as sacraments? Yet it is with these vital differences existing within her

that the Church of England parades herself before the nation as the one true Church, through whose portal alone lies the narrow path that leadeth into eternal life.

UNDERNEATH THE PALL.

A MURDEROUS fit seems to have come over the community, and the domestic tragedy which places a Barthélemy before the court of justice—which affrights a neighbourhood with the suicidal murder of a Buranelli, and renders police-officers familiar with the pistols of maddened and melodramatic lovers—frequently reveals something beyond the crime committed. We discover some anomalous relations of the criminals with their victims, of the victims with others, and of those others with persons beyond. There is commonly "a lady in the case"—or more than one lady. Indeed, these exposures seldom rend the surface of society without disclosing a state of custom amongst us very different from that which is recognised on the surface. We have commonly insisted upon this distinction between the fact and the theory, as showing that neither custom nor theory could be quite correct. For a theory which cannot be carried out must contain a moral as well as logical blunder in it; and that which is unrecognised receives the taint of lawlessness, if no worse taint. It is time that society should gravely consider whether it acts as it professes, and professes correctly.

It does not always follow, however, that in the worst of these cases the bad is unredeemed by something better. The last "domestic tragedy" will serve as an instance of what we mean. We do not seek to redeem the culprit from the consequences of his act. If in the former case Barthélemy stands convicted of a cold-blooded murder, unredeemed by the necessity of self-preservation, he deserves to be hanged, so long as hanging is the appointed retribution of murder; and we have seldom felt so little desire to rescue any particular man from the fate that he has sought. Buranelli, too, dealt death upon others, and braved it for himself; and we cannot readily discover any reason why he should not be treated as one who has cast away every claim to release. His story is perfectly intelligible; whether it is true or not, a judicial investigation may determine. Supposing that it were true, however, it would leave the culprit a murderer still, an assassin, yet not unredeemed by some traces of a better nature. His affections were trifled with by those who seem to have had none but a calculating interest in the object of his regard, who thwarted him; and if his story can be trusted, persuaded her to violate the laws of nature, and his instincts as a father. His blood rebelled against that which is unquestionably *malum in se*. If his hand was reddened, it was in mutiny against something in its essence worse than his own crime. It is thus frequently that when we penetrate beyond the latest act, and beneath the surface, we find that convicted criminals are not devils, and that there are elements in the recesses of their nature which might have made them, under happier conditions, better men. Nor is it conceivable that a man impelled by the motives which Buranelli professes to have obeyed, could have passed a life unvisited by gleams of happiness and hope. We see him only on the stage of murder, and in the court of justice; but he has not lived in that room tainted with crime, in that prison, or that police-court. His sense of existence, for a far longer period, has been drawn from other sources and other scenes. And whatever weaknesses, errors, and misdeeds may even before this have rendered him culpable, he appears to have had

strong affections; and therefore, he must have had strong enjoyments, strong sympathies with what is right.

Poetical justice is not only the creation of fiction. It exists in real life. It is the life of real life. Man's life is in great part what he makes it. His mistake usually lies in taking the part for the whole. The miser who hoards succeeds in hoarding, and it is poetical justice which reduces him to the condition of a strong box whose vitality is concentrated in a nervous sense of its own contents. The man who devotes himself with sufficient application and self-knowledge to the business of "getting on in life," succeeds; and it is poetical justice which makes him, when he comes to the end, discover that "there is nothing in life"—when he has made for himself nothing in it, *except* the "getting on." But men who often seem to fail, succeed most perfectly. The scholar cannot pay his milk bill, but he can command the intellectual riches of centuries. The man that loves, may command neither intellectual riches nor dairy, neither get on, nor hoard,—but he has tasted life. We must know the whole story before we can judge it; and if these "domestic tragedies" often tear up the veil and disclose to us what is underneath, there are many places in which the veil is not torn, and many things live and palpitate underneath as real as the things we see. "Trust not appearances" is the commonest of the rules which society makes for itself—and breaks. Pass down any London street and say in what house there may not be a tragedy, in which not a domestic poem; but it is the tragedies only that are brought out at the great theatre in the Old Bailey; the poems remain unpublished.

MEMOIR ON THE CONDUCT OF THE WAR.

[The following Memoir has been sent to us by a friend in Paris. It is the substance of the opinion of a distinguished foreign General on the conduct of the military operations of the Allies. It is, we think it right to assure our readers, essentially a military, not a political, criticism.—Ed. Leader.]

THE war which is now carried on against Russia has been undertaken with the object of preserving the European equilibrium; that is to say, to maintain the actual partition of Europe into small states oppressed, and into great and strong states the oppressors. Nevertheless it is proclaimed every day by the Governments of the two great Western Powers that the purpose of the war is the civilisation, the independence, and the liberty of Europe. According to these Powers, therefore, the Turk—that is the despotism of the sabre, the slavery of the woman, and the oppression and degradation of the Greek population, in short, the Koran, represents civilisation and liberty! The Government of the House of Hapsburg, the chivalrous Government of Francis Joseph, which rules over the most beautiful and the richest provinces of Italy, over Hungary, and over many and various Slave populations, presents the symbol of liberty and independence for the peoples of Europe! What irony is this! It appears, then, that morality, justice, and political wisdom have disappeared and been falsified, as well as logic! In fact the allied Governments on the subject of Turkey argue thus: It is necessary, they contend, to sustain the equilibrium of the Great Powers in Europe; but this equilibrium would be broken were Constantinople occupied by the Russians; and Constantinople is not secure so long as Russia prevails in the Black Sea. But Sebastopol is the key of the Black Sea, and therefore it is necessary to destroy Sebastopol in order to preserve the balance of Europe. Does it not appear to you that this argument resembles that of the Grecian orator, who reasoned thus: Greece rules in the world—Philip commands Greece—Alexander, son of Philip, commands his father—therefore Alexander commands the world. Exactly such has been, and is now, the logic of the two great Western Powers.

Even if this argument were just, certain it is that the mode of making war is erroneous

for those powers. Do the generals of the allied forces intend to occupy Sebastopol in order to insure the object of their defensive warfare—Constantinople? If so, strategically speaking, the expedition to the Crimea must be regarded as a diversion. But who that is versed in strategy does not know that, in general, diversions are dangerous because they weaken the main army, destroy the forces, and complicate the casualties and accidents of war. Who does not know that diversions should be made only so long as a power is possessed of forces superior to those of the enemy, when great difficulties are encountered in a united action, and when one is obliged to distract the attention of the enemy from a formidable position from which he cannot be dislodged without actual force. Now in the case of the Allies none of these conditions exist. They have not numerical forces superior to the enemy. On the contrary, perhaps they are inferior. They had not found any of those obstacles to their carrying on the combat unitedly, seeing that the defensive line of the Turks is very extended and strongly fortified. They found no obstacles in maintaining their force, or if they found obstacles, certainly they were far inferior to those which they have encountered in the Crimea, and which were easily to be foreseen. Finally, the position of the Russians in the Principalities was not formidable or unattackable, while the army of Omar Pacha alone ventured to take the offensive, passing to the left bank of the Danube, and in various encounters defeating the enemy; and when afterwards the enemy, in his turn, took the offensive, his efforts were rendered weak by the single passive resistance of the Turks. It follows that if the forces of the Allies had been united and directed upon the same object of attack—Bucharest—the victory would have been theirs. In May, therefore, the French and English should have disembarked at Varna, or rather at Gallipoli, and then have entered in line with the Turkish army. No other diversions would then have been necessary, except those menacing Anapa, Eupatoria, and Odessa. For those diversions they ought to have used those forces which they could have spared from the theatre of war. Turkey had, and still has, many troops which would have been an embarrassment on the theatre of the grand operations of war, but which might be turned to use for such diversions. For this object the fleets would have had a larger and more intelligent part in the conflict, and the troops disembarked (*le milizie da sbarco*) would have the secondary part.

It is, nevertheless, quite true that in war other species of diversions are executed on a larger scale, such as operate not only with detachments drawn from the army, but with another army. Thus Scipio went to the attack of Carthage in order to oblige Hannibal to abandon Italy. But the Roman general went to strike the enemy at the heart; whereas the Allies attacking Sebastopol go to strike the foot of the great Colossus. Carthage conquered, Hannibal, who was kept on his guard by Fabius, deprived of succours and of the means of war, would infallibly have been conquered and captured, if he had not persevered in fighting within Italy. Now, although Sebastopol were conquered, the army of the Pruth would not on that account be compromised. On the contrary, it would eventually be reinforced by the troops destined for the defence of the Crimea, and for that reason would be in a more effective condition to fight the Turkish army destined to bar the road to Constantinople.

Moreover, from having detached to the Crimea the Anglo-French army, the worst use is made of the forces; since the French and English are superior to the Russians in instruction, in intelligence, and in development. The Anglo-French army, very confident in its military science and in its moral force, might with those advantages beat a Russian army numerically much superior. The battle of Inkerman is an evident proof: here 8000 English, like the Spartans at Thermopylæ, have, with unheard-of bravery, withstood the assault of at least 40,000 Russians. Nevertheless, the French and English, united to the *élite* of the Turkish army, would have been required for the great strategical operations in which intelligence prevails over numbers. They should have taken position upon a vast theatre of war, in the valley, that is, of the Danube, and afterwards upon the Pruth and the Dniester. On this chess-board there is space for great tactical evolu-

tions and for great strategical conceptions. The Russians having been beaten on the Danube, on the Pruth, and on the Dniester, the Allies would have been able to detach an army to occupy Perekop, and thence to besiege Sebastopol, which, deprived of succours, wanting provisions, and defended by people discouraged through the discomfiture of the army, must indubitably have surrendered itself after a short resistance. Napoleon the Great obtained his finest victories in Italy when he led armies small, but strong through their bravery, instruction, enthusiasm, discipline, and science of war. He looked to the great object of the war, the beating, that is, of the enemy's army; nor did he ever distract his forces by useless and injurious sieges. In the famous campaign of 1800, Napoleon did not occupy himself directly in liberating his lieutenant shut up in Genoa, nor did he occupy himself by besieging any Piedmontese rampart placed to guard the passes of the Alps, but looked directly to beat the army of Melas. The victory of Marengo, by the French, gave to the French Genoa, Piedmont, and Lombardy; while the siege of Genoa lost to the Austrians the battle of Marengo, and consequently Italy. It certainly was not the siege that made Wurmser capitulate, when he was shut up in the extremely strong citadel of Mantua, but the famous battle of Rivoli gained by the French. Meanwhile, the Anglo-French army, strong by its numbers, bravery, training, organisation, discipline, and science of war, has not offered to enter in line with the Turkish army to fight the enemy, but has, instead, left the Turkish army, which is the weakest, to bar to the Russians the path to Constantinople, which is the principal object of the war; to undertake the siege of Sebastopol, which is a secondary object of the war, a simple strategical point. The forces thus divided, and scattered without discernment, the campaign is lost with the siege of Sebastopol, and its moral is destroyed or greatly weakened. In fact, in the operation of the siege, there is no necessity for great strategy, nor for great tactical evolutions. The numerical forces were also weakened, because the Turkish troops employed in the Crimea, being incapable of the operations of a regular siege, are rather an embarrassment than an assistance; and, on the other hand, the material force of the enemy receives great increase from the fortifications, from the crews and materials of war in his fleet, and from the weakness of his opponent. Moreover, it is to be noted that the diversion is in opposition to the principle of war, which prescribes that the forces should always be reunited; and it is indispensable, therefore, that the diversion should be of brief duration, so that the troops may speedily concentrate their forces and direct it consistently with the object of the war. Now, the diversion in the Crimea, having for its object to obtain the mastery of Sebastopol, is for that very reason defective, while the siege of such a place could not be of long duration. A place that presents a long circuit, not so much for the enclosure of the fortifications, as for the topography of the ground, requires, therefore, a small number of defenders proportionably to the number of besiegers. A place with many fronts, almost in a direct line, and for that reason not *rimbalzabili*—which is constructed upon rock and clay, and thence presents great difficulties to the labours of the besiegers—which possesses a great maritime arsenal, and for that a great store of artillery, munition, and transport of war, great numbers of workmen, sailors, and marine gunners and artificers; a place, in short, which is defended by a brave and numerous garrison; such a place, I say, as Sebastopol, can defend itself for a long time. The breaches and the damage done to the walls and fortifications by the besiegers are soon repaired, and *affusti*, and cannons injured can soon be replaced. The deficient munitions being got together to besiege such a place, a very strong army is required to accomplish the investment; and another army of observation to secure the operations of the siege, and impede reinforcements of men, ammunition, and provisions. This is as much as to say, that for such a purpose a more numerous army would be required than to fight in union with the Turks, and successfully, on the Pruth.

All these military errors have been purchased at a dear price, for the sums that have been expended are gigantic; the quantity of supplies of all sorts has been prodigious, and the number of men that leave the ranks by death, wounds, and

sickness of every sort, is frightful. However, I believe that these military faults are the consequence of the false *policy* of the Government, to which, in a certain sense, it was desired to subordinate the war. France and England deluded by the hypocrisies and hesitations of Austria, in the hope of obtaining by that means an honourable peace and an efficacious support, had left their armies for a long time useless at Gallipoli and at Varna; allowed Austria, who is not allied with them, and who is not at war with Russia, to take possession of the ground which was to have been the theatre of war; and thus has been brought about the necessity either to remain inoperative, and to await the result of the interminable astute diplomatic notes of Austria, or to make war in the Crimea,—the only soil left free to their armies. Thus they have preferred, or rather they have been compelled to fight in the Crimea, because public opinion, and in particular their armies, condemn the humiliating and fatal inaction which cost them more dead than would have been occasioned by the most homicidal war. But then, I say, why not limit the operations of war to a debarkation in the Crimea, and attack upon Odessa, Anapa, &c.; to the battle of the Alma—a great battle gained, the enemy routed and put to flight, it might have been possible to occupy the Isthmus of Perekop, to complete the investment of Sebastopol, and to push with zeal the siege of that place;—a siege which must be difficult, but which would have had imparted to it the hope arising from the moral defeat in which the defending army would have fallen by the defeat of their army without, and by the scarcity of victuals, and by the loss of the hope of succour from without. But the victory of the Alma has not procured any material advantage; on the contrary, it has proportionately enfeebled the Anglo-French army by the losses sustained—losses not so facily repaired as those of the Russians. The enemy also did not lose a single cannon, a single carriage, nor a single flag, but in perfect order retreated. What, therefore, did it remain for the Allies to do after the battle? There were three courses to be taken—either to surround Sebastopol, occupying Balaklava, where might have been disembarked the siege-train and a retreat given to the ships, whence the siege might be undertaken; secondly, to follow the enemy, if he had evidently retired, as he did on the flank of the Anglo-French army, and by these means to gain a communication with Perekop, and at the same time to menace Sebastopol until it should be decided to attack it. Or thirdly, and finally, to re-embark, in order to take up winter quarters in Turkey, and to drive the Russians from the mouths of the Danube. Deciding as the Allies did for the first course, they were obliged to risk a bold and perilous flank march. It is true that this succeeded; but the end does not justify the means—the Allies have been compelled to leave the road to the place free for the communications with the interior of the country, not leaving sufficient force to complete the investment; and finally, they have been compelled to begin the siege, without having secured a strong basis to guarantee their retreat, and to give them time to embark with their immense material of war in case of a reverse. The Allies could not have followed the enemy without running great risks, and without compromising themselves, because they would have withdrawn to a distance from the place of debarkation, whence they drew their reinforcements, their munitions of war, and their victual; and where they relied upon the cannon of their fleet. The further they advanced into the interior of the country, they would have proportionately enfeebled themselves before the enemy; while he, on the contrary, in proportion as he retreated, would the more have concentrated his forces, and would the more have approximated the reinforcements which awaited him from Perekop and from the Crimea. The same successes which the Allies might have obtained, opening before them a more extended theatre, would have obliged them to multiply their detachments; and, offering to the enemy a larger surface, they would have found themselves more largely exposed to destructive causes, and would have more rapidly used up their material means without finding resources to supply themselves combating in a strange and hostile country. In such manner, not being able to receive reinforcements by reason of their losses, they would have found themselves always growing weaker in proportion as they ad-

vanced and developed their strength, until they would have found themselves inferior to the enemy. The best counsel, therefore, and the most prudent, was that to re-embark before the season of the equinoxes and the storms in the Black Sea. And they have not yet been able to disembark all the materials of war and of siege for the army. The moral of the soldier, raised by the battle won on the Alma, would not have remained affected by retreat; nor could the enemy, in retreat and beaten, have been able to boast of any success. In the coming spring, under the best auspices, a new campaign might have been undertaken. A good and opportune retreat is equal to a victory. Wellington, who is reasonably reputed the most fortunate among the great and prudent generals, in spite of having won the battle of Fuentes de Onoro, in Portugal, as the enemy had preserved order, did not wish to follow him when he retreated behind Agueda; and instead of doing so, he better fortified his line of battle on the heights of Fuentes de Onoro, raising redoubts and batteries. And why so much prudence? Because a battle lost would have compromised his army, which drew its reinforcements from the sea; and because the French being ill-provided with victuals and ammunition, to gain time was of great use to the English army, which secured its defences and augmented its forces by the Portuguese troops that were opposed to Masséna, who, in proportion as time lapsed, consumed his provisions, and thus daily fell into a worse position.

And however Wellington may have fortified the celebrated lines of Torres Vedras, and fought in a friendly country, nevertheless he carried on war on the Fabian principle, because he justly thought the sea not a bad base of military operations. Even now the Anglo-French, in a hostile country, choose the stormy and inhospitable Black Sea for the base of operations, and hazard the rashest operations against the enemy, who to bravery adds superiority of numbers. Nevertheless, by some it is objected that after the battle of the Alma it was necessary to undertake the siege; otherwise, in the coming spring, the Russians would have much increased the fortifications of Sebastopol. But I ask if, with the siege, that object is secured? On the contrary, the Russians would have been compelled to fortify all the points of the place; as they would have done, if they had not known the front of attack, and had been thus permitted to fortify only those that are now attacked.

In this deplorable state of politico-military affairs, what remains to be done? To be logical, you must patronise liberty, civilisation, and independence. Well, are you with the oppressed peoples, and not with the oppressors? Are you with the Gospel and not with the Koran? In fine, would you be with Justice? Do you want to combat the Russian? Well, march to encounter his army and fight him in open field. Arrest the reinforcements that you send to the Crimea, because these arrive there in a decimated condition, and in the spring you will not find so much as half available for the campaign. Shut up the army of the Crimea in a strong camp, enclosed so that it is to be regarded as a citadel capable of sustaining a siege; suspend the siege of Sebastopol; concentrate a strong Turkish army of reserve at Varna, reunite the cavalry and artillery in the plains of Adrianople, and quarter the English and French infantry at Constantinople on the shores of the Bosphorus, where you will reunite a strong army, which in the next spring will enter into line with the Turkish army on the right of the Pruth, and will bestride the Lower Danube. Hence, if the Russians, without taking account of the concentration of formidable armies in Turkey, were to continue to send reinforcements to the Crimea, and were to resume the offensive there, besieging the allied army in its enclosed camp, send them only those reinforcements that would suffice to sustain the siege until the good season. Moreover, the wet season and the infamous state of the ground render attacks difficult; besides which, the fleet offers a powerful support to the defence.

As to the equivocal attitude of Austria in the Principalities, there is no occasion to take thought of it. This power has many vulnerable points, and it is an easy thing to make a diversion of their forces. To enter into that question, however, would be beside the present subject, while France and England persevere in their fatal and unjust policy.

P. P.

Open Council.

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

THE COMING PEACE.

(To the Editor of the "Leader.")

SIR,—According to the latest rumours, the Ministry of all the Incapacities will meet an impatient and bewildered Parliament with head erect and ready tongue. In the aristocratic chamber, Lord Clarendon; in the house of the landed gentry and the trading classes, Lord John Russell, will confidently place upon the table a treaty containing the four guarantees. In various forms of ministerial equivocation they will inform an enthusiastic and indulgent nation that a glorious peace is about to be signed. To the disinterested and patriotic opposition of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, those natural enemies of despotism, the Ministry will say triumphantly:—"If this be not a desirable peace, what more would you desire? Turkey is saved, we have gained two signal victories, Russia is humiliated, the Black Sea and the mouths of the Danube are open to every flag, the supremacy of Russia in the East is destroyed, her exclusive Protectorate is annulled." And Lords and Commons will hear! hear! and so the curtain falls upon the tragi-comedy of mystifications, and another *entr'acte* of "European tranquillity" begins. So much for the balance of power.

But you have another duty to accomplish: you owe to the intelligence of your readers, to the political faith you serve, to the cause you represent, plain words of truth and sincerity. I assert, then, that the Czar, making peace to-day, comes out of the contest stronger than before. It was not presumed that Russia could make head against France and England united; it is now proved that without Austria, France and England do but court disaster. It was imagined that Cronstadt would fall at the first gun of the British fleet in the Baltic. It is proved that shallow waters protect the Russian forts even more securely than granite, while the 14th of October has convinced Europe that Sebastopol can resist the combined attack of the fleets of the two strongest maritime powers of the world. Russia now knows that Great Britain alone is powerless against her, that a fleet without an invading army is a show, and that Great Britain is henceforth compelled to cleave to France against their common rival. The campaign began with sympathy for the Turks, it closes with contempt. The Protectorate of the Four Powers will weigh as heavily on the Ottoman Porte as the ambition of the Czar, and Turkey is more "sick" than ever. The cure is fatal. How the Sultan shall become a Christian is still the question. Russian diplomacy fought the battle of Navarino in concert with France and England: a little more shuffling of the cards, and she will give the *coup de grâce* to Turkey with her allies of Navarino, whose vigilant jealousy will not allow her alone to despatch the sick object of so much solicitude.

The expedition to the Crimea was undertaken not merely to destroy Sebastopol, but with the afterthought of cutting out of Southern Russia a separate kingdom. Now, "it is purely a political war we are waging; we never entertained the idea of humiliating the just pride, nor of dismembering the territory of Russia." If Sebastopol is already stronger than it was last October, what will it be when the Allies have retired, and how will the preponderance of Russia in the Euxine be subdued? The destruction of the Russian fleet is a secondary consideration: the first is the rescue of the wreck of the British army. How grateful should England be to a Ministry so sagacious, so economical, so imperial! And the Circassians who were to be delivered? They live too far from the coast.

But your conclusion, the impatient and mystified Englishman demands. Would you repudiate the peace and continue the war? Certainly not. The Ministry of all the Incapacities cannot get beyond the Four Points: it may go down to posterity as the Ministry of the Four Points. No more of this dull comedy of war without a purpose. Kings and Emperors fight with buttoned fists and courteous grimaces. How should Louis Napoleon be in earnest against despotism? When the nations have recovered their rights, they will fight the battle of principles—by shaking hands.

I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THE AUTHOR OF "THE NATIONS OF RUSSIA AND TURKEY, AND THEIR DESTINY."

POLICE! POLICE!

(To the Editor of the "Leader.")

SIR,—The exposure of Detective Policemnn Charles King, and his band of trained pickpockets, has been followed by such general exclamations of surpriso

and disgust, that a foreign student of the manners and customs of the people, might easily fall into the mistake of supposing that this relationship between the officer and the thief is not the natural result of our police system—a result, too, which is perfectly well understood by all who give themselves the trouble to think about the matter.

Nothing can be more clear than the fact that the existence of a police at all is nothing but a choice of evils. The public prefers suffering injustice and robbery in a mitigated form at the hands of a small body of men, rather than be at the mercy of a large criminal population, just like a gentleman tolerates the game-keeper who robs him moderately, but who keeps at bay the rest of the poaching fraternity. This is so well understood, that some of the predatory habits of the police have passed into a joke, and every householder laughs at the picture of a policeman emptying the larder by connivance of the cook, provided he does not find its realisation in his own kitchen. The fact is, there is no magic in a blue coat with letters on the collar; a policeman is human after all; he is endowed by the same instincts, moved by the same passions, and guided by the same appetites as he was before he entered the service of the law. The routine duties and ostensible emoluments of the policeman are not very tempting, and unless we are to suppose that patriotism prompts men to join the force, there is a difficulty in believing that the average policeman is not rather under than above the average of Englishmen, in morals, intellect, and education!

What the consequences of this system are may be demonstrated from its history all over the world. That execrable book, the *Memoirs of Vidocq*, goes to show that, as the best poacher makes the best game-keeper, so the best burglar makes the best policeman; it also shows that self-conceit and a sort of hideous liking for his art, led the French policeman into fostering, instead of repressing, crime, in order that he might enjoy the supreme felicity of checking the ingenious villain at the critical moment by some still more ingenious piece of cunning. This is the inevitable consequence of the detective system; for so long as the craft and cunning of the policeman is trumpeted to his praise, he has no object in suppressing crime, but the reverse.

Perhaps Mr. Charles Dickens has something to answer for in making the detective an object of public admiration. The *Nights with the Detectives* (*Noctes Mercuriales*) began the business, and Inspector Bucket, with his mysterious forefinger, completed the apotheosis of the policeman; henceforth he became the most virtuous, the most sympathetic, as well as the most astute of mortals. "Nights with the detectives" became the fashion, and many is the silly swell who has been goose enough to pay golden guineas for the high privilege of accompanying Inspector Bucket in his peregrinations through miasmatic neighbourhoods, where in some wretched lodging-house he has gazed upon a mass of humanity in the last state of filth and weak degradation, and has gone away under the belief that he has penetrated some inner sanctum of crime, and that his own knowledge and views of life have been infinitely extended thereby.

If Inspector Bucket got no more than the fees paid by these knowing students of manners, we should leave the matter where it is; but he is not so easily satisfied. We will venture to say that there is not a beat in all this great metropolis the exact value of which is not accurately calculated by the Bucket fraternity. In many, perhaps most neighbourhoods, this value may be expressed in legs of mutton and those indefinite rights and interests classed under the name of cook's perquisites; but it is an indisputable fact that there are some districts in which a more iniquitous black-mail is levied. What we refer to is matter of notoriety to all who know anything of the nightly status of the streets at the West-end. How is it that you will occasionally see an unfortunate girl dragged off for walking the streets, whilst hundreds more are committing precisely the same offence within sight? How is it that the policeman keeps a certain distance of pavement sacred to one or two promenaders? How is it that the law is openly and notoriously infringed in certain houses, and the police can't for the life of them, astute as they generally are, find evidence to convict? Simply because Inspector Bucket is at work, and because he has not only a finger, but also a palm, and when that palm is properly operated upon, the active, mysterious, justice-working finger is paralysed.

These things want enquiring into, and when enquired into, it will be found that Charles King is not an exception by any means. The system is rotten to its foundation, and demands an utter regeneration; but in the mean time the public should remember that, so long as they deify and applaud the manifestations of thief-catching ability, Inspector Bucket is no more interested in the destruction of the thief species than is a rat-catcher in the abolition of rats.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. L.

Literature.

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

The most important news this week in connexion with English literature, is that a new edition of TENNYSON'S Poems is shortly to be published, illustrated by almost all the famous artists of our time and nation. Each poem is to have one or two illustrations, drawn on the wood-block by the artist's own hands. Sir EDWIN LANDSEER, MACLISE, JOHN MILLAIS, STANFIELD, and CRESWICK may be named among the illustrious painters who are engaged to illustrate our greatest living poet. The volume to be thus produced with every technical advantage [of the finest engraving, paper, and typography, will, we are assured, be something unique even among all the wonders of illustration which have issued from the press of late years.

Mr. LUKE BURKE, known as the editor of the *Ethnological Journal*, is now delivering a course of lectures at the Marylebone Literary Institution, of which the second was given on Thursday, the 11th instant. The subject is the "Primæval World," and Mr. BURKE may be described as a root-and-branch innovator in the matter of our general opinions upon the world's early history. He maintains that vast errors as to facts, as to chronology, as to the order of events, abound in history as it is generally written and accepted.

In the first lecture Mr. BURKE took as a subject those well-known massive remains of early architecture, the "Cyclopean monuments of Southern Europe and Asia Minor," with regard to which he maintains that they prove Greece and Italy to be older than Egypt. In conjunction with them, he dealt with the "Cromlech mounds" found in so many parts of Europe, and argued that the Cyclopean era would never have existed if Egypt had preceded it; that a certain stage of civilisation must have existed among the builders of these monuments; and that had Egypt been then what she was supposed to be, traces of her influence would have been found among them. He was of opinion that Egypt's place in history was much lower down than it was supposed to be, and that wherever civilisation began, it did not begin there.

The second lecture comprised a critical examination of the "Roman Calendar," with a view to show that the common accounts of classic history are full of errors and absurdities. Mr. BURKE denies that the Romans at any time counted by the lunar year—holding the "ten months" of the "year of Romulus" to have been in reality ten divisions of a solar year. He denies that it is possible that the pontiffs were ever in the habit of making intercalations, for purposes of their own, as is asserted. He attributes these and similar statements to the wish to account for the tradition by which the solar year was in reality the established way of measuring from times of the most remote antiquity. The result (as he holds) of the misapprehension of chronology by the classic writers, has been that there are palpable gaps in various periods of classical history, when there must have been ages of time which the common narratives skip over.

As arguments of this description can only be made impressive and intelligible by details—we shall not pretend that our brief notice does any justice either to Mr. BURKE'S matter or his manner. We commend his lectures to the curious in such subjects. His information is large, his opinions earnest, his style clear and forcible. The succeeding discourses are announced for the 18th and 25th inst., and the 1st of February.

Experience has a little shaken our faith in practical treatises. We have learnt by their help, and at different times, Photography, Fly-fishing, Phrenotypics (on the plan of Major BENIOWSKI), Thorough-bass, and the noble art of Self-defence. Presuming on our minute acquaintance with these subjects, we have ventured practically on each; and on each we have been, with the least possible loss of time, emphatically and decisively "flooded." Nevertheless we are far from saying there is no use whatever in practical treatises—even practically considered. Were we at all disposed to make so bold and sweeping an assertion, a single glance at the now complete—and beautifully complete—work on *Landscape Painting in Water Colours*, published under the direction of Mr. W. S. ORR, would give us pause. Chromo-Lithography—a mechanical process now rendered so perfect that the prized "effects" of the most original painter may be snatched from his jealous keeping, analysed, recomposed in a totally different manner, but with the same result, and finally multiplied many hundred-fold—has been the principal means of giving to this book such completeness as we have remarked with admiration. Mr. GEORGE BARNARD, the drawing-master at Rugby, and the author of several Handbooks on Landscape and Foliage, supplies the matter, both literary and pictorial. We do not profess to give judgment regarding his theory. In order to verify that, we should learn water-colour painting from his treatise—a task which, for reasons already given, we shrink from. But it would be an impertinence to question the ability of a teacher who has shown us so well, at every stage, what he has himself learned from that most practical of books—Nature.

The first number of the *Artist* appeared last Saturday. A journal so

well named is one of those too obviously good ideas that are almost sure not to occur to the men most capable of working them out. We will not judge hastily, but we perceive very faint signs of any working-out in this first number. To be sure we are told, in language more fluent than precise, that "they who may regard with dissatisfaction this first sheet of a work devoted to so extensive a subject, will do well to consider that Art, both intellectually and morally, is illimitable; and that to fill up the outline thus faintly shadowed forth, is necessarily the work of time." Well! Let the proprietors get rid of Philocritos, and the tavern sign on the front of their journal; and, these necessary measures being taken, they may go on filling up an outline which, with perfect truth, they describe as being "faintly shadowed forth."

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF GERMAN LIFE.

Germany from 1760 to 1814; or, Sketches of German Life from the Decay of the Empire to the Expulsion of the French. By Mrs. Austin. Longman and Co.

WE have but one objection to make to Mrs. Austin's work, and that objection is a compliment, namely, that she has given us too little. Very curious it is, that in spite of the innumerable books produced by Germans upon innumerable subjects, there is no one work which sets forth even in outline the state of society, manners, and customs during the eighteenth century. They will tell you how the Phœnicians lived, and what the Egyptians thought; they will tell you what scholiasts have discovered, and what they have discovered in scholiasts; they will offer you libraries on the Greek drama or on the Faust legend; but anything so near to living interests as the state of German social life in the eighteenth century they unanimously agree to avoid. This work by Mrs. Austin, therefore, although very incomplete, and not professing to be complete, is something that they have not got even in Germany, and we ought to be very grateful to her for having produced it. Taking as a basis several memoirs and autobiographies, she contrives by means of extracts and reflections to set before us certain aspects of this eighteenth century. She makes us aware, by contrast, of the progress made in England in all that conduces to the splendour, comfort, and convenience of physical life; indeed, in Germany this progress has been comparatively very slow, and at the present day the Englishman finds abundant remains of the domestic life of his own country in the last century. He is, as Mrs. Austin remarks, still continually reminded of the customs and traditions of his childhood, especially if that childhood was passed in a provincial town. He meets, and is pleased to meet, everywhere in Germany some custom, some rarity, some implement, dress or viand—perhaps some sentiment or opinion, for these, too, have their day—of which he has heard his parents talk with the fond recollection of early years. He finds the garment for which his mother's hoards were ransacked, and which, once the dress of the higher classes, is now become the distinctive costume of a retired peasantry. He hears with surprise the traditions of his paternal house and the sayings of his old nurse. In one district he finds the simple faith of his forefathers, in another district the feudal attachment to the immediate lord, or the blind and affectionate loyalty to the hereditary ruler, for which he must look through a long vista of centuries at home. He will see the coarse, substantial comfort and strict adherence to the manners and pleasures of his class which once characterised the English citizen.

Elsewhere she remarks how, the more we go back to the recollection of what we heard in our childhood, the nearer do we approach to the manners of Germany at the present day, and still more to the manners of the eighteenth century. The Germans are generally not aware of these resemblances, the more so because they take their idea of England from novels—not a very accurate daguerreotype of English life. The similarity alluded to is, of course, subject to large deductions on the score of national character and peculiarity. Thus, on comparing the domestic life of the two countries, we observe the ties of blood possessing a force in Germany which they had in Scotland, but never in England. And upon this Mrs. Austin makes the excellent reflection, that "The obligations of kindred have been made a pretext, often a justification, for as many base and unjust acts as any set of motives whatever. The morality of women has especially been contracted and perverted by it. With an ordinary mother, as with a thorough-going sectarian, all means are good that lead to the desired end—the prosperity or fancied happiness of her children. There is no immorality like that which is practised with a quiet, nay, with a complacent conscience; and the permanent interests of mankind are then often sacrificed to the duty of providing for one's family." These ties of blood often assumed a somewhat tyrannous form; the power of fathers and even brothers over the women of the family was absolute. The deference paid, externally at least, was very great. Even in England it was much greater at that period than it is now, but the universal spirit of freedom, the independent manners of our public schools, and the dogged rebelliousness of the Briton, prevented that deference from ever being so great as it was in Germany and France. Madame Schopenhauer has in her *Memoirs* given a striking illustration of this patriarchal authority even in the nineteenth century. It is the so-called family tribunal (*Familien Gericht*), over which the head of the family presided, and to which every member of the family was amenable. She describes going once to this awful assembly. She went in full dress, and found an old man of eighty seated in an arm-chair at the top of the room, and the other members of the family arranged in a semicircle on either side, according to age and precedence. Two very young men of the family were then called up by the patriarch, and were severely reprimanded for their misdemeanour, which was getting into debt. They stood perfectly abashed and pale as death. Their parents sat by scarcely less so, but not daring to interpose a word in their behalf. The rebuke ended, they were dismissed.

The national dance, the *Allemande*, as the slow waltz at that time was called all over Europe, has undergone a change symbolical of many other changes. It has degenerated—young ladies will say, been improved—into the dizzy whirl of the *Deux temps*, which sacrifices grace to rapidity; and many other good things of Germany have degenerated also into the "fast." If we English often think the German "slow"—and it must be owned that

re is terrible evidence for the belief—the old German, looking back upon days of his childhood, is horrified to see how “fast” the age has become. One sense, however, there has been a decided improvement: the German is no longer a sot. Formerly, drinking hard was high in the rank of manly uses; different towns and cities claimed pre-eminence in it. To drink *de Palatino*, was to get very drunk. The collections of antiquarians are full of drinking-cups and horns not made to stand. The last Count of Hatz used to make his children drink at night, and if they wanted to go to sleep, he grumbled at their degeneracy, and doubted if they were his own children. The Hobenlohe deed of investiture required the claimant to drink the great feudatory goblet, as a proof that he was a German nobleman, and an able-bodied warrior. In that principality no glasses held less than a bottle, and the *Homburger Chronicle* records the feats of two sisters, who drank sixteen bottles at a sitting, and then walked quietly to their home, three miles distant. We, too, had our five-bottle men; and every der must have suffered some of that truculent hospitality which reded sobriety as an insult to the house, and the man who shirked his role as a dubious friend, if not a contemptible creature. “Now, gentlemen,” said a nobleman to his guests, as the ladies left the room, “let us understand each other; are we to drink like men, or like brutes?” The guests, somewhat indignant, exclaimed, “Like men, of course.” “Then,” lied he, “we are going to get jolly drunk, for brutes never drink more than they want.”*

It is in the glimpses of German social life, as contrasted with and illustrated by English life, that Mrs. Austin's work commands attention. But the historical student will also turn with considerable pleasure to the eloquent pages in which she describes the gradual dissolution of the empire, and the revival of nationality during the War of Liberation. It would lead too far to enter upon this topic with satisfactory fulness, and merely to touch it would be without interest. We commend the book, therefore, very truly to the reader's attention, and suggest to Mrs. Austin the desirability of her producing a fuller, a more detailed work on German life, regarding the present as a preliminary sketch.

HISTORY OF POLITICAL LITERATURE.

History of Political Literature, from the Earliest Times. By Robert Blakey. Author of the “History of the Philosophy of Mind,” &c., &c. In Two Volumes. Bentley.

BLAKEY has written one work in which he undertakes to tell mankind of every metaphysician from the beginning of the world has thought about metaphysics: he now comes forward with two volumes as the commencement of another work, to inform us what every political writer during the present period has thought about politics. There is no timidity of design about Blakey. He begins with the ark—and he will not end till he has polished the *Times* newspaper.

We remember that the *History of Philosophy* was generally considered a laborious, extensive, somewhat dull work; and that more than one of our acquaintances thought Mr. Blakey scarcely capable of judging Spinoza. The present book deserves the same three adjectives as its predecessor. Mr. Blakey does not seem bigoted, however, in political opinions, and is more liberal in his estimate of political writers than of philosophers. We congratulate him on having certainly hit on a subject this time more likely to be popular and much more necessary to mankind at present than his former one. Metaphysics at no time will employ more than the few; but in these days of hope, political literature in some shape or other employs everybody. From the readers of Aristotle to the readers of literary Jack Cades, it employs all ranks and varieties of mind. Indeed, in England, it is the one subject which all classes enjoy in common; for the English are more political in taste than they are musical, or artistic, or literary, or philosophical. It is right that we should have a text-book, to which readers may resort in wanting to know in a concise and condensed form what successive generations of political writers have left as their final views on political affairs.

Now, of course, such a work, supposing a man to read all the original authorities, would keep him at his desk, incessantly, till he reached the end of Old Parr. Mr. Blakey's range includes Greek and Roman literature, the Fathers, the Schoolmen, the whole subject of Law—civil and criminal—and all political writers in all countries since the revival of letters! It is a bill of fare to appal the stoutest consumer. It must necessarily be conceded to Mr. Blakey to make errors here and there—to be scanty in some department when he has been copious in another—and this, too, in addition to the permission freely to use all kinds of preceding summaries and text-books. That he should have embarked on the design at all, and cutud it, even creditably, is in itself a claim to very considerable grade from those of the public who have less time to read than Mr. Blakey. However—allowing our author all this claim fully—we cannot say that he has written a superior book. Mr. Blakey is not original—nor creative—nor picturesque. We do not indeed expect amusement from such a work; when one remembers Guizot's terse lucidity, Brougham's abundant and clear, the luminous practicality of Whately, and so forth, one cannot but feel that the heaviest subjects may be treated so as to be charmingly readable. Now, here is the worthy Mr. Blakey's great literary want: he is unfortunately—there is no mincing the matter—a dull writer. Like our literary authorities in the Crimea, he cannot bring up his stores. There are no ready-made, and very welcome; but somehow nobody can get them—his road is so terribly impassable, and his Pegasus in such very ill condition.

Mr. Blakey is quite of the old school in his mental condition. He seldom uses a figure of speech, which has not for generations enjoyed literary approval. But not only is he of the old school in his style or manner—he is so more important particulars. For instance, he gravely tells us—“We know that when Romulus founded the city of Rome, he inquired of his followers whether they would have a Republican or a Monarchical form of go-

We once knew an old gentleman who, after the retreat of the ladies from his smoking-room, would plant a dozen of port on the mantelpiece, and lock the door.

vernment; and after duly weighing the nature of both systems, they declared for the latter, and appointed him to be their king.”

To what purpose did Niebuhr and Dr. Arnold write, if we are to have such a *Genesis* of Roman polity as this palmed off upon us? Romulus is about as historic as King Arthur. Then again—to what good purpose are such criticisms on the Roman characters as the following introduced:—

Such Roman examples of public virtue may dazzle and allure the ignorant and unthinking multitude; but they can never become a general theme of exultation among the really wise or good of any country. And it may with justice be remarked, besides, that in the Roman character, there was very little of that kindness of human feeling; that delicate sympathy for the wants and woes of others, which knits the heart of man to man, and which exercises such a powerful, though indirect, influence in making the social situation of mankind comparatively comfortable and pleasant, even where the laws abstractedly considered, may be of a rugged and oppressive nature.

Human life was considered by a Roman as an object entirely destitute of interest. Hence we need not feel surprised that suicide should be found so prevalent among this people, and that it should be considered by them as a proof of superior courage and valour. All the civil institutions of the country tended to strengthen this delusive and bloody notion. The laws affecting children and slaves breathed the very spirit of domestic oppression; while, at the same time, the austere speculative system of stoicism, early imported by this nation from Greece, added greatly to the natural ferocity and cruelty of the Roman disposition.

Women were considered in the Roman states as merely slaves; not as beings to humanise the temper, and smooth down the natural asperities of life, but exclusively created for the gratification of sensual appetite.

This is mere hackneyed rhetoric. How does Mr. Blakey suppose any nation of men ever lived without “kindness of human feeling?” Did he never read Cicero, *De Amicitia*? As for the paragraph about the Roman women, it is the absurdest of all. A Roman honoured his *placens uxor* as well as an Englishman. The ill-treatment of a woman led to the greatest revolutions in Roman early history. The mother of the Gracchi held a somewhat different position from that of a slave. What modern lady ever received higher kindness from her father than Julia did from Cicero? The fact is, Mr. Blakey adopts the common priestly cant, which would degrade the ancients into barbarians for the sake of interested motives of his own, on which we decline to dwell at present. We shall only say, *à propos* of an observation on Cicero's *Intellectual Failures*, that we wish Mr. Blakey would fail in the same kind of way. He concludes his chapter on “Roman Literature” by saying,—

Cæsar and Tacitus are likewise useful and interesting authors.

This is a very general opinion! But a writer on political literature might have found space for a little more copious criticism on Tacitus, at all events, who had the soul of a tragic poet, the insight of a philosopher, as much wit and picturesqueness as ever was possessed by mortal man, and who has, in a peculiar degree, influenced political writers at all times. Indeed, to make room for some remarks about his relation to despotism, Mr. Blakey might well have sacrificed a paragraph about Noah's form of government, and a page or two on those interesting gentlemen, the kings of Egypt, the reign of the first of whom “is supposed to have commenced about the second century after the deluge.”

We suppose Mr. Blakey intended to use the philosophical rather than the personal way of treating the subject—to deal with “causes,” “tendencies,” and the like, rather than to attempt an embodiment of the realities of political life, in an objective form. But he has not been liberal of the highest kind of speculation. We fear that his book will not satisfy the more active minds of Europe in the present ferment of political speculation—indeed that is our radical objection to it.

It is now our business to let Mr. Blakey speak a little for himself. We begin with a passage about the political tendencies of a class of writers—little associated in the general mind with political literature—the Fathers of the Church:—

For many centuries after the introduction of the Christian system, we find scarcely any fragments of literature of a political complexion, save what are furnished by the writers of the Church. The chief reason for this is, that the agents of this benign and enlightened system found a regularly-established government, in full and active operation, when they had to solicit the attention of mankind to their particular doctrines and social theories. The minds of men were already stored with a full complement of ideas or notions on the nature of government; the efficiency and importance of which were displayed in the every-day exhibitions of life and manners among the mass of the people. There was no open or clear stage for the politics of the Bible on their early promulgation. The mind and heart had to be slowly and stealthily approached, and gradually moulded to recognise and appreciate the very first principles of the Christian code. A tardiness of progress, and an imperfect and partial development of these principles, were the necessary consequences of this state of things. An immense mass of false philosophy, pagan barbarities, and savage ignorance stood in the way of political intelligence and improvement in every department of governmental policy. False theories, rooted prejudices, inflamed passions, and a degraded moral sense, were rampant in every direction among the heterogeneous masses which encompassed the Roman civilisation: forming, in fact, an incongruous assemblage of elements, which threatened an entire destruction of the highest hopes of the human race. One of the consequences of this was, that the political literature of the early Fathers of the Church was more of an indirect than a direct character. They do not appear as decided theoretical politicians; this was not their office or calling. Their social and religious position excluded them from taking upon themselves a duty of this nature. But being men of high intellect and attainments—the ruling spirits of their respective ages—they could not fail to perceive, what was the general scope and important bearings of the system of revealed truth they had to enforce on the understandings of men, and what an intimate and necessary relation subsisted between the spiritual and temporal interests of mankind. They dealt with the great truths of Christian polity in an incidental and isolated manner; while they failed not to develop their ideas on the evils arising from such particular departments of social philosophy and jurisprudence, which might at the time be running counter to the true interests and happiness of the community at large. They were, in fact, great, but only bit by bit reformers. They distinctly perceived the grand principles which should regulate society in its leading movements and aspirations; but they were not adequate to the complete grasping of them as a whole, and to the moulding of them into a perfect and logical system. The materials on which a theoretical politician could erect any scheme of national polity were not then, in fact, in existence. They had still to be created by the successful and full development of the social and religious elements of revelation. The soil was rich and fertile, but as yet overrun with weeds and brambles. The Fathers acted,

therefore, in the only sphere they could possibly act:—that of attempting to put down particular and isolated evils, which manifested their baneful influence, at certain periods, and in certain localities of their respective countries.

The following is worthy of the reader's consideration on the same subject:—

We have, in a preceding chapter, referred to the influence of the writings of the Christian Fathers on political opinion generally. The numerous, though detached, attacks on heathen legislation contained in these writings, produced a powerful effect on the understandings of men in the course of time; and gradually prepared the way for direct interference, on the part of the Church, in the direction and improvement of civil affairs. The regular organisation of the clergy; the numerous and interesting public discussions on vital questions of doctrine and discipline; the public sympathy and interest manifested in their synods and councils; the inquiries and investigations, both directly and indirectly instituted, on the political questions of the day, at such numerous theological gatherings; the necessity imposed on all the clergy of looking to the practical operation of the broad principles of legislation, as they affected their own, and their people's lives and property; the learning, talent, and eloquence displayed in the management of their own ecclesiastical affairs; the constant and emphatic appeals made to the common sense and common feelings of mankind on whatever came home to their every-day necessities and duties; the heroic and enlightened patriotism displayed in great national exigencies by Christian communities generally; all these, and a thousand sources of influence, gradually drew civil power into religious channels; a circumstance which, when looked at from a certain point of view, may be justly and incontrovertibly pronounced as the first decided mark of improvement in the political progress of mankind.

What goes commonly under the denomination of *Papal authority*, was, then, originally the almost necessary result of Christian influence on heathen systems of government. It was the embodiment of the protests, appeals, rights, and privileges which took their rise out of the struggle Christianity had to make for some centuries against long and firmly-established systems of political misrule and oppression. The more widely the gospel scheme became extended, the more political power and influence it conferred upon those who were the delegated instruments of guiding and directing its public movements and concerns. The active and stirring members of the Church had religious constituencies, augmenting in number and authority year after year; and this gradually increasing power sapped the foundation of the old bulwarks of civil polity, and made them yield to the remonstrances and moral force of these zealous and rational innovators. The clergy and their flocks were, in fact, a Christian republic, grounded on a novel set of political principles, rising into authority and independence amidst the mass of barbaric and heterogeneous elements, which the old civilisation of the world presented.

Mr. Blakey gives a pretty full account of the anti-papal movement, which was much more potent and significant in the early ages of our modern history than is generally supposed. After speaking of early political satires, he gives the following summary of the views on this subject of the late distinguished, Signor Rossetti, whose theories on the political significance of early Italian literature have excited, during the last thirty years, much attention:—

There has been a good deal of light thrown in recent times, on the general question as to the allegorical character of the chief Italian poets of the fourteenth century by the publication of Signor Rossetti's works. He has with great learning and candour devoted many years to the consideration of the subject. The general conclusions to which he has arrived, relative to the double or political meaning of these poetical effusions, may be stated, from his own work, in the following terms.

The greater part of these literary productions, hitherto looked upon as mere works of amusement, as romances, love verses, or even formal and ponderous treatises, are writings which embody certain hidden doctrines and mysterious rites, transmitted from early ages; and that these portions of their contents, bearing the appearance of fantastic fables, contain a mass of unknown history, expressed in particular symbolical characters or terms, calculated to preserve the memory of the secret labours of our ancestors. The obscurity which pervades these works is remarkable, and purposely effected by profound study. The most eminent literary men of various ages and languages in Europe, were pupils in this mysterious school, which, never losing sight of its principal object, sought out distinguished talents in order to induce their possessors to co-operate in the bold design. The modern civilisation, or political progress of European states, is mainly attributable to the incessant labours of this school, which produced a vast number of works fitted for the instruction of nations, and for preparing the public mind for great changes and events. It was chiefly by the unwearied activity, and innumerable proselytes of this school of reform, that the seeds of a deep hatred against Rome were disseminated throughout Europe for many centuries, which prepared the way for that explosion of opinion and doctrine which shook the Vatican to its centre, and ushered in the Reformation in the several countries of Christendom.

The foregoing passages are from the first volume. In the second our author sketches the history of political writing from the year 1400 to the year 1700, beyond which the present volumes do not extend. He adopts the same plan here that he did in his *Philosophy*, giving brief summaries of the systems of the various men, with the dates of their lives and labours. This plan gives the work, at all events, the utility of a handbook, to which the general reader may refer occasionally, when he would learn the place of a political writer in the history of his science. We extract the following, because it is by no means generally known how important a place the *Treatise of Buchanan* holds in literature,—though Dryden, by the way, has had the liberality to indicate Milton's obligations to its author:—

GEORGE BUCHANAN.—“*De Jure Regni apud Scotos*.” This work of Buchanan's is worthy of especial notice, for the bold political statements it contains. It made a deep impression upon the political mind of Europe, at the time of its first appearance. The leading object of the work is, to show that the royal authority of every country is derived from the people; and that if kings and rulers do not perform their duty, but act falsely to the nation, they may be deposed and killed.

Buchanan says, in reference to his book, “*De Jure Regni*,” “I have deemed this publication expedient that it may at once testify my zeal for your service, and admonish you of your duty to the community. . . . Yet I am compelled to entertain some slight degree of suspicion, least evil communication, the alluring nurse of the vices, should lend an unhappy impulse to your tender mind; especially as I am not ignorant with what facility the external senses yield to seduction. I have, therefore, sent you this treatise not only as an advice, but even as an importunate, and somewhat impudent, exhorter, to direct you at this critical period of life, safely past the dangerous rocks of adulation; not merely to point out the path, but to keep to it; and if you should deviate, to reprove and reclaim your wanderings; which monitor if you obey, you will ensure tranquillity to yourself and your family, and transmit your glory to the most remote posterity.”

Buchanan's work is written in the form of a dialogue; and in that portion of it devoted to the consideration of the origin and nature of government, we find the fol-

lowing passage:—“B. Is there, then, a mutual compact between the king and the people? M. Thus it seems. B. Does not he who first violates the compact, and does anything against his own stipulations, break his agreement? M. He does. B. If, then, the bond which attached the king to the people is broken, all rights he derived from the agreement are forfeited? M. They are forfeited. B. And he who was mutually bound becomes as free as before the agreement? M. He has the same rights and the same freedom as he had before. B. But if a king should do things tending to the dissolution of human society, for the preservation of which he has been made, what name should we give him? M. We should call him a tyrant. B. But a tyrant not only possesses no just authority over his people, but is their enemy? M. He is surely their enemy. B. Is there not a just cause of war against an enemy who has inflicted heavy and intolerable injuries upon us? M. There is. B. What is the nature of a war against the enemy of all mankind, that is, against a tyrant? M. None can be more just. B. Is it not lawful in a war just commenced, not only for the whole people, but for any single person to kill an enemy? M. It must be confessed. B. What, then, shall we say of a tyrant, a public enemy, with whom all good men are in eternal warfare? May not any one of all mankind inflict on him any penalty of war? M. I observe that all nations have been of that opinion; for Theba is extolled for having killed her husband, and Timoleon for his brother's, and Cassius for his son's death.”

On the importance of Buchanan's political works generally, Sir James Mackintosh remarks, “The science which teaches the rights of man, the eloquence which kindles the spirit of freedom, had for ages been buried with the other monuments of the wisdom and relics of the genius of antiquity. But the revival of letters first unlocked only to a few the sacred fountain. The necessary labours of criticism and lexicography occupied the earlier scholars, and some time elapsed before the spirit of antiquity was transfused into their admirers. The first man of that period, who united elegant learning to original and masculine thought, was Buchanan; and he, too, seems, to have been the first scholar who caught from the ancients the noble flame of republican enthusiasm. This praise is merited by his neglected, though incomparable, tract, ‘*De Jure Regni*,’ in which the principles of popular politics, and the maxims of a free government, are delivered with a precision, and enforced with an energy, which no former age had equalled, and no succeeding has surpassed.”

Mr. Blakey should have given us the date of the *De Jure*, &c. It was published in 1579.

Mr. Blakey does not, we observe, give every writer his fair proportional space, according to his literary importance. Algernon Sidney has only half a page—less than the eccentric John Gilburne. Jeremy Taylor has but a paragraph—though the *Liberty of Prophecy* deserves much more. Mr. Blakey, too, should have been much fuller in pointing out the difference between “*Republicanism*,” as it was conceived by the Sidneys and Miltons, and what is now called “*Republicanism*” in Europe. It is just his deficiency in such points as this which prevents us from being able to pronounce his book a high-class one—though, let us repeat, we respect his intentions and his industry, and think that he deserves credit for selecting a subject so much in need of illustration.

We shall conclude with a paragraph, which we do not insert because it has a tendency to magnify our office of journalists, but because it really contains what is substantially true—though expressed somewhat magniloquently:—

And here we shall take the liberty of making a remark or two on the political writers of our own country, to whom we are, at this hour, under such weighty obligations. We are apt, as a nation, it has been often said, to set a high value on our literary labours, in almost every department of human inquiry; and not, perhaps, without some good grounds for this national partiality. But making due allowance for whatever may be overcharged in our estimates on this point, we think it will not be denied by any qualified to sit in judgment on the question, that the political literature of Great Britain, taken as a whole, and for the three centuries now under consideration, is superior to that of any other country. It is more varied in its character, more profound and searching in its inquiries, more systematically arranged, and more copiously and elegantly illustrated, than anything we can find in the other countries of Europe. It displays a much greater portion of acute and vigorous intellect, than we can recognise elsewhere. Take the speculations of any one of the continental states, and contrast its political disquisitions with those of our own land, and we shall soon perceive the superiority of the latter in all that appertains to originality of conception, logical order, subtle analysis, and above all to the susceptibility of applying all political writing to the practical concerns of legislation and government.

There was likewise a vigour, and a capacity for sustaining efforts, displayed in the English mind which are not discernible in the political history of other nations. Indeed, when we contrast the personal courage, the lofty independence, the indomitable will, and the total disregard of consequences, when notions of duty were present, which stimulated the great majority of our writers to maintain their respective ideas of general polity, we cannot but see that they stand alone in the great theatre of political contention. They afford an interesting manifestation of the vast superiority of that national intellect, which is alike at home, whether in matters of theory or in practice. They have proved shining lights to all other nations. As a country we stand on a commanding eminence as cultivators of political knowledge. The writers of England have stemmed the tide of intolerance and ignorance, and burst asunder the fetters which would have confined our minds as well as our bodies in hopeless subjection. The vindication of general liberty, and the preservation of everything valuable in society, have been the fruits of their pen. Amid the fierce controversies of the day, and the collision of intellects, they have invariably been guided by the loftiest ideas of personal freedom, and national independence.

A BATCH OF BOOKS.

- The History of British Guiana.* By Henry G. Dalton, M.D. Longman.
Robert Blake: Admiral and General at Sea. By Hepworth Dixon. Chapman and Hall.
Detached Thoughts, Extracted from the Writings of Archbishop Whately. First Series. Blackader and Co.
Later Years. By the author of “*The Old House by the River*.” Sampson Low and Son.
Studies from Nature. By Dr. Hermann Masius. Translated by Charles Boner. Chapman and Hall.
Talpa; or, the Chronicles of a Clay Farm. By Chandos Wren Hoskyns, Esq. Third Edition. Lovell Reeve.

The History of British Guiana is a book which must have cost the author vast labour, and which essentially deserves to be classed among the useful works of modern literature. Doctor Dalton arrived at the colony, with the purpose of residing there, in the year 1842. Naturally desirous to know something of the

history of the place of his sojourn, he looked about for books that might inform him, and found only a Dutch description of the colony sixty years ago, a Sketch by Bolingbroke and Montgomery Martin, and two short accounts by the Chevalier Schomburgk and his brother. No connected history of British Guiana had ever been published. Surprised and disappointed, as well he might be, at the discovery of this deficiency, Doctor Dalton devoted all the time he could spare from his professional labours to the object of remedying it; and the result is now before us in the form of two bulky volumes. Of the information which they contain, collected in a great measure by his own researches, the author speaks very modestly. He informs us in the Preface, that it was not his ambition to write a complete history of the colony, "but simply to give a general sketch of the history of British Guiana from the earliest discovery and exploration to the present time, including the eventful periods of slavery, apprenticeship, and emancipation, together with a description of the surface, and some notices of the natural history of the country." This purpose, so far as we are able to judge, Doctor Dalton has creditably and fully achieved. His book contains a vast amount of information, excellently collected, as to arrangement, carefully and unaffectedly presented as to style. Reliable accounts of English colonies must always rank among the most important historical contributions to English literature. In qualifying himself to become the historian of British Guiana, Doctor Dalton has both honourably and usefully employed his time; and we are glad to congratulate him on the result of his labours.

Although Mr. Hepworth Dixon's *Life of Robert Blake* is not a new work, there is assuredly, just at present, no impropriety in our presenting it here to the attention of readers who may not yet be acquainted with its pages. In such times as these, a good life of one of the greatest of England's naval heroes cannot fail to be a book of immediate and peculiar interest. The subject is a noble one; and Mr. Dixon has treated it with rare vigour, spirit, and conscientiousness. The glorious victories won by Robert Blake are universally known; but to find out *how* they were won, and what sort of a man it was who achieved them, we must apply to the famous Republican Admiral's latest, best, and completest biographer. Mr. Dixon tells the story of the "Puritan Sea-King's" life and exploits fully, clearly, and most interestingly. In the case of an inferior writer, we should dwell at some length on the importance of the entirely new materials collected for the book; in Mr. Dixon's case, it is the excellent and workmanlike use made of the materials, after they have all been got together by the author, which particularly attracts us. His narrative is not only historically valuable (plenty of other narratives may claim that merit), but it is popularly useful, because it is terse, vivid, and dramatic in no ordinary degree. We especially like the manner in which the extraordinary political events of Blake's period are interwoven with Blake's life, and the vigorous and masterly clearness of the descriptions of the sea-fights. This latter merit gives the book an extraordinary interest—interest so great that we will not spoil its legitimate effect on the reader's mind by tracing it to its springs in a critical way. We are not sure that Mr. Dixon will take it as a compliment, if we tell him that his biography absorbed us like a good novel; but we must confess the fact for all that, and must defy the "dignity of history" by treating the *Life of Robert Blake*, in one respect at least, as we like to treat a good novel.—Let our readers get the book; and they will thank us for being so uncritical in reference to it, as not to tell them one word of its glorious and true story beforehand.

We are in luck with our Batch this week. With one exception, all the books composing it are genuine and good. The name of Whately is the best recommendation of the *Detached Thoughts*, which are carefully and intelligently selected from the Archbishop's writings, and which fill the pages of the third work on our list. We leave it to win its certain way to success; and get on to our fourth book—the one unlucky exception to which we have just alluded. *Later Years* is a species of "Sketch Book," American in every sentence, filled with fragmentary narratives, adventures, and thoughts on all sorts of subjects. There are some passages of good and fresh description scattered about the work, but it is hard, and (to us) singularly unattractive reading, as a whole. The author indulges in that sort of familiar fine-writing which is our favourite aversion; and he will present himself personally in such a mysteriously-magnificent light, that we cannot possibly sympathise with or believe in him.—"There are voices coming up now to my ears"—he writes, solemnly, in his Introduction—"as I sit before the fire, out of those years, whose holy tones are full of thrilling melody. There were hours which, as they passed, condensed in their few minutes more joys of almost heavenly purity than you would believe earth could contain in all its centuries. There were scenes that my pen dare not attempt to describe, and emotions that may be felt, but not told." What are we plain work-a-day critics to say to a gentleman who talks of himself in this way at the very outset, and who startles us, among other things, by an assurance that "the beautiful is not alone in the external world, in forests, or oceans, or stars, or maidenly loveliness of eyes, or lips of winsome wine." (?)—what are we to say to this? When good Mr. Burchell sat by the fire and heard the fine talk of Lady Blarney and Miss Carolina Wilhelmina Amelia Skeggs, he is reported as having said to himself, "Fudge!" We feel strongly inclined, on this particular occasion, to echo good Mr. Burchell.

Studies from Nature is a really delightful book, illustrated by some singularly vigorous and truthful engravings. The *Studies* of Doctor Masius are chiefly among Trees, in the first place, and among Birds, in the second. On either subject he is equally pleasant and instructive. He writes with a rare power of presenting to the reader the results of much close observation and out-of-the-way learning in the most winning and kindly way. The delicate genuine humour in some passages of these *Studies* is something almost unique. Since the days of *The Natural History of Selborne*, we remember no work of its class so genial and so attractive to the general reader as the volume now under notice. It is only fair to add, that the translation by Mr. Boner seems well executed, and that the book is very beautifully got up.

That curious "agricultural fragment," *Talpa; or, the Chronicles of a Clay Farm*, has reached its third edition. As to its technical merits, this seems conclusive. As to its literary execution (a point on which we are much better qualified to speak than on its agricultural value), we can honestly notice this little book with all due praise. It is evidently not written by a practised hand; but almost every page shows such signs of hearty good spirits and humorous candour, that we read *Talpa*—ignorant as we are of agricultural matters—with curiosity and pleasure from beginning to end.

We have, by way of conclusion, to thank Mr. Bohn for some new specimens of his activity and enterprise as a publisher of cheap and famous books, which ought to be in all libraries. The seventh and eighth volumes of Cowper's works; Xenophon's *Cyropædia* and *Hellenics*, literally translated; the second volume of *Philo-Judæus*; and that extraordinary romance of Defoe's, *Moll Flanders*—are among the publications from Mr. Bohn's house which have recently reached us.

ADVENTURES IN THE SUN.

Heliandé; or Adventures in the Sun.

Chapman and Hall.

So bold a flight as a visit to the Sun would appear, to ordinary readers, to be the result of very active imaginative powers. Ordinary readers are seldom in the habit of attending to the footnotes accompanying a work of science or history, and still less are they inclined to delay their pleasure by reading the notes of authorities in a work like the present, which is confessedly, from the title, a *firework*. Every paragraph in this octavo book of more than four hundred pages, contains something ingenious, elegant, and fanciful, but almost every paragraph is referred to more than one classic original, in proof that the fancy is a fact, or is not at all more extraordinary than fifty similar wonders vouched for by high authority.

The machinery of a journey to the Sun, as opportunity for criticism on the present aspect of our lower and colder world, is traceable to Swift, but the working out is very different. In the first place, very gentle sarcasm is employed, and, in the second, the author returns to his native sphere of his own free will and choice. All, however, occurs in that fine institution for bewildered story-tellers—a dream.

The visitor to the Sun has been in love; he has been disappointed in love; he falls ill; he is induced, in the heat of summer, to try the cold water cure at Malvern; he is deluged; he is dried up; he is permeated with the Sun's rays; he ceases to be opaque;—and now the reader begins to see through him. Indulging in a reverie, the adventurer finds himself on a mysterious road, light and airy, and by no means like Fleet-street. He has a dim notion that he is travelling to some warm region, but feels reassured on finding that his physical nature is changing and adapting itself to new conditions. Speed and adaptation increase, and, before long, he is approaching the gates of Heliopolis, the principal city in what is sometimes called by fine writers the "great luminary." He is received affectionately by an officer appointed for that purpose, who proceeds to show to the stranger every wonder that the city presents. It is in the descriptions of these wonders that the substance of the work consists. When the Paris season is over, there is no place to which we would rather go for the winter than Heliopolis, if these accounts may be trusted, or if they had not been consigned to a dream. Everything is superbly large, and the traveller becomes insensibly large in proportion; not, however, that it is clear to our mind that Daniel Lambert, or Freeman the American giant, are, from their size, better capable of appreciating the pyramids, or more capable of digesting the acres of type in an American newspaper. But we are not at liberty to complain of the author on that count, for he assures us in a note that "astronomers believe that the gravitation of the sun would make a being there weigh about two tons." These big "beings" are gifted with more than Frenchmen's elasticity. They dress in robes woven in an impalpable loom from the fleeciest clouds that can be caught after a rainbow has broken up a storm. They live on scents and essences so ethereal that the slender lilies, bluebells, and foxgloves, in which the Fortnum and Masons of the district confine them, seem almost too gross for their high office. They speak music, their language being similar to one of our operas without words. They bathe in dew, and their commercial transactions are effected by the purveyor distributing his ware to the customer who can enunciate the most refined sentiment. Their carriages move at the wish of the occupant, and there is nothing to pay. Sir Thomas More's *Utopia* is, in fact, a material Heliopolis; and the author lavishly admits his obligations to that work, as, indeed, he does to every other work (excepting novels) in the English and every other language.

Writing of so ethereal and immaterial a nation it is painful to have to admit that their buildings are distinctly palpable. They are made of "minica," or solidified air. This appears really too much, but a note (quoting a recent work) informs us that "It (the air) is composed of minute globular particles, which are in ceaseless motion, revolving round their axes; and though these evolutions are not usually discernible, under certain conditions of temperature the particles solidify, and their movements are then apparent." In the same note the author of the piece quoted above proceeds to quote his authority, who declares he witnessed, near Olexyko, in Prussia, the atmosphere like a *hard compact mass*, tremulously shaken, and which even resounded audibly.

Adventures in an orb of fire of course have love passages. In Heliopolis, we observe with mingled feelings, the mere fact of true love makes the lover intensely beautiful and fabulously virtuous, so that unrequited affection is unknown. After various adventures the author becomes spiritually allied to a princess, the mere acknowledgment of mutual love constituting the ceremony. Marriage is comprised in community of mind and sympathy of intellect; unfortunately, however, recollections of the old system intrude on the repose of the bridegroom, and he asks for just one embrace, and, as Keats says, "the sweet minor zest of love, thy kiss." He is warned that the sweet concession will at once reduce the happy couple to an earthly condition, and that the Earth must then be their resting place. However, the bride is so beautiful that he can't resist, and a return home is inevitable. He sets out on the sapphire road, with his bride, but she, strange to say, gradually grows exceedingly like the young lady who was the original occasion of the journey, and by the time he arrives on earth she has disappeared, and the author—simply awakes. All this has but one defect: it is too like the libretto of a ballet. The last chapter is devoted to the relenting of the cruel parent and a very hearty laugh in the sleeve of the author, in which, doubtless, a good-humoured reader will readily join.

We have thus, we believe, given a fair report of this imaginary voyage. There is abundance of curious and desultory reading, genial feeling, and various thought in this book. Many who are glad to surprise science in undress, will walk here to pick up, in a few careless moments, tidbits of learning and philosophy enough to make a dinner-table scholar, and a drawing-room savant.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Bankruptcy Annulled.—Charles and Edwin Parker, Northampton, boot-manufacturers. Bankrupts.—James Sewell, Brackley, Northamptonshire, and Tryford-street, Caledonian-road, Islington, timber-merchant.—Henry Simons, Woolwich, linondraper.—Meyer Jacobs, Steward-street, Spitalfields, warehouseman.—John Oliver, Daventry, ironmonger.—William Hall, Fordingbridge, butcher.—James Whiting Fisher and James Basset, Norwich, cabinetmakers.—William Burrell, Staisy-road, East India-road, Limehouse, builder.—Jesse Shaw, Longton, Staffordshire, stationer.—Edward Goldsmith, Nottingham, hatter.—Joseph Harriman, Loughborough, hosier.—William Davey, Wellington, Somersetshire, baker.—John Dixon, Liverpool, cooper.—James Atken, Liverpool, draper.—James Hall, Manchester, commission-agent.—Charles Dixon, Gateshead, draper.

Friday, January 12. Bankruptcy Annulled.—George Simcox Yates Brice, Cheltenham, coach-proprietor and accountant. Bankrupts.—Isaac Unwin, Poland-street, Oxford-street, builder.—John Casey, Blackburn, builder.—Joseph Tillet, Colchester, plumber.—Henry Quarterman, Oxford, carpenter and builder.—John Mackness, Stratford, Essex, baker.—Jeremiah Cox, Saint George's-square, Pimlico, builder.—William Bond, Drury-lane, licensed victualler.—Henry Elgar, Ashford, Grocer.—John Marke, Duke-street, Manchester-square, butcher and horse dealer.—James Tilling, Edgware-road, farmer and dairyman.—Frederick Noake, Southampton, baker.—James Whiting Fisher and James Basset, Norwich, cabinet-makers and upholsterers. Scotch Sequestrations.—Alexander Wark Murphy Glasgow, lithographer.—John Anderson, Edinburgh, grocer.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS. CAVAN.—Jan. 10, at Hill House, Bridgewater, the Countess of Cavan, a son. PENNY.—Jan. 2, at the School House, Crewkerne, Somerset, the wife of the Rev. O. Penny, D.D., a son. RAWSON.—Oct. 14, at Cape Town, the wife of the Hon. Rawson Wm. Rawson, Esq., Colonial Secretary, a son. THOMPSON.—Jan. 6, at 58, Harley-street, Cavendish-square, the wife of Rev. Edward Thompson, D.D., vicar of Kington, Herefordshire, a daughter. VALIANT.—Jan. 7, at the residence of her father, James Malcolmson, Esq., Moray Lodge, Campden-hill, the wife of Captain Lockhart M. Valiant, a daughter.

MARRIAGES. CHAMBERS—BRITTEN.—August 12, at Wuzerabad, Richard Wellesley Chambers, Esq., Adjutant 11th Regiment N.I., to Charlotte, youngest daughter of Thomas Britten, Esq., late of Grove-end-road, St. John's-wood. CLARKE—MORRIS.—Jan. 4, at St. George's Catholic Cathedral, Southwark, Henry Weller Ladbroke Clarke, Esq., Her Majesty's Hon. Corps Gentlemen at Arms, to Florence Mary Agnes, eldest daughter of James Morris, Esq. GIBBALTAR—FRASER.—Jan. 6, at St. James's Church, by the Lord Bishop of London, the Lord Bishop of Gibraltar, to Eleanor Jane, daughter of Colonel Fraser, of Castle Fraser, N.B. O'CONNELL—O'CONNOR.—Jan. 6, according to the rites of the Catholic Church, and afterwards in St. James's Church, Paddington, by the Rev. Mr. Cambell, Maurice James O'Connell, Esq., eldest son of James O'Connell, of Lakeview, Killarney, Esq., to Emily Clunes, youngest daughter of Rear-Admiral Sir Richard O'Conor, K.C.H., of Westbourne-terrace, Hyde-park.

DEATHS. CARY.—Dec. 14, at Köpösd, in Hungary, after a short illness, Lieut.-Colonel Lucius Cary, 6th Regt. of Ouirassiers (Walmoden), third son of the late John Cary, Esq., and brother of the late Henry George Cary, Esq., of Torre Abbey, in the county of Devon, aged forty-one. FULLER.—Jan. 7, of small-pox, Edward Fuller, Esq., of Barbados, second son of Lieut.-Col. Fuller, C.B. MONSELL.—Jan. 7, at St. Leonard's, the Lady Ann Maria, wife of William Monsell, Esq., M.P., aged forty-one. PAXTON.—Jan. 8, in Germany, Laura, fourth daughter of Sir Joseph Paxton, M.P., aged sixteen. REYNOLD.—Jan. 4, at Paignton, Devon, James Henry Reynold, Esq., Captain (half-pay) 45th Regt. He served in the Peninsular Campaign, was severely wounded at the storming of Badajoz, and received a medal with four clasps for his services, aged sixty-seven. ROBERTSON.—Jan. 10, at Edinburgh, the Hon. Lord Robertson. ROBERTSON.—Jan. 7, at St. Andrew's, N.B., Dr. J. Argyll Robertson, F.R.S.E., late President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

Commercial Affairs.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY INTELLIGENCE.

Friday Evening, January 12, 1855. GREAT was the commotion in the Consol Market on Monday morning at the astounding news of the Emperor of Russia having accepted the "Four Points" without reserve, and the Funds rose in consequence. Timid Bears bought in as fast as might be, not having over-confidence in this Government—not clutching at present peace at any cost. Since that day this news, with several days' continual reports of the capture of the south side of Sebastopol, received through some unknown Greek house, has bettered Consols. Indeed, the Greek houses or firms, are always credited with all lies that come eastwards. After the first rush upwards—as French Bonds do not respond, and the "Silent Man" at the Tuilleries does not speak out in his *Motiteur*, but does give words of encouragement, and which would seem to mean reality to his "Guard," now setting out for the Crimea—the credulous public has begun to inquire whether it has not been acting on rather premature hopes. How many hundred obstacles may occur to break up the conference at Vienna, and how many times will certain reservations have to be submitted to "my Master" by Prince Gortschakoff during the conference? All these hopes and fears will tend to keep our Funds in a very promising state of fluctuation. Were Nicholas a good speculator he might pay for his war—that has past and to come—by a skilful management of his. So long as he knows his intimate friends are here at the helm ready to stand by him if they get a slant of wind, his game is safe. Then the country—"Pooh, pooh, sir," says your Stockholder—"the country will not be asked. Now comes change your *est*. Cabinet councils, sir. Depend upon it we shall have peace before March." Thus

reasons that noble liberal-minded character—the self-vaunting British merchant. Meanwhile the Funds, as we said before, will show some pretty play. Shares have been firm at the commencement of the week, and particularly the French Loan—the new one—seems highly sought after amongst our Hebrew and Christian magnates, and it bears at present a premium of Three per Cent, on our market. There has been but little business, except in Railway Shares and English Stocks. Mines, Banks, &c., have been dull, so to speak. Consols closed at four o'clock, at 91½, 91½, firmer. At one time to-day they were 91½, 91½.

Caledonians, 61½; Eastern Counties, 11. 11½; Great Northern, 90, 91½; Ditto (A Stock), 76, 78; Ditto (B Stock), 123, 125; Great Western, 68½, 68½; Leeds, 74½, 75; Birmingham, 104, 101½; South-Western, 88½, 84½; Midlands, 68½, 69; North Eastern, Berwick, 75½, 76½; Yorks, 53½, 54½; Oxford, 32, 33; Antwerp, 6½, 7; Eastern of France, 31, 31½; East Indian, 14, 14½ pm.; Ditto Extension, 4, 4 pm.; Central, 1½ pm.; Luxembourg, 2½, 3½; Lyons, 20½, 20½; Paris and Orleans, 45, 47 pm.; Paris and Rouen, 39½, 41; Northern of France, 33½, 34½; Namur and Liège, 6½, 7½; Western of France, 5, 6 pm.; Agua Fria, 3, 3; Brazil Imperial, 2½, 2½; St. John Del Rey, 30, 32; Cobre Copper, 40, 51; South Australian 4, 4 pm.; Peninsular, 4, 4 dis.; Wallers, 3, 3; Linars, 74, 84; Australasian Bank, 78, 80; Oriental Bank, 36, 38; Union of Australia, 66, 68; London Chartered of Australia, 20½, 21½; Australasian Agricultural, 35, 36; Crystal Palace, 2½, 3; General Screw, 13½, 14; North British Australian Land, 4, 1; Scottish Australian Investment, 1½, 2; South Australian Land, 36½, 37½.

CORN MARKET.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening, Jan. 12. THE intelligence received on Monday that the Emperor of Russia was willing to treat on the basis of the "Four Points," had an immediate effect on the Corn trade. All operations were at once suspended, and during the week the business has been confined to the supply of the most pressing wants. Notwithstanding a change of wind, the arrivals are trifling. Holders of Wheat are generally incredulous as to the desire of the Czar to bring about a peace, except on terms which cannot be conceded to by the Allies, and therefore are indisposed to make much concession in price even if buyers came forward. The supplies of Oats and Barley are also moderate, but they partake in the inactivity of the Wheat trade. By last advices from New York supplies were short and prices firmer. The French provincial markets are stationary. At Paris and Marseilles prices have declined somewhat since the opening of negotiations.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK. (CLOSING PRICES.)

Table with columns: Sat., Mon., Tues., Wed., Thur., Frid. Rows include Bank Stock, 3 per Cent. Red., 3 per Cent. Con. An., Consols for Account, 3 per Cent. An., New 2 per Cent., Long Ans. 1860, India Stock, Ditto Bonds, £1000, Ditto, under £1000, Ex. Bills, £1000, Ditto, £500, Ditto, Small.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Table with columns: Brazilian Bonds, Buenos Ayres 6 per Cnts., Chilean 5 per Cnts., Danish 5 per Cnts., Ecuador Bonds, Mexican 3 per Cnts., Mexican 3 per Ct. for Acc. Jan. 18, Portuguese 5 per Cnts., Portuguese 3 p. Cnts., Russian Bonds, 5 per Cnts., 1822, Russian 4 per Cnts., Spanish 3 p. Ct. New Def., Spanish Committee Cert., of Coup. not fun., Venezuela 3 per Cnts., Belgian 4 per Cnts., Dutch 2 per Cnts., Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. A. WIGAN. Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, will be performed the New Comedietta, A WIFE'S JOURNAL. After which, the New Fairy Extravaganza, called THE YELLOW DWARF AND THE KING OF THE GOLD MINES. Characters by Mr. F. Robson, Miss Julia St. George, Miss E. Ormondo, Miss Marston, Miss Bromley, and Mrs. Fitzalan. To conclude with A BLIGHTED BEING. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, the New Comedietta, called THE FOR TAT. Characters by Messrs. A. Wigan, F. Robson, Emory, Clifton; Misses Maskell, Turner, and Bromley. To conclude with THE WIFE'S JOURNAL, and THE YELLOW DWARF.

M. JULLIEN'S CONCERTS.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN. LAST WEEK BUT ONE. The programmes for the present week, being positively the last but one of the Concerts, will include the performance of Madame Ployel; Madame Thillon's Popular Songs; Herr Ernst's Solos on the violin; the New Pantomime Quadrille; and, by general desire, the Allied Armies Quadrille; assisted by the Three Bands of her Majesty's Guards. THE BEETHOVEN FESTIVAL. On Tuesday next, January 16.—The first part of the Concert will consist entirely of the Works of Beethoven; including the Grand Concerto in E flat, for pianoforte, performed by Madame Ployel; and the Grand Concerto in D, for violin, by Herr Ernst; Miss Dolby will sing "In queste tomba oscura." The second part will be miscellaneous, and embrace the Pantomime Quadrille, the Allied Armies Quadrille, &c., &c. BAL MASQUE. This Grand Entertainment will take place on Friday, February 2.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

M. JULLIEN has the honour to announce that a grand BAL MASQUE will take place on Friday, February 2, 1855, which will be the first ever given at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, and positively the last this season, and terminate the Concerts. It is now several years since M. JULLIEN had the honour of introducing the above kind of Entertainment in England, and it has afforded him the greatest satisfaction to observe, from year to year, that they have unvaryingly increased in favour and popularity. It is not the ball-room alone which has exhibited this increase, but those portions of the Theatre set apart for the convenience of Spectators have, at the same time, been entirely thronged with visitors. This unremitting patronage is a sure evidence of the immense attraction of these Entertainments, and, of course, cannot fail to be a source of great gratification to M. JULLIEN, convincing him as it does, that his efforts to afford amusement to all classes have not been made in vain. The approaching Bal Masque, the first ever given at the ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, will, however, afford an opportunity of producing an Entertainment surpassing in grandeur and brilliancy all former Balls—the vast area of that beautiful Theatre giving facilities possessed by no other locality. M. JULLIEN therefore believes that, without entering into details, he may safely state that the Bal Masque above announced will be one of unrivalled splendour. The orchestra will be considerably enlarged, and consist of One Hundred and Twenty Musicians. Principal Cornet a Piston. HERR KOENIG. Conductor. M. JULLIEN. Tickets for the Ball 10s. 6d. The Audience portion of the Theatre will be set apart for Spectators. The Prices of Admission for Spectators will be as follows:— Dress Circles 5s. Amphitheatre Stalls 3s. Amphitheatre 2s. Private Boxes, for four, six, or eight Persons, 3l. 3s., 4l. 4s., and upwards. Persons taking Private Boxes will have the privilege of passing to and from the Ball-room without extra charge. Places in the Dress Circle, and Amphitheatre Stalls, as well as Private Boxes, may be secured beforehand, on application at the principal Librarians and Musiciansellers. The Doors will be opened at Half-past Nine, and Dancing commence at Ten. The Refreshments served under the Superintendence of Mr. George Payne. Mr. I. Nathan, jun., of 18, Castle-street, Leicester-square, is appointed Costumier to the Ball. Persons in the costume of Clowns, Harlequins, or Pantaloons will not be admitted.

ADNAM'S Improved Patent Groats and Barley.

THE ONLY EXISTING PATENT. And Strongly recommended by the Medical Profession. TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, AND FAMILIES. The important object so desirable to be obtained, has at length been secured to the Public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, PATENTEES, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality ever manufactured from the Oat and Barley. To enumerate the many advantages derived by the Public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior Gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies, and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper. The Barley being prepared by a similar process is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce a light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It has also the distinguishing character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soups, &c. CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the Public are requested to observe that each Package bears the Signature of the PATENTEES, J. and J. C. 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.

AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA.

OLD DR. JACOB TOWNSEND'S AMERICAN SARSAPARILLA. This is, of all known remedies, the most pure, safe, active, and efficacious in the purification of the blood of all morbid matter, of bile, uric acids, scrofulous substances, humours of all kinds, which produce rashes, eruptions, salt rheum, erysipelas, scald head, sore eyes, and ears, sore throat and ulcers, and sores on any part of the body. It is unsurpassed in its action upon the liver, the lungs, and the stomach; removing any cause of disease from those organs, and expelling all humours from the system. By cleansing the blood, it for ever prevents pustules, scabs, pimples and every variety of sores on the face and breast. It is a great tonic, and imparts strength and vigour to the debilitated and weak, gives rest and refreshing sleep to the nervous and restless invalid. It is a great female medicine, and will cure more complaints peculiar to the sex than any other remedy in the world. Warehouse, 373, Strand, adjoining Exeter-Hall; POMEROY, ANDREWS and CO., Sole Proprietors. Half-pints, 2s. 6d.; pints, 4s.; small quarts, 4s. 6d.; quarts, 7s. 6d.; mammoth, 11s.

DEAFNESS AND SINGING NOISES.

Instant relief by Dr. HOGHTON'S new and painless mode of cure. Any extremely deaf sufferer, by one visit, is permanently enabled to hear with ease the usual tone of conversation, without operation, pain, or the use of instruments. Thirty-four patients cured last week; many totally deaf instantaneously restored to perfect hearing. Testimonials from the highest medical authority in London can be seen, and persons referred to. The above discovery is known and practised only by Dr. Houghton, Member of the London Royal College of Surgeons May 2, 1845; L.A.C., April 30, 1846. Institution for the Cure of Deafness, 6, Suffolk-place, Pall-mall. Just published, Self-Cure of Deafness, for country patients—a stop to empiricism, quackery, and exorbitant fees.—sent on receipt of seven stamps, free.

HOT AIR, Gas, Vesta, Joyce's STOVES.—STOVES for the economical and safe heating of halls, shops, warehouses, passages, basements, and the like, being at this season demanded, WILLIAM S. BURTON invites attention to his unrivalled assortment, adapted (one or the other) to every conceivable requirement; at prices from 10s. each to 30 guineas. His variety of registrar and other stoves is the largest in existence.

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