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The Leader.

A POLITICAL AND LITERARY REVIEW.

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

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Review of the Week.

NAPLES declines to accommodate the Moderate party in Europe. An account of the official note in reply to the Western Powers has been published; and we find that no previous descriptions of it had done justice to its insane insolence. The King declares that he is an independent Power, and he will not permit the Western Governments to dictate to him. His system is "necessary," for there are committees in Italy which preach the right to assassinate him as a "monster." His system is successful, for his people are "tranquil." What would England say, if Naples were to recommend to her more liberal views in Ireland or India? How can France venture to disturb the peace of the Continent, by encouraging revolutionary movements? Naples, in short, shames England for being as bad as King FERDINAND, and France for taking part with the revolutionists, whom its Emperor dreads; and he warns them, that if they proceed from counsel to force, he shall oppose to them his brave army and his faithful subjects! It is even reported that he has replied to the advice of Austria with a threat that, if pressed, he will join with Piedmont "to drive the Stranger from Italy!" This, however, is purely incredible. King FERDINAND is an animal without the capacity for understanding his own interest; but he is equally without the capacity for the practical wit of joining the one Moderate native state against FRANCIS JOSEPH.

Still it is manifest that matters cannot remain in Italy much longer as they are. Whatever may be the "ultimatum" sent by the Western Powers, the course of conduct adopted by King FERDINAND must so completely place him beyond the range of their defence, that his subjects will readily perceive the increasing facility of removing the nuisance. Although the story discovered by GARIBALDI of the assassination of CICERUACCHIO, his two sons, and four friends, while they were flying unarmed, and were surprised by an Austrian troop,—although this story, we say, belongs to the past, it will newly arouse public indignation against the state whose soldiery committed the crime, and whose officials have concealed it. Signor FARINI, the independent member of the Moderate party in the Piedmontese Chamber, has publicly declared that, while Austria arrogates to

herself the right of interfering in states beyond her own boundary, Piedmont has a similar right. The *Opinione* has published a systematic declaration of measures especially wanted in Naples, and in all parts of the Peninsula. The natives can feel nothing but irritation at the manner in which the Western Powers compel them to keep waiting, in order to see if Naples intends to be reasonable, and Austria will deign to take the lead in reforms.

As to the crowned powers of the Continent, nobody at present knows what they are doing. We have simply one fact to report. There have been conferences at Vienna, whence strange reports respecting the disposition of Russia still further to infringe the Treaty of Paris. There is a gathering in Moscow to celebrate the coronation of the CZAR, and to arrange other little matters. There have been conferences at Berlin, between French and other statesmen, under the eye of the mild Prussian eagle. But the only fact which has been authentically stated is, that the King of Prussia has bestowed the colonelcy of a regiment, vacated by the death of the Emperor NICHOLAS, upon that "puissant Princess," his "particularly dearly beloved sister," the Empress Dowager of Russia.

We know nothing of what those crowned persons and their diplomatic agents intend to do with the Russian encroachment upon Norway and Sweden; with the Sound dues, and the rights of Schleswig Holstein; with the Danubian Principalities, which Austria threatens to undermine, if Russia be not before her; with Italy; with Spain: for all these things, the peoples of the Continent, like the people of England, await the fiat of the crowned persons; as if they were really a second Providence upon earth, whose ways are inscrutable, and irresistible.

Recent injunctions in the *Morning Post*, the semi-official representative of our Foreign Office, lead us to believe that there is no intention of reducing the forces. The journal argues against such a measure, which it would advocate, if Government really intended it. There are, then, evident anticipations of some further disturbance of the peace, and of a necessity for English armies. But surely if we are again to pay the expenses of a war, we ought to know in time what are the measures which are rendering the war necessary, and whom we are to support in the conflict. It is getting really too late in the day to have the war first, and to learn what it is about afterwards.

There is, at all events, one part of the globe where the officials of the European Powers in Conference assembled at Paris are not permitted to dictate. At that Conference, a declaration was adopted comprising a platitude against paper blockades; two rules respecting the vessels and goods of neutrals, which have met with general acceptance; and an announcement that "privateering is and remains abolished." Privateering has not recently been used, because there has been no necessity for it; but everybody has foreseen that if any European power with a large navy were to attack the United States, that republic could find a ready-made marine force only amongst its merchant ships, and would have to keep off the enemy's by such means, while it was constructing a navy commensurate with its strength. This was so palpable, that nobody expected the United States to fall in with the Paris declaration; and Mr. MARCY has formally notified that his Government declines to do so. The notification is important; first, as effectually stopping the adoption of the rule for Europe, on the pretence of passing a law for the civilized world while America dissents; and it is also important as one of the first steps to the system of collecting all the military force of the civilized world into the hands of the Executive Government. The United States at least will not tolerate that system on the water any more than on land.

While, then, we have by no means a settled promise of tranquillity East or West, North or South, the clouding of our skies has somewhat disturbed our anticipation of a plentiful harvest. It is possible that the sun may yet redeem the harm done, but it is possible also the other way. If so, we shall depend for corn upon our late enemy, and upon our ally whom we have been wanting to brave; and the necessity for importing corn with the consequent disturbance of our money-market, our commerce, and our industrial system, might somewhat hamper us in going to war, especially if the Government should undertake such warfare as would not be heartily supported by the public at home.

The strange weather has materially affected the health of the metropolis: the mortality is running above the average—above the rate for the last eight years; and a special scourge has been inflicted upon us for the neglect of those sanitary arrangements the necessity of which the British General is incessantly pointing out.

It is not only in the natural world,



that we are provoking these retributions. Bad education, ignorance, and habitual recklessness led to the fatal explosion in the Cymmer Colliery, where the coroner's inquest has at last roused the indignant attention even of the colliery itself. They know that they are murdered by the cupidity of masters, the negligence of overlookers, and the general indifference of all.

The same cause, the neglected signals, although bloodshed might be the consequence, has added another frightful accident to the long list of railway murders, the last happening at the Stour Valley line.

It is not that our penal law is so lenient. On the contrary, it has just now a fit of severity upon it. At Liverpool Assizes, while JAMES BRACKEN has been convicted of "manslaughter," his brother ANDREW has been sentenced to be hanged for "murder." The two, when intoxicated, provoked a row, and killed a man in a Lancashire fight. The up-and-down fight of the county is unmanly and brutal; but it is a new thing to hang men for murder in such a case. However, hanging is the fashion of the day.

The Bolton poisoning case has brought out a curious fact. JANE NEWTON gave her husband stew in which arsenic had been mixed, but it is really impossible to gather from the evidence whether she had any murderous intention, or committed any worse fault than gross negligence. A druggist's lad confessed that when his master's customers asked for "mercury," he would give them arsenic, and he exhibited his knowledge of the more notorious poison by saying that "a teaspoonful might kill an adult." JANE NEWTON, it appears, asked for mercury to destroy vermin, mercury not being considered a poison by ignorant people; and without her knowing it, the lad gave her the poison, which reached her husband. Here is plenty of ignorance, but, more than anything, a proof that stricter regulations should control the sale of drugs, and especially of poisons.

The press itself is fallible, and has been committing offences. It lately killed Lord DRUMLANRIG; it has taken liberties with other persons; it reported a horrible "seduction case," in which fictitious persons played the first parts, and the scene of the trial was laid in a court that has no existence. The *Times* did not fall into this last error, and straight it lectured its contemporaries on their carelessness; affably assuming that all the editors were "out of town." In the *Times* of that same day the accomplished editor published a letter by Mr. "JAMES AYTOUN," assuming the writer to be the well-known "Professor AYTOUN," whose Christian name is "WILLIAM EDMONSTOUNE." This mischance shows that any other editor who is "out of town" is exactly equivalent to an editor of the *Times* when he is not out of town. The false reports, we suspect, are a fraud traceable to the crimes of poverty, among a class often improvident, but seldom so treacherous to its great patron, the press.

How much of all this crime and folly might be prevented if our Legislature were to do the duty which is enforced upon it, this week, by the Reformatory Union! A good quarter of our criminal population might be withdrawn and restored to orderly society, uncontaminated, if the Reformatory were suffered to do its work. The isolated efforts of philanthropists, law reformers, and prison-reformers, have been brought together in the Union; the conference just held at Bristol will give a new impulse to the movement; and we shall be able to show, next week, still more distinctly the results of this important meeting.

IRON LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BAHAMAS.—There is at present on view at Messrs. H. and M. Grissell's iron-works, New North-road, Hoxton, a remarkable specimen of ironwork, viz., a lighthouse which has been constructed for erection at Great St. Isaac, in the Bahama Islands.

THE NATIONAL REFORMATORY UNION.

A THREE days' conference of the friends of this institution commenced on Wednesday afternoon at Bristol, in the Hall of the Society of Merchant Venturers, which was completely filled. Lord Stanley presided, and, previous to his address, read a letter from Lord Brougham, the President of the Union, expressing the deep regret of the writer that he could not attend. His Lordship entered into a few remarks on the general question, pointing out that M. de Marez and his colleagues were not the originators of these institutions, as it is sometimes said, but that, as they have themselves acknowledged, they derived valuable hints from the working of the English Philanthropic Society established at Stretton-on-Dunsmore. Lord Brougham also commended to the attention of the meeting the evils of short imprisonments, and the necessity for taking care of adults as well as of the young.

Lord Stanley then delivered the inaugural address. Adverting, after some introductory remarks, to the superior nature of French judicial statistics to English statements of the same kind, he proceeded:—

"Nevertheless, such materials as we possess we may use; and looking to the 19th report, just published, of the Prison Inspectors of England and Wales, which supplies us with the returns of 1853, I find it there stated that the numbers 'for trial or tried at assizes or sessions' were 26,804; the summary convictions, 71,850—making a total of those who have come under the law, 98,654, or, in round numbers, about 100,000. Now, in that same year there were of juvenile offenders (that is, under 17 years) tried or for trial, 2105; summarily convicted, 9348—total, 11,453. We have, then, the proportion of juvenile to all crime for that year fixed at 11½ per cent., and the figures for 1852 show a generally similar result. I will not weary you with statistics, but it is worth notice—and proof of what I state may be found in this same report—that, while the proportion of juvenile crime (that is, of crime committed under the age of 17) does not exceed the figure I have mentioned, the amount committed between the ages of 17 and 21 is absolutely enormous, forming, for these four years of life alone, nearly 25 per cent. of the whole. This fact is partially corroborated by the census returns of 1851, where of all the prisoners under sentence in Great Britain on a particular day, just 25 per cent. were found to be under 20 years of age, and a result almost identical with this was obtained by Mr. Redgrave, from the census of 1841. It is, indeed, a startling fact in the investigation of crime, that while the number of persons living at any one time between the ages of 15 and 20 forms only 1-10th of the entire population at that time, this tenth part of the population is guilty of nearly one-fourth of the whole amount of detected crime. Now, I don't think that prison returns, or any returns, can give us an exact idea of the number of those with whom the reformatory movement may have to deal; there are lads who break the law, and get punished, who are yet in no sense habitual offenders; there is, perhaps, still a good deal of undetected crime in counties where no efficient police exists; and no statement of the number annually imprisoned can help us, except in the roughest way, to estimate the number of those who may be at large. This only we know, that more than 11,000 children, a large majority of them boys, pass yearly through the hands of justice; with how little reformatory effect in general, the large proportion of recommitments—nearly 4000 out of 11,000—shows plainly enough. . . . I speak with some hesitation when I say that, when the reformatory system comes fully into operation, I think you will not be sufficiently prepared to meet all contingencies, unless you reckon on a yearly influx of from 2000 to 3000 boys. The term of detention being at the utmost five years, but two-thirds of that time being the average, you might, according to that estimate, have at one time about 10,000 in process of reclamation. I hope, however, I am exaggerating the requirements of the case."

With respect to the possible cost of reformatories, his Lordship observed that we ought, in considering that matter, also to consider the cost of crime:—

"We are too apt, in dealing with such subjects, to think only of the taxes which we pay to Government, and to forget the taxes which we pay to those whom it is the object of Government to put down. It sounds almost incredible, but it is on record (I quote it, *valde quantum*), that a committee appointed by the authorities of Liverpool to investigate losses caused by theft placed those losses at the sum of 700,000*l.* Mr. Clay, of Preston, has assumed the average income of a successful thief at 100*l.* yearly; and in the case of fourteen prisoners whose history he investigated, he found that besides the loss which their depredations might have caused, the average cost of their apprehension, maintenance, prosecution, and punishment was 62*l.* a piece. Similarly, Mr. Rushton, writing, in 1842, to the corporation of Liverpool, referred to the case of fourteen prisoners, whom he estimated as having caused a dead loss to the community of between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* We have heard of gaols costing 150*l.* or 200*l.* per cell; there are some which have far exceeded this estimate."

Lord Stanley then glanced at a fruitful cause of juvenile crime—bad training by brutal, drunken, or

criminal parents. In seventy-five per cent. of the cases investigated by Mr. Clay, of Preston, the fault of the children lay at the door of the fathers and mothers. Crime, as well as pauperism, has a tendency to become hereditary. Illegitimate children, in particular, are apt to be neglected, and the consequence is that they form a large proportion of the children in gaol. The parents of criminal offspring, however, are generally out of our reach; they can only be influenced by slow processes, and their work of demoralization must and will go on; but the children lie within our power. Having sketched the history of previous reformatories, his Lordship went on:—

"You are aware of the main provisions of the act of 1854, and how it assists the setting up of reformatory schools. Power is given to detain boys at such schools during five years, and to receive them at any age not above sixteen. Government pays 5*s.* weekly for the support of each, but does not, in practice, otherwise interfere. Of this act most of the English counties are availing themselves already. Nearly all, we hope, will do so. I say, nearly all, because, in some instances, where the number of boys is small, it may be better for more than one county to join funds and set up a school between them. The object of the National Reformatory Union, in connexion with this movement, is to form, as it were, a centre of action for these various local efforts; to enable managers in different counties to compare their systems more readily; to promote the establishment of reformatories where none yet exist; to enable those who wish to give personal assistance in the cause to discover where their help is most required; to assist in placing out the youths who leave reformatories; to supply opportunities of discussing the general subject, and suggesting improvements in the methods adopted; and, should changes in the law of reformatories be required, to press on Parliament the propriety of such changes."

Transportation having been almost entirely done away with, and it being apparently impossible to resort to it again, we must keep our discharged prisoners at home. The younger of these we must endeavour to reform. The reformation of adults, though not a hopeless, is an arduous and unpromising task; but—

"It is ascertained that from one-third to one-half of the convicts in our prisons have belonged to the class of juvenile offenders. It is proved by a concurrence of testimony such as one rarely finds on any social question admitting of dispute, that short imprisonment—the average of all imprisonments in England is 50 days—are not reformatory in their effect, that they are seldom even deterring; that, usually, they send back the offender more hardened than he went in. The difficulty is not to find witnesses on this point, but to choose them. I believe there is not a governor of a gaol, not a chaplain, not a judge, not a chairman of quarter sessions who is not here of one mind. 'To punish young offenders with short terms of imprisonment,' says Baron Alderson, in a recent charge, 'is neither a wise nor a humane proceeding.' And he quotes a table of figures prepared thirty years back by the Governor of Glasgow Bridewell, which is so conclusive that I cannot refrain from inserting it here. Of prisoners sentenced for the first time to 14 days' confinement, there returned to gaol for new offences 75 per cent.; of those sentenced to 30 days, 60 per cent.; 40 days, 50; 60 days, 40; 3 months, 25; 6 months, 10; 9 months, 7½; 12 months, 4; 18 months, 1; 24 months, none; although in the 10 years over which this calculation extends the number of those sentenced for 24 months was 93. It is added that prisoners who came back two or three times went on returning at intervals for years, and that many of those committed for short periods on their first offence were afterwards transported or hanged. I select one other piece of evidence out of the blue-book of 1853, not as the strongest, but as the first on which my eyes chanced to fall while re-examining it for this meeting. In Reading Gaol, Oct., 1852, it was found that out of 209 prisoners recommitment to separate confinement, 89 were under 17 years of age when first committed, and those 89 had been in prison altogether 403 times, or nearer five times than four times apiece."

The great bulk of juvenile offenders belong to the class whose criminality is the result of circumstances, not of choice:—

"There remains a class, I admit, with regard to which one cannot speak with so much confidence. I mean the class, met with both among adults and young persons, in whom the tendency to commit criminal acts appears to arise rather out of a morbid action of the mind than out of any external compelling cause. Even in these less hopeful cases the morbid tendency often appears to be connected with the physical organization, and disappears or diminishes under the combined influences of example, of teaching, and of healthy bodily training. On that last chance I don't dwell, though a good deal might be said touching the connexion of some forms of criminality with unnoticed cerebral disease; I am content to acknowledge the fact that in certain instances the propensity to crime appears due to organization and not to social accidents; all I contend for is—first, that this class forms a minority, and probably a

small one; next, that even here a cure may sometimes be effected."

His Lordship then directed the attention of his auditory to the stigma which attaches to a person through life, if once he or she has been in prison, the result of which is often seen in the fact of a youth who has been imprisoned for some offence which forms an exception to his generally honest conduct being lost to reformation by the stain on his character resulting from confinement in a gaol. He added:—

"I have not come here with a settled plan, but it seems to me that in case of very small offences we might use fines as a punishment more than we do—they are felt as a very real punishment, though not a disgraceful one, in the same sense in which it is disgraceful to be sent to gaol. Care should be taken that a sufficient term were allowed for the payment of the fine or for allowing it to be paid by degrees, so that it might not become imprisonment under another name."

Most especially is it necessary to prevent moral contamination:—

"It is the boy, not the man, who has most influence on the younger boy. I heard of a single lad in a reformatory not far from here who, before being sent there, had trained eight expert thieves. Think what a few such youths at large may do, and the 5s. a week of their keep looks very small in comparison."

Some statistics of Mettray, Red-hill, and the Glasgow House of Refuge were then given:—

"At Mettray, 85 per cent. by one account, 89 per cent. by another, of the inmates sent out into the world are doing well. These percentages are taken from reports of last year (1855), when 900 youths had passed through the institution. Of the 11 per cent. who had relapsed (vagrancy being reckoned as a relapse, without proof of actual crime), one-fourth, or about 2½ per cent., had recovered their lost position. At Red-hill, where 720 boys have been discharged since the opening of the school in 1849—228 being inmates at the present time—Mr. Turner states that 70 per cent. have been reclaimed, adding that, of all who have left there, the emigrants have done best, and that the proportion of relapses among these is lower than among those who stay at home. In the Glasgow House of Refuge, out of 400, 85 per cent. have been reclaimed."

Care should be taken not to render the reformatories too attractive:—

"Let your school, your farm, your whole institution, in all its branches, be so plain, so homely, so unattractive in its outward aspect, that the poorest cottager may enter it, and say, 'My children are better off than these.' And what I say of externals applies in some degree, though in a less degree, to the nature of the teaching given. You have no right to hold out as the reward of juvenile crime a superior training to any trade requiring skill, a higher degree of instruction, intellectual or mechanical, than that which the common working man receives. The object in view is not an intellectual object—it is a moral and industrial one. Cleanliness, temperance, honesty, hard work—these are what you want your inmates to learn and to practise; and, although no one who has the capacity to excel should be restrained from so doing, yet I will go so far as to affirm, that, viewed with reference to the general effect of these schools, it is not to be desired—it is rather to be deprecated—that many of those who pass through them should rise above the level of the class from which they are taken. . . . We may be told, no doubt, that by soliciting employment for these youths we are driving honest men's sons out of the labour market. But in the actual state of the labour market I attach slight weight to that objection. There is ample employment and good pay for all who will and can work. Then, if work is not found for the reformed offender, what hope is there of his reformation lasting? He must live; the only question is whether he shall pay honestly for his living or not. And, if on no other ground, still on the ground of the greater difficulty which those who have broken the law experience in finding the means of livelihood, I think we may justify, both to ourselves and to society, a reasonable amount of interference such as we propose."

His Lordship exhorted all men of large fortune to aid this movement with their purse, and all men of intellect to extend it by means of their pens and their tongues. But, he went on to say, there are men who have neither large fortune nor large intellect who may yet be of great service to the cause.

"The reformation of men can never become a mechanical process. Perhaps the tendency of meetings, of speeches, of Government grants, is to render it too much so, or to treat it as if it were so. But, for the management of the reformatory you must have personal zeal, enthusiasm, love of the cause strong enough to produce even a feeling of love for the wretched objects of your aid; without this the work cannot be effectually done; and to me it seems that if any man wished to take up a work of pure patriotism and benevolence, with nothing to gratify the taste, nothing to flatter the intellect, nothing in it pleasing except the bare sense of duty done and service rendered to mankind—this more than any other is his natural sphere of usefulness. But again, I am asked, are all

persons qualified for such a task? I don't say they are; but this fact I would dwell on—that intellectual ability is not a primary, is scarcely even an important requisite. What we want, in the first instance, is a kind heart, a strong will, a healthy, not fastidious taste, and above all, singleness of purpose. . . . Employers of labour in almost any shape may assist us materially by taking charge of even one lad on the expiration of his term. Nay, even those who are not employers, who are themselves in the receipt of employment, might help, by expressing their willingness to receive, and look after as fellow-labourers or subordinates, those whom, without some such guarantee, the landlord, the farmer, or the tradesman might be unwilling to have anything to do with."

The speaker concluded by drawing a parallel between the spread of physical corruption, owing to bad sanitary arrangements, which we have now discovered it is our interest to amend, and the diffusion of moral contamination, which it is quite as important we should endeavour to restrain. The parallel, he contended, holds strictly; "and, if we suffer pollution to remain uncleansed in the hovel, it will take its revenge on the palace." But "Nature, if you examine well her working, appears bent on making us benevolent, even from a prudent regard for our own interests." Lord Stanley, at the conclusion of his speech, was loudly cheered.

Mr. G. H. Hastings then read the report of the general committee. The committee recommend the reappointment of the present Vice-Presidents, with the addition of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Mr. Justice Coleridge; and they state that, "in order to collect and diffuse information bearing on the reformation of youthful offenders, they have communicated with every certified reformatory in the kingdom, and have requested each to name a corresponding member. These corresponding members have been made *ex officio* members of the general committee, and are exempted from contribution to the Society's funds, in return for the statistical and other information respecting their several schools which it is hoped they will forward to the union. Eighteen corresponding members have up to the present time been nominated by as many certified reformatories. With a view of obtaining information on the important subject of prison discipline, the chaplains of all gaols in the United Kingdom have been made eligible as honorary members. Foreigners who may be interested in the reformatory movement, and such other persons as the general committee may from time to time recommend, are made, by the proposed rules, eligible to the same distinction."

The report was adopted on the motion of Lord Robert Cecil, M.P., and, after some further routine business, the meeting adjourned.

On Thursday, the various sections met, when several papers, of great interest, relating to the reformatory question, were read; but our space precludes our doing more than alluding to them. The details of Friday's proceedings have not yet reached us.

THE ADULTERATION OF FOOD, &c.

The final report of the Committee of the House of Commons appointed to inquire into the adulteration of food, drinks, and drugs, has been published. The Committee, after enumerating the witnesses whom they examined, observe that they cannot avoid coming to the conclusion that adulteration exists to a very great extent. They then proceed:—

"Not only is the public health thus exposed to danger, and pecuniary fraud committed on the whole community, but the public morality is tainted, and the high commercial character of this country seriously lowered, both at home and in the eyes of foreign countries. Though, happily, very many refuse, under every temptation, to falsify the quality of their wares, there are, unfortunately, large numbers who, though reluctantly practising deception, yield to the pernicious contagion of example, or to the hard pressure of competition forced upon them by their less scrupulous neighbours."

"Without entering into voluminous details of the evidence taken, your committee would enumerate the leading articles which have been proved to be more or less commonly adulterated. These are, arrowroot adulterated with potato and other starches; bread with potatoes, plaster of Paris, alum, and sulphate of copper; bottled fruits and vegetables with certain salts of copper; coffee with chicory, roasted wheat, beans, and mangold wurzel; chicory with roasted wheat, carrots, sawdust, and Venetian red; cocoa with arrowroot, potato-flour, sugar, chicory, and some ferruginous red earths; cayenne with ground rice, mustard husk, &c., coloured with red lead, Venetian red, and turmeric; gin with grains of paradise, sulphuric acid, and cayenne; lard with potato-flour, mutton suet, alum, carbonate of soda, and caustic lime; mustard with wheat-flour and turmeric; marmalade with apples or turnips; porter and stout (though sent out in a pure state from the brewers) with water, sugar, treacle, salt, alum, cocculus indicus, grains of paradise, nux vomica, and sulphuric acid; pickles and preserves with salts of copper; snuff with various chromates, red lead, lime, and powdered glass; tobacco with water, sugar, rhubarb, and treacle; vinegar with

water, sugar, and sulphuric acid; jalap with powdered wood; opium with poppy capsules, wheat-flour, powdered wood, and sand; scammony with wheat-flour, chalk, resin, and sand; confectionary with plaster of Paris and other similar ingredients, coloured with various pigments of a highly poisonous nature; and acid drops purporting to be compounded of Jargonelle pear, Ribstone pippin, lemon, &c., with essential oils containing prussic acid or other dangerous ingredients."

"The adulteration of drugs is extensively practised; and when it is borne in mind that the correctness of a medical prescription rests on an assumed standard of strength and purity in the drugs or compounds employed, and how frequently life itself depends upon the efficacy of the medicines prescribed, it is difficult to exaggerate the evils arising from this prevalent fraud."

"The adulteration of drinks deserves also special notice, because your committee cannot but conclude that the intoxication so deplorably prevalent in many cases less due to the natural properties of the drinks themselves than to the admixture of narcotics or other noxious substances intended to supply the properties lost by dilution."

"Though adulterations prevail more or less in all districts, it may be assumed, as a rule, that the poorer the district the greater is the amount of adulteration. Nor have the poor the same power to protect themselves against such frauds as their richer neighbours; they are necessarily limited to such means of purchase as are afforded by the immediate locality in which they reside, and are, moreover, too often bound to one dealer by the facilities of credit which he affords them."

After pointing out that some adulterations are hurtful and others not, the Committee remark:—

"In dealing with these various adulterations, it is necessary to distinguish between the pecuniary fraud practised on the public and the injury to public health. If, as regards the adulteration of articles with substances of a cheaper and innocuous character, the public derive the full benefit of this cheapness in a lower price, it would be difficult, if not unwise, for the Legislature to interfere, unless it could do so by requiring that every such article be sold as a mixture, as distinguished from the article in its pure state. This the law already requires as to the article of coffee, and also as to the article of bread, which, unless made of wheat-flour alone, must be distinctly marked with the letter 'M.' But, whenever an article is so adulterated as to involve pecuniary fraud or injury to health, it appears to your committee to be the duty of the Legislature to provide some efficient remedy."

"It has been objected that the best course will be to leave the buyer to take care of himself. But there are many adulterations which it is impossible for the buyer to detect. Already the law takes note of frauds in weights and measures, of injuries likely to result to the public health from the sale of unwholesome animal food, and indeed of many adulterations, though in most cases only with a view to fiscal considerations, and not to those of a moral or sanitary character."

"It is said, too, that there are many frauds which legislation cannot reach or punish. But, on the other hand, it would be difficult to tell the numberless frauds which legislation may prevent."

"The great difficulty of legislating on this subject lies in putting an end to the liberty of fraud without affecting the freedom of commerce."

The report then proceeds to indicate the state of the law with respect to adulteration in France, Belgium, Prussia, Hamburg, Lubeck, Holland, Spain, and the United States, where the offence is punished with more or less stringency.

"In England, the law affords redress to consumers in cases of adulteration:—by action, if the injury be individual in its character; by indictment, if the injury be general; by summary charge before a magistrate; and by proceedings instituted by the Excise. The process of action or indictment is at once too costly and too cumbersome for general adoption. That by summary charge before a magistrate, as well as that originating with the Excise, applies only to a few special articles which are named in particular acts, or which are subject to the supervision, for fiscal purposes, of the Board of Inland Revenue; but your committee are of opinion that it would be most desirable that, in all cases of the sale of an adulterated or fictitious article, a cheap and easy remedy by summary charge before a magistrate should be afforded to the person upon whom the fraud had been practised, and they would strongly recommend the propriety of such a change in the present law on this subject as would effect this object."

"It is impossible to frame any enactment on this subject which shall rely on strict definitions. The object of the law is to strike at fraud, and wherever a fraudulent intention can be proved, there to inflict a penalty. What constitutes fraud must be left to the interpretation of the administrators of the law. Thus mixtures of an innocuous character, made known by the seller, or used for the preservation of the article, cannot be forbidden without danger to the needful freedom of commerce, and ought not to be interpreted as coming within the provisions of a penal law. Nor should those provisions apply wherever the seller can afford satisfactory proof that he has himself been deceived, and was

not conscious of the adulteration practised, unless he have evinced a culpable ignorance of the trade which he professes to follow.

"Subject to these qualifications, the law should be clear and positive in forbidding adulteration, and in punishing those who practise it.

"Hitherto the progress of legislation has not kept pace with the ingenuity of fraud, which has not scrupled to avail itself of every improvement in chemistry or the arts which could subserve its purpose. Although, however, the means of adulteration have greatly increased, so also, fortunately, have the facilities for detection, especially by the improved use of the microscope, which has been employed by Dr. Hassall and others with signal success.

"It has been suggested that the prevention of adulterations in food might be accomplished by an extension of the system of the Board of Inland Revenue; but your committee are of opinion that no machinery for this purpose will work satisfactorily unless the agents employed derive their authority from corporate or other local governing bodies.

"It will be desirable, therefore, to empower municipal or other local or district authorities to appoint an officer, or officers, who on complaint made, or in cases of reasonable suspicion, shall procure portions of any article supposed to be adulterated, with a view to their examination or analysis by some duly qualified person appointed for that purpose. On the report of such persons, if it confirm the suspicion of adulteration, a summons shall be issued and the case be investigated before the justices, who shall have power to inflict summary punishment, by fine or imprisonment, in every case where pecuniary fraud or danger to health shall have been proved. The justices should also be empowered to publish the names of offenders. . . . It is essential that a right of appeal should lie to the Court of Quarter Sessions. With regard to coloured confectionary, your committee recommend that authority should be given to local boards of health, or other governing bodies, to forbid the use, for colouring, of all mineral matter and all poisonous vegetable matter."

The Committee suggest that one or more scientific analyzers should be appointed under the authority of the General Board of Health, and that the same Board should from time to time issue information as to the nature of the adulterations of articles of food, &c., injurious to health. The want of special education among chemists and druggists is pointed out; but the decision of the question of licenses the Committee think may be deferred "till it be seen how far the efforts of the Pharmaceutical Society and a more general system of inspection may prove successful." The report thus concludes:—

"Though not coming strictly within the scope of the inquiry entrusted to them, your committee cannot forbear calling attention to the evidence concerning patent medicines, the sale of poisons, and the state of the pharmacopoeias of the three kingdoms.

"With regard to patent medicines, there can be no doubt that the public health is endangered by the use of several of these compounds; and your committee are of opinion that the stamp duty, by giving them a seeming Government sanction, has an injurious influence in encouraging their sale and consumption, and should be abandoned, whenever this can be done with a due regard to the wants of the public revenue.

"The unrestricted sale of poisons is a matter of pressing importance, and deserves the early attention of the legislature. At the present moment the most violent poisons may be universally sold, without any restriction, except such as is afforded by the sense of moral responsibility on the part of the dealer. It is needless to point out the serious consequences which frequently ensue from this unrestrained freedom. To take a familiar instance—it is stated in evidence that the essential oil of bitter almonds, and what is called 'almond flavour,' of various strengths, and containing highly dangerous elements, are openly and commonly sold for culinary purposes, and, in the hands of servants wholly ignorant of their properties, used in quantities often dangerous, and sometimes fatal. It is well worthy of consideration whether the sale of poisons should not be forbidden, unless under the authority of a medical prescription, or under such conditions, as to witnesses and formal entries of the names and addresses of purchasers, as may secure the needful amount of caution.

"The evil arising from the existence of three distinct, and, in some important instances, widely differing pharmacopoeias for the three kingdoms, is one too evident to need enforcement. The result is, that many of the prescriptions of one country are not only inefficacious, but often absolutely dangerous, if made up in either of the others. One of the witnesses states that an Edinburgh prescription, containing a solution of morphia, made up in London, would involve the patient's taking twice the quantity intended. On the other hand, a patient taking prussic acid under an Edinburgh prescription, made up in London, would be taking only half the quantity intended, the Edinburgh prussic acid being twice the strength of the prussic acid of the London pharmacopoeia. This is an evil which can be remedied only by the combined efforts of the medical authorities of England, Ireland, and Scotland, to whom the subject should, without delay, be referred."

THE UNITED STATES ON THE RIGHT OF PRIVATEERING.

A DESPATCH from Mr. Marcy to the Count de Sartiges, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of France at Washington, has been published. It has reference to the regulations with respect to privateering and to neutrals agreed to at the Paris Congress; and it expresses the dissent of the American Government from the arrangement by which it is proposed to abolish privateering. The United States, explains Mr. Marcy, have always regarded large standing armies and powerful navies as "detrimental to national prosperity and dangerous to civil liberty," on account of their requiring a burdensome outlay to keep them up, and of their being "a menace to peace among nations," by offering "a temptation to rush into war." America has depended for her safety upon volunteer troops on land, and upon her mercantile marine at sea. She cannot, therefore, consent to give up privateering—a mode of warfare which has been sanctioned by many high authorities, including those of France.

"It certainly ought not to excite the least surprise that strong naval powers should be willing to forego the practice, comparatively useless to them, of employing privateers, upon condition that weaker powers agree to part with their most effective means of defending their maritime rights. It is, in the opinion of this Government, to be seriously apprehended that if the use of privateers be abandoned, the dominion over the seas will be rendered to those powers which adopt the policy and have the means of keeping up large navies. The one which has a decided naval superiority would be potentially the mistress of the ocean, and by the abolition of privateering that domination would be more firmly secured. Such a power engaged in a war with a nation inferior in naval strength would have nothing to do for the security and protection of its commerce but to look after the ships of the regular navy of its enemy. These might be held in check by one-half, or less, of its naval force, and the other might sweep the commerce of its enemy from the ocean. Nor would the injurious effects of a vast naval superiority to weaker states be much diminished if that superiority was shared among three or four great powers. It is unquestionably the interest of such weaker states to discountenance and resist a measure which fosters the growth of regular naval establishments."

History is referred to, to show that when, at an early period, France, without a navy, had to encounter England and Spain with large armaments, she gained signal successes by obtaining privateers from Holland. Mr. Marcy lays it down as a rule that "those who may have at any time a control on the ocean will be strongly tempted to regulate its use in a manner to subserve their own interests and ambitious projects," and that "a predominant Power upon the ocean is more menacing to the well-being of others than such a Power on land."

"The President therefore proposes to add to the first proposition in the 'Declaration' of the Congress at Paris the following words:—'And that the private property of the subjects or citizens of a belligerent on the high seas shall be exempted from seizure by public armed vessels of the other belligerent, except it be contraband.' Thus amended, the Government of the United States will adopt it, together with the other three principles contained in that 'Declaration.'

"I am directed to communicate the approval of the President to the second, third, and fourth propositions, independently of the first, should the amendment be unacceptable. The amendment is commended by so many powerful considerations, and the principle which calls for it has so long had the emphatic sanction of all enlightened nations in military operations on land, that the President is reluctant to believe it will meet with any serious opposition. Without the proposed modification of the first principle he cannot convince himself that it would be wise or safe to change the existing law in regard to the right of privateering.

"If the amendment should not be adopted, it will be proper for the United States to have some understanding in regard to the treatment of their privateers when they shall have occasion to visit the ports of those Powers which are or may become parties to the declaration of the Congress of Paris. The United States will, upon the ground of right and comity, claim for them the same consideration to which they are entitled, and which was extended to them, under the law of nations, before the attempted modification of it by that Congress."

AMERICA.

Mr. Brooks, the bravo who struck down Mr. Sumner in the Senate, and who was turned out of the House of Representatives on account of that piece of ruffianism, has been re-elected by his constituents, the South Carolinians, by the unusually large number of 7900 votes, without, it is stated, one dissentient voice. This must be regarded as an act of open hostility, on the part of South Carolina, to the majority of the House of Representatives. Another event, of a similarly disreputable character, is the re-election to Congress, for California, of Mr. Herbert, the man who shot an Irish waiter, but

who was acquitted of that crime. The Kansas question is decided, so far as the Senate is concerned, by the rejection both of Mr. Whitfield (the pro-slavery candidate) and Mr. Reeder (the Republican free labour candidate). The Army and Navy Appropriation Bills have passed through Congress.

The Governor of California has made a requisition to the Federal Government for assistance against the Vigilance Committee; but the Washington Cabinet has refused, upon technical grounds, to interfere. The District Attorney for New York has been authorized to offer a pardon to Wagner, convicted of illegal enlistment, and to order a discontinuance of further legal proceedings against other parties implicated in that matter.

Another dreadful steamboat accident has occurred, the John Jay having been burnt upon Lake George, with the loss of several lives.

Tranquillity is said to be again restored in Venezuela. An alarming fire broke out at Belize on the 17th of July, which completely destroyed about fifty houses, the Jesuits' church, the Custom-house stores, and a large quantity of logwood, which was lying on the banks of the river. The United States Consul's residence was among the houses burnt. The coast of Valparaiso has been desolated by severe storms and floods.

The British and North American Royal mail steamship Persia, C. H. E. Judkins Commander, arrived in the Mersey on the evening of Friday week with advices from New York to the 6th inst. The Persia has in this instance accomplished the most remarkable feat in maritime history, having traversed the distance between New York and Liverpool—about 3200 miles—in little more than nine days.

A letter from the Irish "patriot," John Mitchell, has been published in the New York papers, urging his countrymen in the United States to vote for Mr. Buchanan, as "the only candidate who stands on the broad, free constitution," and as a man who will resist faction from within, and "the common enemy from without—I mean of course the British Government, my enemy, thy enemy, his enemy, our enemy, your enemy, their enemy, and the enemy of mankind." Mr. Mitchell must certainly have found himself out of breath after he had finished that sentence.

In the New York stock-market, the tendency is still downward. There is no change in cotton. Breadstuffs are firm. Freights to Liverpool are rather firmer.

IRELAND.

GOVERNMENT PATRONAGE.—The appointment of Clerk of the Hanaper in Ireland, vacated by the death of Mr. C. Fitzsimon, has been conferred upon Mr. John O'Connell, M.P., brother-in-law of the last possessor of the office.

REPRESENTATION OF CLONMEL.—Two candidates for the seat about to be vacated by Mr. John O'Connell have issued their electoral addresses. The first is from Mr. John Bogwell, of Marlfield, the virtual proprietor of the borough; the second is from Mr. Patrick Joseph Murray, of Dublin, a Roman Catholic gentleman, who declares himself an enthusiastic advocate of Repeal. The other candidate is a Protestant, but opposed to the endowment of the Church of England in Ireland, an advocate of the grant to Maynooth, and a supporter of liberal measures generally. It is thought that he will receive the countenance of the Roman Catholic priests. There are also three other candidates, including Mr. John Reynolds, formerly member for Dublin.

LAWYERS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—Mr. James O'Connell's attack upon Irish gentlemen of the legal profession holding seats in the House of Commons has elicited a sharp rejoinder from the member for Dundalk, in which there are these passages:—"I perceive that in proposing Lord Castlereagh you made some very uncivil and illiberal remarks on myself. You boasted yourself a 'country gentleman,' and, by way of contrast, sneered at 'a Mr. Bowyer, a lawyer,' among others. Now, you are not perhaps aware that I am the eldest son of one of the oldest baronets in the kingdom, and owner of 6000 acres of land. It so happens also that, though I have the honour to be a member of the bar, I do not practise." From this, it is pretty evident that Mr. Bowyer would rather be considered a gentleman than a lawyer.

SCARCITY OF LABOUR.—Notwithstanding the return of the men forming the various militia regiments to their ordinary avocations, there is a scarcity of labour. In the south of the island, the lowest rate of wages for men is two shillings a day; for women, one shilling.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION.—It is announced that the National Board of Education are about to establish in the city of Cork a maritime school for the teaching of navigation. One of these schools is now being erected in Belfast, and the Harbour Commissioners of Limerick Harbour have offered a site to the board for the erection of a similar institution.

THE TIPPERARY BANK.—A circular has been issued by the Poor Law Commissioners to those unions which had unfortunately their accounts with the Tipperary Joint Stock Bank, informing them of the opinion of the Solicitor-General as to the mode of apportioning the losses incurred by its failure. The learned gentleman states that the assets of the unions consisting of cash, at the date of payment being stopped, should be ascertained as actually belonging to each electoral divi-

sion, and that the sums so found should be charged accordingly.

ACCIDENTAL POISONING BY STRYCHNINE.—An inquest has been held at the workhouse of the Bailieborough Union, Cavan, on view of the body of a little boy, aged about eight years, who came by his death suddenly from the effects of strychnine, administered in a mixture of jalap, prescribed by Dr. Wright, who mistook a bottle containing strychnine for one containing calomel, whilst acting as *locum tenens* for the medical officer of the workhouse. One of the medical men examined before the Coroner gave this fearful description of the child's symptoms:—"The extremities, upper and lower, were straightened out at full length, and were perfectly rigid and extended. Deceased was trembling violently, and was one shaking mass in constant motion. The pupils of his eyes were dilated to their fullest extent. The eyeballs appeared to be protruding out of their sockets." The jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death, adding that they were perfectly satisfied that Dr. Wright had no evil intention. Nevertheless, he was committed for trial, but released on bail.

THE POTATO.—There seems to be no doubt that the potato disease has again shown itself.

AN IRISH JUDGMENT ON MR. DISRAELI.—The *Evening Mail*, the old organ of Irish independent Conservatism, alluding to the rumoured retirement of Mr. Disraeli from the post of Opposition leader, remarks:—"To us it is not more clear that Mr. Disraeli is not and never was Pitt, than that the points he and his colleagues contended for or against, during the last three years, never did and never could be organized into a line of policy. Paltering with the war question, paltering with the Irish land question, paltering with the centralization question, paltering with the Lords' jurisdiction, paltering with national education, paltering with foreign policy—all in a double sense—has been manifestly the idea upon which the Derby-Disraeli Government and Opposition were formed. It is not wonderful that neither one nor the other grew from such a conception to be a fact. If Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli had boldly declared antagonism to the Aberdeen Ministry, and accordance with the popular views respecting the war, they and not Lord Palmerston would have commanded the situation."

THE WEATHER has been extremely cold, wet, and gloomy in Ireland, as well as in England, during the present week.

MURDER.—An old man, named Trokerry, has been murdered on the high road, near Castletown, Berhaven, by some persons who had an old grudge against him. The body was found most fearfully disfigured by the violence of the attack that had been made. All the while the murder was going on, the poor man's son was lying concealed in one of the furrows of an adjoining field, so terrified that he dared not make any effort to save his father. Had he done so, it is probable he would have been killed also, as the murderers appear to have been in force. The son shortly afterwards gave information to the police, and in two hours six persons were in custody.

THE NEAPOLITAN NOTE.

The *Cologne Gazette* publishes the following as a correct synopsis of the note of the King of Naples in reply to the recent notes of England and France:—

King Ferdinand formally declines all interference of the Western Powers in the internal affairs of his kingdom. He rejects it as contrary to all the rules of international law, as an attack upon the independence and dignity of his Crown. Relying upon the principles of eternal justice, which prescribe "that thou shalt not do unto thy neighbour what thou wouldst not have done unto thee," he puts the following questions to the London Cabinet, whose representations were made in much stronger language than those of France:—"What would Lord Palmerston say if the Neapolitan Government was to presume to describe the management of the English Cabinet, and to propose a modification in its internal policy or the adoption of more liberal views towards Ireland, or to recommend more humane conduct towards its Indian subjects? What would he say—what would he reply—to the representatives of that Power which interfered in such wise with the Government of her Majesty? He would reply, as the Court of Naples now replies, that he does not recognize in any one the right or the power to dictate a line of conduct or to address reproaches. Or rather he would not do this—Lord Palmerston would not even give himself the trouble to reply at all; he would most probably send the meddling representative his passports. And has not the King of Naples, as well as Great Britain, the right to look after his own honour and that of his people? He may, as a proof of his good will, listen to communications made with a view to the consolidation of public order in Europe; but then such communications must be made with the moderation and deference which are due to a free and independent Sovereign; and he alone must be allowed to form his judgment upon the propriety of the proposed measures and of the moment for carrying them out. No one except the King himself can form a correct judgment upon what circumstances may require. It is as-

serted that the present state of things requires certain alterations and improvements. It is stated that the armed attacks of the revolution against the Government of the Two Sicilies have ceased. This is *prima facie* evidence that the system opposed to them, and which is the object of such violent attacks, is not so useless or so baneful as some persons wish it to be believed. But, it is added, the necessity for such a system no longer exists. The King is not of this opinion, and his will cannot be opposed unless the exercise of superior force can be asserted as a right. But what will then become of the principle of Royal authority; and what value will be attached to the acts of a Government which have emanated under the pressure of a foreign Power? Under such circumstances, any concession, however justifiable, would lose all effect. His Majesty King Ferdinand, therefore, regards himself as perfectly justified in maintaining his prerogative, and of notifying his intention to decide himself alone upon what ought to be done, and the proper time for doing it. He ardently desires that that time may speedily be at hand; but it cannot be denied that the violent and systematic attacks of the English press and the demands thundered forth in the English Parliament are of a nature to adjourn that time for the present. Is it supposed that such means are calculated to calm the evil passions in a country still a prey to the revolutionary doctrines of 1848? It cannot surely have been already forgotten that the Central Committee of Italy only recently established the principle "that political assassination is not a crime, especially when its object is to get rid of a powerful enemy," and that this same committee put a price upon the head of the King of Naples, and promised a reward of 100,000 ducats "to the man who should rid Italy of this monster." Considering such recent facts, it is not only the right, but it is the duty, of his Majesty the King of the Two Sicilies, to act with the greatest caution, and not to relinquish carelessly a system of government which he thought fit to adopt, as much in the interest of his subjects as for his own safety. It has been asserted, and attempts have been made to establish the assertion, that the Constitution of 1848, under which the above execrable principles were openly promulgated, is the fundamental law of the kingdom of Naples. But it is overlooked that when that Constitution was proposed to the Sicilian Parliament they rejected it with contempt, and asked for the Constitution of 1812. The concessions then made by King Ferdinand II. had no other effect than to increase the demands of the revolutionary faction throughout the whole of Italy, and the risings which took place at Naples and at Palermo were the signal for risings in Sardinia, Rome, and Lombardy. Is it desired to see a renewal of those dreadful crimes and catastrophes of which unhappy Italy was then the theatre? The Constitution of 1848 would be wonderfully adapted to bring forward a repetition of them. But, on mature reflection, that cannot be the idea of the Cabinets of London and Paris, whose object must be the maintenance of the peace of Europe, so dearly bought. Especially it cannot be the view of the French Cabinet. After having taken such energetic measures at home to put down revolution, France surely cannot seek to create it in Italy. This would be in direct opposition to that wise and clever policy which has been so successfully carried out. France and England should also remember that the war in the East was undertaken precisely to prevent a foreign Power from interfering in the affairs of Turkey. Any similar interference in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies would be a curious anomaly, not to give it a more precise qualification. King Ferdinand cannot, and will not, believe in anything of the sort. He places full confidence in the acknowledged principle so gloriously established by the Courts of Paris and London, according to which every independent State, although much weaker than the Power which wishes to force its counsels upon it, has the incontestable right to reject those counsels if they contain a menace or an attack upon its independence. The King is firmly resolved to adhere to what he has said. If, however, an attempt should be made—which is scarcely possible—to go further (*passer outre*), his Majesty, relying on the justice of his cause, would appeal to the patriotism of his people, and, trusting to his brave and faithful army, would repel force by force."

THE FATE OF CICERUACCHIO.

The subjoined letter from Signor Garibaldi to a friend (the main facts contained in which we stated last week) has been transmitted to us for publication. It is impossible adequately to express the horror and indignation which its details excite in the mind of any man of the most ordinary humanity, whatever may be his shade of politics. A bloody reckoning must, sooner or later, be demanded of a Power which exists by the perpetration of such deliberate murders. The communication runs thus:—

"My dear Friend,—I have just learned from Colonel Sacchi (one of the sixty-three patriots who sailed with me from Montevideo to Italy in 1848) the sad fate of Ciceruacchio and his two sons. They followed me in my retreat from Rome in 1849, and on the 3rd of August embarked at Cesenatico with my wife and Ugo Bassi, in one of the thirteen fishing-boats, in which it was our

intention to land at Venice. But, when I reached Ravenna with my dying wife, I insisted on all my followers dispersing, the Austrians having issued a proclamation that whoever should guide or give us fire, food, or shelter, should be put to death.

"Of the fate of many of those brave ones I am still in ignorance. Ugo Bassi, after having had the skin stripped from his fingers and the crown of his head, was shot at Bologna. I flattered myself that Ciceruacchio and his children had gained the Apennines, and had been sheltered by the mountaineers. But Sacchi tells me that, while commanding a steamer on the river Po, he landed at one of the towns on the banks of this river, and that there the peasants gave him the names of seven individuals shot at Contarina by the Austrians, under the orders of an officer belonging to the imperial family. Among them was a Roman, Angelo Brunetti ('Ciceruacchio' was the name given to him by the Romans), his two sons, one aged nineteen, the other thirteen, a youth named Stefano Ramorino, Lorenzo Parodi, captain of the Italian Legion in Montevideo, and two others, whose names I do not know. After the first volley was discharged, Ciceruacchio's youngest son, and the boy Ramorino, struggled so long, that their murderers had great difficulty to despatch them with kicks, and with the butt-end of their guns. Hence the peasants of the district venerate their memories as saints.

"Colonel Sacchi has made every effort to establish, beyond a doubt, these facts, which Austria and the priests have been at so much pains to conceal. Observe also that Ciceruacchio, his young son, and Ramorino, although they accompanied me in the retreat, never carried arms.

"Entreat the English press, my dear friend, from me, to use their influence in bringing Austria and the priests to account for these atrocities. I have written myself to the leading Italian papers, and also to the United States.

"GIUSEPPE GARIBALDI.

"Italy, August 15, 1856."

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

SOCRATES A LUNATIC.—Some sensation has been created this week by an ostentatious article occupying three columns of the first page of the *Constitutionnel*, and bearing the notorious signature of *Granier de Cassagnac, Député au Corps Législatif*, on the subject of Socrates and his *Dæmon*. The Deputy to the Legislative Corps professes to refute a recent work by Doctor Lelut, also a Deputy to the Legislative Corps, in which the Doctor had undertaken to demonstrate professionally that Socrates was a lunatic, or at all events the victim of hallucination. M. Granier de Cassagnac insists that hallucination does not necessarily imply insanity, and cites as instances of hallucination accompanied with perfect sanity—Moses, Abraham, and St. Paul! The effect of this solemn buffoonery upon the public in Paris is curiously significant. It was whispered that the Emperor's brain was affected, that he had become subject to hallucinations, and that the article in the *Constitutionnel* was a quasi-official apology for the Imperial cerebellum. When the Emperor left Paris for Biarritz, the funds fell. So much for personal government.

THREE MARSHALS OF THE SECOND EMPIRE.—In 1841 (writes the Paris correspondent of the *Belgian National*), Marshals Pelissier, Bosquet, and Randon were all serving in Algeria, under the command of General Lamoricière, now an exile at Brussels, and at that time commanding the division of Oran, with the rank of *Maréchal de Camp*. Lieutenant-Colonel Pelissier was the chief of his staff; M. Bosquet, a captain of artillery, was his *officier d'ordonnance*. M. Randon was colonel of a cavalry regiment, the 2nd Chasseurs.

THE DUKE OF MALAKOFF.—It appears that the delay in conferring this title on Marshal Pelissier was caused by a reference to St. Petersburg to obtain the consent of the Emperor of Russia. There is a curious passage in the published works of Louis Napoleon Bonaparte, in which the liberal and somewhat sentimental prisoner of Ham ridicules the creation of "dukes without duchies."

THE SUBLIME OF IMPUDENCE.—*Le Pays, Journal de l'Empire*, commenting upon the appointment of M. Rouland to the Ministry of Public Instruction, volunteers the assurance that the new Minister will carry out the maxim of the Imperial régime, "*Neminem ledere, jus suum cuique tribuere*." "To injure no man, to give to each his rights."

Some surprise has been created by the sudden conversion of M. Beclard, the French agent at Bucharest, from a warm adherent of the late Hospodar Stirbey to an advocate of the union of Wallachia and Moldavia, which Stirbey always opposed. M. Beclard now declares himself a vehement unionist, and states that he has been authorized, and even ordered, by his Government to support the fusion of the two Principalities. The English agent at Bucharest, Mr. Colquhoun, is very reserved on the subject, and has lost caste in consequence. It is believed that England is averse to the union, as being a breach of good faith with Turkey, whom we are bound not to weaken. France, Russia, Prussia, and Sardinia, it is anticipated, will support the amalgamation: Austria will probably join Turkey in opposing it.

A native of China, named Laurent Ouang Tchinglao,

of Ningpo, has gone to Algeria, to explore the country and ascertain if the nature of its soil is favourable to the growth of certain Chinese productions. Should this be the case, a colony, composed of two hundred Hindoos and eight hundred Chinese, will be conveyed to Algeria, where they will settle as planters.

The *Moniteur* contains decrees by which M. Abbattucci, Keeper of the Seals, Minister of Justice, is charged provisionally with the Ministry of State and of the Emperor's household during the absence of M. A. Fould; and Marshal Vaillant, Minister of War, is charged provisionally with the ministry of marine and the colonies during the absence of Admiral Hamelin. The official journal also states that, by decree of August 16, 1856, the Emperor, on the proposition of the Minister Secretary of State for the War Department, has conferred the military medal on Sir William Codrington, and on the Chevalier Alphonso della Marmora.

The anniversary, on Friday week, the 15th inst., of the *fête* of Napoleon I., passed off with less than the usual amount of festivity. There has been so much expense lately in the way of *fêtes*, that it was thought advisable on all sides to let the 15th pass without any great splendours. No public receptions were held by the Emperor. In connexion with the annual celebration, the Minister of State ordered the distribution of 1,300,000 fr., from the funds appropriated for the execution of the will of the Emperor Napoleon I., among the twenty-six departments designated by the testator. The amount for each is 50,000 fr. The Minister has also placed at the disposal of the Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour a part of the funds of the will intended for old soldiers, and which is to be distributed among four or five thousand of the oldest and most necessitous. The harvest still promises to be excellent.

The *Moniteur* announces the departure from Paris of the Emperor, Empress, and Prince Imperial for Biarritz. It likewise announces the departure of Prince Jerome for Havre. General Pariset, with the remainder of the French troops, has left the Turkish territory. The Russian Embassy at Paris has received official notification that quarantine has been re-established on the coasts of the Black Sea and of the Sea of Azoff.

Count de Morny has arrived at St. Petersburg, where he has been admitted to an audience with the Emperor, with whom he has also dined.

PRUSSIA.

"Considerable sensation," says a letter from Berlin, of the 11th inst., published in the *Presse* of Brussels, "has been caused here during the last few days by the flight of three officers of the Royal Guard, on account of being heavily in debt. The officers in question are Prince William of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Major of Cuirassiers; Lieutenant De Hagen, of the Fusiliers of the Guard, son of the General commanding at Stettin; and Lieutenant Stosch, of the same regiment, son of a Lieutenant-General on the retired list. His Majesty was so annoyed at these shameful desertions that he is said to have warmly reproached the Minister of War, as well as General von Wrangel, with not having kept the officers under stricter discipline. General von Wrangel, on this, wrote to Prince William, who had stopped at Taurroggen, on the Russian frontier, telling him that if he did not send in his resignation in twenty-four hours he should be cashiered. The Prince chose the former alternative. The *Police Gazette* of Berlin had given some mysterious hints of the above affair, and the President of Police thought at first of stopping the journal, as the Prince is the nephew of the King; but, before doing so, it appears he thought it best to take the opinion of his Majesty on the subject. The King ordered him not to interfere with the journal, as the affair could not remain a secret, and as in his eyes all his subjects were alike. The Prince's mother, the Dowager Grand Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, sister of the King, refused positively to pay her son's debts; but the King has taken the payment on himself, saying that he could not allow his subjects to suffer from the thoughtless conduct of his nephew. He has given orders for the payment of the money borrowed, with legal interest, but states that nothing like usurious demands shall be satisfied. The amount of the Prince's debts known up to this time is 140,000 thalers. What has caused much pain to his Majesty is, that the Prince had contracted many of them on his word of honour, which he has broken by taking to flight. The debts of the two lieutenants amount together to 40,000 thalers. Prince William spent a good deal in bacchanalian enjoyments, a propensity which has acquired for him the nickname of 'Prince Sohnaps,' on account of his red nose. M. de Hagen is said to be in England, and M. de Stosch at Altona."

His Royal Highness Prince Adalbert, Lord High Admiral of the Prussian navy, has been severely handled by the *Riff pirates*. The Prince was at Gibraltar, when, feeling desirous to visit the spot where the crew of a Prussian vessel was massacred by the pirates, he proceeded thither in his barge, when his landing was opposed, and he was fired on. Returning to his frigate, he manned and armed the boats, and again landed. He was received by a very large body of pirates, who were driven up a hill, but the fortune of the day ultimately declared itself in their favour. The Prince was speedily struck down with a ball in his thigh, his aide-de-camp

(flag-lieutenant) was mortally wounded; the mate of the party was shot in the arm; seven men were killed and seventeen wounded: these were left on the field, the others being unable to get them away. In fact, the whole of the Prince's party were nearly cut off. The survivors were ultimately got on board the frigate, and subsequently sent to Gibraltar hospital. The Prince's wound is doing well. The English ship *Vesuvius* was immediately despatched to the Morocco authorities, to demand an explanation and satisfaction.

General Von Wrangel celebrated on the 15th inst. the sixtieth anniversary of his entrance into the army. He is seventy-two years of age, but very upright, agile, and hardy. His house was on Friday week thronged with visitors, among whom was the King, who handed him his patent as General Field Marshal.

The *Dresden Journal* states that Baron Seebach, the Saxon Minister in Paris, has just arrived in the Saxon capital, and is about to proceed to Moscow. This nomination of a representative for the Crown of Saxony at the eleventh hour excites a little surprise in certain circles, while in others the choice of representative that has been made is taken to confirm the belief that has been entertained there for some time, that the Emperor Louis Napoleon is still endeavouring, through the intermediation of the representative of Saxony, to bring about a meeting with the Emperor of Russia.—*Times Berlin Correspondent*

During the stay of the Dowager Empress of Russia at Berlin, she was made *chef* of the regiment of cuirassiers, at the head of which, to the time of his death, was her late husband, Nicholas. She was presented to the regiment on Friday week, on which occasion she wore the colours.

GERMANY.

The Princess Anna of Saxony, fourth daughter of the King of Saxony, was betrothed at Pillnitz, on Friday week, to the hereditary Grand Duke of Tuscany.

BELGIUM.

The visit of King Leopold to Antwerp has been made the occasion of the most magnificent *fêtes* and rejoicings in that city, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the present monarchy.

A train has been thrown off the line on the Antwerp and Ghent Railway by a cow which had lain down on the track. Two or three persons were killed, and about twenty seriously injured.

ITALY.

Monsignor Amici, the new Papal Commissioner Extraordinary at Bologna, has excited great dissatisfaction among the people by imposing certain vexatious regulations on the sale of corn. He has met with very serious opposition, the Municipal Council of Ravenna, as well as several others, having refused to fulfil the part allotted to them in connexion with the execution of the decrees.

The subscription for the guns for Alessandria proceeds rapidly in Piedmont. A tradesman of Turin, named Joseph Moris, has subscribed 1000 francs, with the request that his name might be inscribed on one of the guns.

The fear and the hope of an outbreak in Naples increase every day; "the fear," that is to say, on the part of the authorities, and "the hope" on the part of the people. The strongest precautionary measures are taken by the Government. "To the Swiss," says the *Times Neapolitan correspondent*, "have been given two sealed letters and one open, containing the following directions:—That, on the slightest agitation or demonstration, from whatever party it may proceed, they are to march upon the people with their cannon, without waiting for further directions; that from that moment the police are to cease to act, and yield all their power to the military. The Neapolitan colonels of regiments have also received sealed orders; but it is too evident that the preference is given to the Swiss, and that upon them is cast the principal onus of maintaining public order. The Swiss are in command of all the forts, of one even in which there are Neapolitan troops, who may be said; therefore, to be guarded by the Swiss. They do sentinel duty in the town, and, with their superior pay and ration, the calculation is that it takes at least one-half more to maintain a Swiss than it does to maintain a Neapolitan regiment. There exists, therefore, a variety of motives, high or low, for strong jealousy and hostility between the native and the mercenary troops, and this feeling leads sometimes to an open rupture. A case took place recently at the Arco di Purgatorio. Some Swiss insulted the *Pompieri*, who, not having arms, wrested their swords from the Swiss and gave them a beating. More Swiss came to the support of their countrymen, when the people joined in and assisted the Neapolitans. The *fracas* ended with the flight of the Swiss and the death of one of them, it was said, from a blow on the head. It is the opinion of many that in a general row the Swiss would be fired upon by the Neapolitans."

The Sardinian Government has just published its report on the "commercial movement of 1854," which comprises a series of tables compiled by the general direction of Customs on the model of the English Board of Trade returns. This system of tables was only introduced here by Count Cavour, when Minister of Finance, in 1851; and as yet the returns have not been published in a complete form of later date than 1854.

The year 1854 was a very unfortunate one for Piedmont, inasmuch as there was a scarcity of grain; the wine crop was almost wholly destroyed; and the population was severely afflicted by the cholera. This combination of local ills, together with the commencement of the Eastern war during that year, seems sufficient to account for the "general commerce" having declined in value from 554,572,816f. in 1853 to 527,313,522f. in 1854. But, on the other hand, the "special commerce" is shown to have increased from 288,034,772f. in 1853 to 309,622,800f. in 1854, and the difference between these terms is, that "general commerce" embraces the whole trade, whether of foreign or home production, in the exports, and whether destined for re-exportation or disposal in the country in the imports; while the "special commerce" only represents the produce of the Sardinian States in the exports, and the goods entered for sale or consumption in the kingdom in the imports. In 1854 the general imports amounted to 322,429,890f., and the special imports to 199,912,351f. The general exports were 214,888,682f., and the special exports 109,710,449f.—*Times Turin Correspondent*

The statutes of the Roman Railway Company have been approved of by the Pope. This network, which will connect the Mediterranean with the Adriatic, will give railway accommodation to Civita Vecchia, Rome, Ancona, and Bologna.

Prince Poniatowski (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*) is going to Florence to conduct an affair that baffled Count Baciocchi. It is, they say, about some papers which the ex-King Jerome requires for quashing the hereditary rights of his son Patterson, who, if the male offspring of the present Emperor were to fail, would then become the heir apparent to the throne. Another rumour is the projected divorce of the Princess Mathilde from Count Demidoff, so that she may confer her hand on Marshal Pelissier. Her Imperial Highness was born and married at Florence, and Prince Poniatowski is a Florentine also.

Doctor Farini, the historian, has just published a pamphlet on the state of Italy, under the title of *A Letter to the Right Hon. W. Gladstone, &c.* The author attributes all the evils of Italian misrule to Austria.

RUSSIA.

The Russians are said to be making great progress in the direction of Khiva, and that the Lake of Aral, with its coast, is now in possession of the Czar. Many of the streams which debouch into the lake are navigable, and orders have been given for constructing several iron war vessels for navigating the Sir and the Amou.

The most sumptuous preparations for the coronation are being made. The Americans (says a correspondent of the *Daily News*) have undertaken to illuminate the "Nevskoi Prospekt," the Regent-street of the North; the English take the Admiralty-square; and the other foreign factories take also their positions. The Russian commercial community have volunteered to illuminate the Moscow Railway, four hundred miles from end to end, for the Emperor's journey to and fro; and the quantity of fireworks in preparation is stated to be almost incredible. From Moscow the note of preparation returns with a portentous echo. The walls of the Kremlin are being studded with lamps, and millions of roubles are spoken of as the sums allotted by the high nobility for their *fêtes* and decorations. The public entry still stands for the 22nd inst., and the coronation for the 7th September, between which dates it is understood the Emperor and family will spend some days *en retraite*, according to the usage of the Greek Church. After the coronation will be the grand review, the people's banquet, the fireworks, and the *fêtes*; and about a fortnight, it is expected, will restore Moscow to its normal state of tranquillity. Although it may be expected that the greater part of St. Petersburg will crowd to Moscow to behold the ceremony, various ceremonies of a religious, military, and holiday-keeping character will be gone through in the capital on the day of the solemnity. On the 11th of September, St. Alexander's Day, the Emperor will return to St. Petersburg, to be present at what is called "his own *fête*," at the conclusion of which he will again repair to Moscow.

In St. Petersburg, there is a story in circulation of a reply that Sir Charles Napier gave the Grand Duke Constantine. The latter, after letting Sir Charles see all the arrangements and the entire strength of Cronstadt, asked him, in a chuckling sort of manner—"Well, admiral, and why didn't you come in?" To which Sir Charles replied by asking, "Pray, why didn't your Imperial Highness come out?"—*Times Berlin Correspondent*.

A Paris correspondent of the *Augsburg Gazette* says that Russia is about to publish a circular on the subject of the Isle of Serpents.

Some details with reference to the financial condition of Russia are furnished by a St. Petersburg correspondent of *La Nord*, who writes:—"At a sitting recently held by the board of the Credit Institutions, the Minister of Finance, on presenting a report of the operations of these institutions in 1855, made a speech full of interesting details about the financial movement of last year. The loan of two hundred millions of francs made in 1855 is entirely realized and in the hands of the Government, whilst a special fund, formed from an annual payment of two per cent. on the nominal value of the loan will be

arranged in 1858 for the redemption of this debt. Of the eight series of bonds, dating from 1848, which by the terms of the regulation were to be withdrawn from circulation in 1855, five have been replaced by new bonds, and four fresh series, each for twelve millions of francs, have been issued to meet the necessities of the National Treasury. The national debt represented, on the 1st of January, 1856, the sum of 2,133,095,128f.

Russia has engaged a considerable number of German workmen for rebuilding Sebastopol.

Lord Granville, who arrived at St. Petersburg on the 8th inst., had his first audience of the Emperor on the 11th. It is said that his documents contain nothing beyond the usual formal expressions, while the credentials of Count Morny are full of honeyed phrases.

The statement is confirmed in recent letters from St. Petersburg, that expeditions have been sent out this summer to the Tschetschnia.

SPAIN.

The band of the brothers Hieros has been beaten and dispersed in the province of Burgos.

The *Gazette* publishes a circular, addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the provincial governors, in which he gives them instructions relative to the reorganization of the suppressed municipalities and provincial deputations. He says:—"The Government learnt with much displeasure that the provisions of the Royal circular of the 26th of July last, respecting the dissolution and reorganization of the municipalities and provincial deputations, had not been understood nor faithfully interpreted, and that measures were adopted in certain provinces contrary to the spirit of conciliation and toleration recommended in that document. In some localities, the popular corporations which had ceased to exist after the events of July, 1854, have been re-established, as if the Government intended to continue the policy of that period, and the recollection of certain dates and deplorable occurrences of which they are the symbol were not in flagrant contradiction with the object it is anxious to realize. In other places the alcaldes alone have been dismissed, thus imparting a restricted and even odious character of personality to a measure which, in the opinion of the Government, should only have been inspired by impartial considerations of public order. Finally, there are towns where, in open violation of the letter and spirit of the circular, men professing certain political opinions were chosen in preference to replace the dissolved corporation. Considering these facts, and in order to correct the errors that may have been committed, the Queen has directed, and the Government recommends you faithfully to execute, the following measures:—"1. The re-establishment of the municipalities and provincial deputations dissolved after the events of July, 1854, is and remains null and void, wherever it has taken place. The civil and military authorities shall, without delay, concert measures to appoint in their place persons mentioned in the 3rd paragraph of the Royal circular of the 26th July last. 2. The municipalities of which the alcalde alone has been dismissed, the said alcalde shall immediately resume the exercise of his functions, without prejudice to the powers vested in the civil and military authorities by the 1st and 2nd clauses of the Royal circular. 3. The provincial governor and the military authorities shall proceed together to reorganize (conformably to the terms of the circular of the 26th July) the municipalities and deputations which were named by those authorities to replace the dissolved assemblies, but which do not constitute a corporation in harmony with the 3rd clause of the Royal circular."

The Marquis de Turgot is to return to Madrid in one month.

PORTUGAL.

Some bread riots have taken place at Lisbon. Under an impression that the high price of bread was caused by supplies being hoarded by the bakers, a large number of working men rose, pillaged several of the bakers' shops, killed an inspector of the market in the Square of Commerce, and committed various excesses. The military (whom the people endeavoured to seduce to their side) were called out against the rioters; but they acted feebly, and, on the 9th, 10th, and 11th inst., the days following the evening on which the disturbances first broke out, the mob continued to assemble. On the last of those days the King arrived from Cintra, and, having dismissed the commander of the Municipal Guard for want of energy, occupied the streets with military, and compelled the populace to disperse. The King returned to Cintra in the evening.

The *oidium*, or vine malady, has reappeared this year in Portugal.

GREECE.

A tremendous fire has completely destroyed the Custom House at the Piræus, with all the property it contained.

TURKEY.

Kibrisk Pacha has suspended his departure for Odessa, the Ottoman Porte having received as yet no official notification of the accession to the throne of the Czar Alexander II. The Constantinople journals mention a rise of five piastres in the price of wheat coming from the Danube and the Sea of Azoff. The crops, nevertheless, are said to be abundant throughout the East. A

deputation of sixty Circassians is expected at Constantinople. It is reported that the Allies will evacuate Greece in September.

On the 25th of July, the Governor of Erzeroum was officially invited by the Russians to take possession of Kars. The Russians make a demand upon the French for 400,000 francs for damages done to the Russian Embassy at Constantinople, it having been converted into a French hospital during the war. Instead of announcing the approaching arrival of M. de Boutenief to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Prince Gortschakoff has chosen to make the notification to the Grand Vizier. This has produced a considerable sensation.

Two districts of Albania are in insurrection.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

A new political party (says a German paper) has started up in Wallachia, and has distributed several thousands of its programme. It lays down as its first principle the union of the two principalities under the suzerainty of the Porte, but declares that such suzerainty is to be exercised conformably to the ancient privileges of the country; its second principle is to have a prince of a foreign dynasty; its third demands a national assembly without any property qualification; the fourth calls for ministerial responsibility; and the fifth for liberty of the press.

At the installation of Prince Alexander Ghika as Kaimakan, or Lieutenant-Governor, of Wallachia, Kamil Bey, the agent of the Sultan, delivered a speech, in which were several expressions that look rather ominous with respect to the designs of Turkey in connexion with the future position of the two Principalities. In the firman, Wallachia is spoken of as an *integral part of the Sultan's empire*, and as "*our Imperial province*," and mention is made of the *privileges granted by the Porte to the Wallachians*—these so called "*privileges*" being regarded by the natives of the Principality as rights, dating from the commencement of the Turkish protectorate. Amongst other unsatisfactory passages were these:—"Until the moment of the revision of the statutes actually existing, those statutes must necessarily be conformed to in principle. Every act concerning the administration and *future state of the country* which shall not be conformable to the existing regulations must be considered in principle as *non avenu*. . . . Wallachia is to maintain a calm and dignified attitude, and to have full and entire confidence in the sentiments of exalted benevolence of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan, to hasten the internal administrative ameliorations which will be discussed, approved, and put into execution by the Sublime Porte." Prince Ghika's reply included the following sentence:—"I beg your Excellency to believe that I will do my utmost in order that the inhabitants of Wallachia, happy in the consolidation of their rights and of their welfare, may unceasingly bless the august name of his Imperial Majesty." The words in italics, upon which the Kaimakan laid particular emphasis, were received with enthusiastic applause. It was remarked that the consuls of Prussia and Austria were not present on the reading of the firman.

There is much talk of the return of the Wallachian political emigrants—an event which Prince Ghika is said earnestly to desire. They are but few in number.

MONTENEGRO.

Recent letters from the frontiers of Montenegro confirm the late horrible catastrophe at Kuci, and give further particulars of the murderous attack, which came quite unexpectedly. Forty Catholic families had managed, with their priest, to escape the general massacre and retreated to the mountains, where they lived for three days on roots and berries. On their return, they found their houses not only plundered but burned, and this was also the fate of the Catholic church. More than two hundred Turks of all ages, many of whom were women and children, were butchered in cold blood. In this catalogue of horrors the unhappy fate of one Catholic family in particular has created the greatest commiseration and sympathy. The husband was engaged in packing up his valuables when he was attacked by six of the Montenegrins, who literally cut him to pieces. At the sight of this wanton act of brutality, the wife was so appalled that she instantly went out of her senses, and whilst in that state set fire to the cradle in which her baby was asleep, then killed her other child—a little girl of five years—by splitting her head open with a hatchet, and finally set fire herself to the house, and perished in the flames.—*Daily News*.

The Montenegrins threatening to invade several districts of Turkey, Kurschid Pacha has applied to Constantinople for reinforcements. A portion of the Guard is preparing to embark.

SWEDEN.

A scientific expedition, under Admiral Glasenape, of the Russian navy, accompanied by six engineers and officers, is at present exploring the northern coasts of Norway; and information has been received by the Swedish Government that the Russian General of Engineers, De Berg, who was Governor-General of Finland during the late war, has several times this summer visited the coast of the Gulf of Bothnia, opposite the northern coast of Finland. It is supposed that it is intended to convert the small island of Kasko into a second Sweaborg, and thus to menace Sweden.

JAMES SADLEIR AND THE NEWCASTLE BANK.

A SPECIAL report, prepared by Mr. William Walker managing director of the Newcastle-on-Tyne Commercial Bank, has been published. It has reference to the connexion of the bank with James Sadleir—a subject recently brought before the attention of the Newcastle directors. Mr. Walker states that, owing to an attack of paralysis at the end of 1853, he and his coadjutor considered it prudent to wind up the bank. A negotiation was afterwards opened with Alderman Kennedy of London, with a view to dissolving the concern to the Royal British Bank; but these negotiations failed. However, owing to the instrumentality of Alderman Kennedy, the bank was sold, in the course of last October, to Messrs. Kennedy, Law, and James Sadleir. Five London directors, nominated by the purchasers, were then elected at their own time and in their own mode; and Messrs. Sadleir and Law were two of these. A request was subsequently made, much to Mr. Walker's surprise, that the cash and bills should be sent to No. 6, King William-street, City (where it was proposed that the new directors should meet, and manage the affairs of the bank), because, as it was alleged, it would be necessary to examine the bills before they could be placed in the hands of the agents—the London and County Bank—for collection. This was acceded to. Mr. Davidson, the manager at Newcastle, was discharged, and Mr. O'Shea was appointed by the London board manager instead, at a salary of 500*l.* a year. In the course of last February, Mr. Walker was requested to leave the bank altogether; but the London board had not paid any portion of the purchase-money of 50,000*l.*, and Mr. Walker successfully resisted the demand for his withdrawal.

"On the 10th of March last," continues the report, "Mr. Walker was informed by Mr. Alderman Kennedy that Messrs. James Sadleir, Law, and Keatinge, three of the London board, had allowed the funds of the bank to be used in discounting orders of the Tipperary Joint-Stock Bank, endorsed by Messrs. Wilkinson, Gurney, and Stevens, or by Mr. Gurney only. This, Mr. Kennedy stated, had been done without his knowledge, or that of his co-director and relative, Mr. Valliant. This was the first intimation of the fraud received by Mr. Walker; and the shareholders may readily conceive Mr. Walker's chagrin, when he found that his friend at the board in London, Mr. Alderman Kennedy, on whose judgment and integrity he chiefly relied, had allowed himself to be imposed upon by other persons at the same board. On the 17th of March Mr. Walker discovered that the sum represented by these Tipperary orders amounted to 51,000*l.* Mr. Walker has taken steps to prove the debt due by the Tipperary Bank, but Mr. James Sadleir has created considerable impediments in the way of the proof. Mr. Walker has commenced legal proceedings against Messrs. Wilkinson and Stevens for 16,000*l.* It was expected that the case would have been tried at the last Newcastle Assizes; but on the application of Messrs. Wilkinson and Stevens, the case has been removed to London, where it is hoped that it will be disposed of in November next. An application to the Court of Chancery by Messrs. Wilkinson and Stevens to restrain the action has not been successful."

STATE OF TRADE.

The reports from the manufacturing towns for the week ending last Saturday continue to indicate a steady trade at firm prices, with a general absence of excitement or speculation. At Manchester, the market remains inactive, but stocks are low and quotations well supported. The Birmingham advices mention only a slight tendency to recovery in manufactured iron, but the general trades of the place show an improved home and foreign demand. At Nottingham there is increased confidence, owing to the harvest at home and good accounts from Australia and America. In the woollen districts there has been no alteration, and in the Irish linen-markets there has been a full business at former rates.—*Times*.

The strike of the stonemasons at Newcastle-on-Tyne for a weekly half-holiday, still continues. Some few of the small masters have acceded to the claims of the workmen, but the large majority of the principal employers refuse to comply with the demand of the men, as they consider it unjust that they should enjoy a weekly half-holiday at the expense of their employers, without presenting any equivalent.

All persons connected with commerce will be glad to learn that the question of the Sound dues is again approaching the probability of a solution. It appears that Herr Bluhme, the president of the commission, has had an interview with Mr. Buchanan, the English minister at Copenhagen, on the subject, and obtained a satisfactory answer to the proposals of Denmark for capitalizing the dues. The British diplomatist, also, on his recent return from London to his post, in passing through Berlin, had a conference with Baron Manteuffel on the subject, which was also satisfactory to the views of Prussia and Denmark.

The directors of the Ottoman Bank have announced that business has been commenced at Constantinople and Galatz.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

THE DOUBLE MURDER NEAR DOVER.

DEDEA REDANIES, or Bedanias, as formerly stated, was examined last Saturday at the Sessions House, Canterbury, before the sitting magistrates. He was supported into court in a chair, propped up with pillows, and attended by medical men: his appearance was extremely ghastly. The evidence was the same as that given before the coroner, and he was committed for trial, weeping bitterly.

A packet of letters, addressed by Redanias to Caroline Back (one of the deceased girls), has been handed to the authorities. They all express the strongest attachment towards the poor girl, and also to the family. The correspondence commences in January, and ends in July. The following are copies of three of them: the first is without date, and runs thus:—

"My dear Caroline,—I receive your portress (portrait) and letter. I am glad happy unto death. I am glad that you me not forgotten, and I beg you rit me every week one letters. I have since that time than I from you to depart must, no happy hour to live to see can, and I thanks you for yours truth love. I hope next month to see you. I do wish God speed you well. Me compliments on all familie 6000 tousand kisses. Good bie mi dear Caroline, you truth,

"Mi not forgotten." "DEDEA REDANIES.

"28 June.

"Dear Caroline,—I compliments you, and petition you to rite me wherefore you of me letter not answer reply, write to me warm. I you to offend and I do no wherefore you to me grief are. I hope that I you in a while ago to see, to be home dear Caroline me portress I send—yours me send when readi it is dear Caroline. I am you not to forget you bist me eternal joy. I kiss to you and to continue you truly Dedea. I mek me compliments on all familie. Good bie dear Caroline,

"DEDEA REDANIES.

"Four tousand kisses for you, my dear Caroline, all sesteas and broders and vatter and mutter, and me little broeter Alexander."

The last letter written to the deceased by the prisoner is as under:—

"Aldershot Camp, July 13, 1856.

"Dearest Caroline,—I compliments you with many kisses, and rite you the I to come to Shorncliffe next week, and will come to Dover on an Sunday to see you. Dear Caroline, rite me no answers to my last letters. I cannot go for walke, I must stay in the room and bin syth a little. Me compliments on every familie, and stay your eternal true-hearted

"DEDEA REDANIES.

"I kisses you many tousand. God speed you well."

MURDER AND MANSLAUGHTER.

A trial for murder at the Liverpool Assizes on Monday terminated in a most awful and heart-rending scene in court. The charge was preferred against James Bracken, labourer, aged twenty-four, and Andrew Bracken, also a labourer, aged twenty-one, brother of the first-named. William Bates, the man whom they were charged with murdering, was going home in Manchester on the night of the 28th of June, in company with a man named Taylor. Both had been drinking all day, and were not sober. Passing by a beer-house, they saw the two prisoners (who were drunk) fighting a man, and one of the Brackens made a blow at Taylor, who went away to fetch a policeman. While gone, James Bracken, apparently without any provocation, fell on Bates, and knocked him down. Andrew Bracken then kicked him several times on the back and head, swearing that he would let his brains out. A woman who was passing raised the poor man, but he was again knocked down. On the woman saying he would be killed, Andrew replied to the effect that he was determined to put an end to him. The people then called out, "Murder, murder! The man is killed—the man is killed!" Bates was taken insensible to the police station, and there died.

These facts having been made clear by the evidence, the jury, after an hour's deliberation, gave a verdict of Manslaughter against James Bracken, and of Wilful Murder against Andrew Bracken, accompanying the latter with a strong recommendation to mercy.

The scene that now ensued (say the reporters) can scarcely be described. A kind of groan, as of pity, was raised in the densely crowded court, while three women in the gallery, at the back of the court, shrieked in a dreadful manner, and one of them was seized with a fainting fit. They were all taken outside the court, and it was stated that they were the mother of the prisoners and their two sisters. The prisoner James fell back into the dock and fainted, but in two minutes revived, when, kneeling at the bar, he raised his hands, and cried, "Oh, my Lord, have mercy on my brother!" The prisoner Andrew literally tore his hair, and, first kneeling and then standing, exclaimed, "Oh, my Lord, I beg mercy!" His Lordship sobbed audibly, and appeared to be quite overpowered by the scene. Proceeding at length to pass sentence, he condemned James to transportation for life, and Andrew to death, adding that he could not hold out the least hope that the recommendation to mercy by the

jury would be attended with any effect. At the conclusion of the address, the prisoner Andrew again fell down in the dock and begged for mercy; but, being raised by the turnkey, he was escorted from the dock, ejaculating, "Oh, mother, mother, that I should be hung!" For a few minutes, the court seemed paralyzed by the shocking scene which it had witnessed; and his Lordship, having raised his head from his hands, slowly rose and left the court in the midst of a solemn silence. Several women were carried out fainting. It was rumoured about that the prisoner James Bracken, if acquitted, was engaged to be married next morning.

AN ESCAPED CONVICT.—Alfred Richard Bennett, a young man, is now under remand at Guildhall, charged with being a convict unlawfully at large. He had been to the Fleet-street station-house, and given himself up. Sir Peter Laurie asked him how he managed to escape; and the man replied, "I put on a workman's coat and a pair of trousers made of a towel." He added that he had made these trousers himself, having learnt the art of tailoring during eighteen months of his sentence. It was stated to the Alderman these escapes are of frequent occurrence now that the former practice of chaining the men together has been done away with.

JOHN COLE, a gardener, has been committed for trial, after several remands, on a charge of shooting at Emily Luker, a servant. The young woman was at length enabled to appear. She is completely blinded in one eye, and her face is greatly injured. The particulars of the case have already appeared in the *Leader*.

OPEN-AIR PREACHING AND OPEN-AIR THIEVING.—John Nicholls was condemned at Lambeth to four months' hard labour for picking a pocket at the Obelisk near the Surrey Theatre on Monday evening, during the delivery of an open-air sermon. It was stated that three or four persons often preach at once at the Obelisk, and that it is not at all unusual for the partisans of one preacher to cheer him on when in controversy with an opponent, with the expressions, "Go it, old fellow, give it him!" "Serve him out!" "Stick to him!" &c., and altogether the proceedings are of the most unseemly character. Mr. Norton, the magistrate, nevertheless, repeated an opinion he had expressed on a previous occasion, that open-air preaching in proper places is productive of much good; but he added that such scenes must of course be injurious, and should be suppressed by the police.

A RECKLESS PROFLIGATE.—A bearded young man, who gave his name Anthony Vanbevon, and who said he was an artist at the Royal Academy, was charged at Clerkenwell with assaulting Mrs. Amelia Stevens, a married lady. She was going home about twelve o'clock at night, when the man Vanbevon accosted her in the Hampstead Road, saying, "Where are you going, my dear? What brings you out at this time of night?" She walked on, but he followed, and again spoke to her. She told him to go away, and, continuing her walk, was surprised to find that he had tracked her to the place where she lived, which was about a mile and a half from the spot where he first addressed her. Again he spoke, but she ran from him. When close to her home, he seized her by the waist, and wanted her to kiss him; on which she screamed out, and a policeman came up, and took the scoundrel into custody. In answer to the charge, the man said that he accosted the lady civilly, obtained permission of her to see her home, and asked if she would sit as a model to him, and have her portrait taken, to which she assented. This was solemnly denied by Mrs. Stevens; and the magistrate fined Vanbevon 5*l.*, or, in default, two months' imprisonment and hard labour. The prisoner, in a whining tone, and placing his hands together, called upon the magistrate to be merciful. He was very ill, and if he was sent to prison he should most certainly go mad. This appeal, however, was disregarded, and he was removed.

A WOULD-BE SUICIDE.—Catherine Thompson, a woman who has been frequently remanded at Guildhall for attempting to commit suicide, and who has obstinately refused to bring forward any of her friends to take charge of her, was again placed at the bar last Saturday, when Alderman Challis said, "Do you still refuse to give any account of who your friends are?" The woman said she did. The Alderman rejoined that he was very sorry for it, but that, having done the best he could to find out those who would take care of her, and having failed, she must be discharged. She accordingly left the court in great triumph.

SEIZURE OF UNWHOLESOME WHEAT.—Messrs. Thomas England and Co., corn-merchants at Leeds, have been summoned at the Court-house on a charge of exposing for sale a large quantity of Egyptian wheat in a state unfit for food. It was shown that the wheat was in a filthy, decomposed, and offensive state; but the firm contended that it was only warehoused, and not "exposed for sale;" and on this ground the summons was dismissed. The magistrates, however, thought that the inspector acted very rightly in seizing the wheat, and that the owners ought to state at once, under such circumstances, that it is not intended for food.

RAILWAY STATION ROBBERIES.—Pocket-picking at railway stations has become recently quite a separate branch of the great art of thieving, and Waterloo station has been one of the most notorious haunts of the ingenious practitioners. Ladies are generally the victims,

and women are for the most part the offenders. Two pleaded Guilty at the Lambeth police court on Saturday to a charge of this nature, and were sentenced to six months' hard labour each.—A lad, ten years of age, is under remand at Southwark on a similar charge, the scene on this occasion being the London Bridge station of the South-Eastern line.

A WHOLESALE SWINDLER.—William Kaberry, a genteel-looking young man, has been apprehended in the neighbourhood of Leeds, on a charge of having swindled several hotel-keepers and tradesmen of that town to a considerable extent. One evening he went to an inn in Briggate, where he had tea, and afterwards indulged himself with a large quantity of cigars and brandy. As the house was full, he was obliged to sleep at another hotel, but he returned to the first on the following day, and then told the landlord that he was the son of an extensive linen manufacturer at Pateley-bridge, and that his father had sent him to Leeds to collect some accounts. At the same time he produced several invoices on some of the highest commercial firms in Leeds, whom Kaberry said owed his father altogether 220*l.* This giving every appearance of truth to his statement about his occupation, the landlord permitted him to board at his house for two days. One morning he went out for the ostensible purpose of collecting accounts, when, instead of going back to his old quarters, he went to the Stamford Arms Inn at Leeds, and, after introducing himself to the landlord, he told him that he was going to begin business in the drapery trade, and desired to look at a shop which Mr. Baliffe (the landlord) had to let, and which Kaberry thought would suit him. He then took up his residence at the Stamford Arms for a couple of days, on one of which he received the key of the shop, and went out, as he stated, to look at it. He did not return however, and, being seen in Briggate the same afternoon by his former landlord, he was given into custody. It afterwards appeared that Kaberry had also swindled a great many shopkeepers of Leeds, from one of whom he had received, under false pretences, a quantity of collars, shirt-fronts, &c. Kaberry's statement as to his father's business was found to be quite false, his father being merely the owner of a small farm in the neighbourhood of Pateley-bridge.

BIGAMY.—A case of bigamy has been heard before Alderman Cubitt at Guildhall, where a respectable-looking woman, named Ann Burr, was charged with the offence. Her first husband stated that he married the prisoner about twenty-four years ago, but that they were separated six years afterwards, since which time he (Burr) had travelled a good deal abroad, and had only seen his wife twice, the second time being about two months ago. She might have supposed him to be dead, as he had a brother drowned some years since. John Gleeson, the second husband, said that he was married to Mrs. Burr about six years ago, and they lived together on perfectly amicable terms until the woman heard that her first husband, George Burr, was living, in consequence of which news (as Gleeson believed) she absconded from him. As he had always felt a great regard for her, he did not wish to press the charge; but he desired to be relieved of all future liabilities on her account. Alderman Cubitt having told him that it was impossible that this could be done unless the charge was proceeded with, so as to convict the woman of bigamy, Gleeson finally decided on adopting that course. The accused was then remanded.

A TREACHEROUS FRIEND.—A young man, twenty years of age, named John Green, was tried at the Liverpool Assizes for a criminal assault on Ann Higginson, a girl of sixteen. The girl's father had married again, and he and the new wife treated her with the utmost cruelty, turning her out of the house, and telling her to get her living how she could. For some time, she resided with her aunt, and got some work in a factory; but the aunt being unable to continue this aid, the girl returned to her father's house, only to be driven out into the streets. For two nights, she slept in the lobby of a house-door. On the night of the 14th of July, she spoke to a policeman, who said he would send the policeman on the beat to her. While away on this errand, Green came up, and, seeing the girl crying, and being informed by her, on making inquiries, what was the cause of her distress, he offered to take her home to his "missus," who would give her a supper and a bed. She gladly accompanied him to a house in a court, and, after partaking of some refreshment, was shown to a bedroom which the young man said was next to that occupied by him and his wife. Left to herself, she undressed and went to bed; but Green speedily reappeared, and twice committed the offence with which he was charged. At length a knock was heard at the outer door, and Green got out of bed and went to the window to see who was there, when a policeman said to him, "Let the girl out; what are you doing with her?" Green denied that any girl was in the house, but Higginson cried out that there was. As the prisoner refused to open the door, the policeman went to get assistance, and on his return he found the girl crying outside the door, where she had been put by Green. The defence, as usual in these cases, was that the girl was a person of bad character, and had been a consenting party to the alleged offence; but the man was found Guilty, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

ASSAULTS.—John Parish was charged at the Mansion House with a ferocious attack on his wife. A quarrel arose between them at breakfast, and the man, seizing a glass, broke it over his wife's forehead, inflicting a very bad wound. From the evidence of a police inspector, it appeared that the ruffian was in the habit of ill-using and half-starving his children and his wife; but the latter now endeavoured to screen him, saying she provoked him by irritating language. The Lord Mayor sent him to gaol for six months, with hard labour. The wife, however, appealed to him so strongly, upon the ground of the provocation which she declared was given by her own intemperate behaviour to her husband, that the Lord Mayor called back the delinquent, and reduced the severity of the sentence one-half. A carpenter, named John Morgan, has been sent to prison for six months for a series of assaults committed in an eating-house where he was working. Having refused to leave at the time for concluding his work, a policeman was sent for; but he furiously attacked the officer, and bit him very seriously. Some other policemen were also attacked, as well as a gentleman who was in the house at the time; but the wild beast was at length caught and overpowered, after escaping from the premises and running away. He wished, when brought before the Lord Mayor, to be allowed to remunerate the policeman who had been most hurt, as a method of compromising the matter; but this was refused, and he was sent to prison for three weeks, and ordered to find bail to keep the peace for an equal number of months. Samuel O'Brien, a nailmaker, living at 14, Waterloo-terrace, Chelsea, was charged at the Westminster police court with violently assaulting and wounding Leopold and Mary Paget, man and wife, with a poker. The woman was so severely injured that she was unable to attend, and is lying at St. George's Hospital in a very precarious state. He was remanded.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO POISON A HUSBAND.—Jane Newton was tried at Liverpool on a charge of attempting to poison her husband, a blacksmith. The wife was shown to have purchased some arsenic at a chemist's shop, under pretence of cleaning her bed and ridding it of fleas; but it did not appear that she had applied the poison to any such purpose. One morning, she divided a quantity of stew between her husband, herself, and her two children, for breakfast. Her husband's portion having been put into a separate vessel, the wife was observed to stir it about with a spoon. Soon after eating it, Newton became very sick. The rest of his stew was given by him to his children; but the mother took it from them. However, one had already eaten a small portion of it, and she also was very ill. Arsenic was discovered in the vomits; and the wife gave contradictory accounts of the place where she obtained the stew. The only motives for the act that could be suggested were that the wife had been pawning some of her husband's clothes, that she had made purchases without his knowledge, and that she would receive 8*l.* from a burial-club on his death. The defence was that the motive was not sufficient, that the prisoner had made no secret about purchasing the arsenic (which she believed to be mercury, and did not know to be poison), and that the whole affair might have been an accident. She was acquitted. Both the jury and the judge expressed their great indignation at the fact of the chemist's assistant, a boy, selling the accused a quarter of a pound of arsenic.

CENTRAL CRIMINAL COURT.—The August session of this court commenced on Monday, when the trial of Mr. Snape for the manslaughter of a lunatic in the Surrey Asylum was again postponed, in consequence of the illness of Sir Frederick Thesiger, who was retained for the prosecution. The trial of Mr. Gosling for a misdemeanour in the Regent's Park was removed to the Court of Queen's Bench. It was originally to have taken place at the Middlesex Sessions; but was removed to the Central Criminal Court. James Reilly has been sentenced to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour, for an attempted garrotte robbery committed, in conjunction with another man, who escaped, on the person of a butler, in a court turning out of Gray's-inn-lane, on the evening of the 8th inst. Cornelius Urell, a gentlemanly-looking youth of twenty, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with forging an acceptance to a bill of exchange for 510*l.*, with intent to defraud Charles Joachim Hambro. Almost directly after he had committed the forgery and obtained the money, he repented of what he had done, told his employer, and enabled the police to recover the proceeds of the forged acceptance. He was sentenced to imprisonment, with hard labour, for one year. Charles Arnold, described as a chesefactor, surrendered to take his trial upon an indictment, charging him with having feloniously neglected and omitted to surrender to pass his examination at the Court of Bankruptcy on the day limited for that purpose, after he had been duly adjudged a bankrupt. He was found guilty, but judgment was deferred. John Dunning, a fisherman, was tried for the manslaughter of Francis Toombs. Both men got horribly drunk on board a Dutch vessel off the coast of Holland, and in that state they were carried to their own snack, where Toombs fell down in his cabin and went to sleep. While thus insensible, a quantity of naphtha was thrown over him (though how did not appear), and was set light to. He woke in flames, and rushed up on deck, where ultimately some water was thrown on him; but he was

so severely burnt that he died. Dunning was standing near him at the time; but there was no other evidence to show that he had set light to the spirit, and he was acquitted. The prisoner, who appeared to feel his position very acutely, went into a fit while the Judge was addressing him on the offence of drunkenness, and some time elapsed before he was in a state to be removed from the court. Tonquin Savella, a native of Peru, described as a merchant, was indicted for feloniously having in his possession certain forged bonds or undertakings for the payment of money by a foreign state—namely, the Republic of Peru. The facts have already appeared in this paper. The accused was found guilty, but sentence was deferred. James Hunter has been acquitted of a charge of robbing a jeweller's shop, and attempting to garrotte the prosecutor. Michael Murphy, a young Irishman, has been found guilty of abducting a child, six years of age, from its mother. He appears to have taken the child from pure kindness, as the mother did not use it well; and he was merely ordered to enter into his own recognizances for future good conduct. George Richard Westcott, a publican, has been acquitted on the charge arising out of his supplying a customer who applied for gin with a poisonous fluid. The evidence with respect to the nature of this fluid was very unsatisfactory, and the Judge (Baron Martin) having directed the jury to an acquittal, they returned a verdict to that effect. James Williamson, a young man, was found guilty of attempting to extort money from a Mr. Robert Dye, under a threat of charging him with a felony. He was sentenced to penal servitude for life. William Sunners has been found guilty of uttering a forged Bank of England note; William Seaman pleaded guilty to a charge of uttering several; and George Williams has been acquitted of a similar offence. Sarah Gibbs, a young woman, was indicted for feloniously attempting to murder her illegitimate child. She was in the service of a milliner in Conduit-street, Regent-street, and on the afternoon of the 3rd of July she was observed by one of the young women engaged in the establishment to be looking very ill, and very soon afterwards a child was heard to cry in the coal cellar. Upon going there, a newly-born child was discovered, nearly covered with coals, and it was taken out and found to be alive, and did not appear to have sustained any injury. The prisoner admitted that the child was hers, but said that she had no intention to injure it by placing it where it was found, and it appeared that she had been delivered of the child in the coal-cellar. The jury returned a verdict of Not Guilty.

WHAT ARE THE POLICE ABOUT?—A correspondent of the *Times*—who prefaces his observations by saying that he does not complain of being garrotted, that he is quite prepared to be robbed and murdered in the streets, as it seems the police cannot prevent it, but that he objects to being invaded in his own home—gives some details of three robberies that have been committed at his house, which is situated "in a broad, respectable, well-lighted street, opening directly into one of the most populous London thoroughfares. The first time, the thief was caught by my brother, who came in from an evening party at an inconvenient moment for the burglar. The man confessed that he was going to a 'job' in Westbourne-terrace, but seeing one of my drawing-room windows open, he had mounted the area railings, 'swarmed' up the pillar of the doorway, and so entered the house. He had three months." The second time, a large amount of property was removed, probably in a vehicle; but the offenders were not detected. Two years then elapsed, and the house was protected with additional defences; but last Sunday morning, at a quarter past five, in broad daylight, it was again entered. The thieves were disturbed, and, though several articles were injured, very few were carried off. The writer adds to these details:—"Will you tell these blackguards, Sir, from me (they know pretty well by this time who it is that now addresses you), that they may now ransack the house from top to bottom without getting as much swag as would pay for their 'jemmy and glim'; and that I am determined to shoot dead—at all hazards and without hesitation or challenge—any person whom I may find in my house for the purpose of plundering it from this time forth?"

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—The neighbourhood of Barnsley has obtained an unenviable notoriety for the number of highway robberies and other outrages committed therein. The most recent event of the kind was investigated on Tuesday last, before two of the West Riding magistrates. John Beaumont, a cattle-dealer, was proceeding along the road from Dodworth to Stainborough, about half-past nine on the night of the 12th inst., when he was attacked by two men, who rushed out of the hedge bottom at the side of the road, threw him down, filled his mouth and eyes with dirt, and, after using him in a very rough manner, robbed him of a promissory note for 50*l.*, and 1*l.* 10*s.* in cash. The men were afterwards apprehended, and are now committed for trial. Beaumont, the prosecutor, is eighty-three years of age.

DOVE'S HANGMAN: A MYSTERY.—Thomas Askren, the debtor in York Castle who is generally supposed to have hung William Dove, has written an indignant letter to the *Leeds Mercury*, denying that he performed that respectable office. A letter, also denying the statement, and purporting to be written by Mr. Pears, the Castle schoolmaster, appeared in a Manchester paper,

and the announcement with respect to Askren was attributed to a dislike of him on the part of his fellow debtors, and a desire to do him an injury. It now turns out that Mr. Pears's letter is a forgery; and a Mr. Finlison, one of the debtors, writes to the *Leeds Mercury*, to state the general opinion of the debtors that Askren was the man. He is in consequence looked on with great distaste.

A DRUNKEN MOTHER.—A woman, named Elizabeth Ann Helwell, is under remand at Lambeth, charged with causing the death of her child by neglect. The coroner's officer stated that he had been to the house of the woman, where he found her lying on the ground, in a state of utter intoxication, close beside the dead body of the child, which presented every indication of having been starved. In the same room were four other children, dreadfully emaciated, and half famished. On the table was a bottle containing a liquid described by the label as poison. It appeared that the woman was of confirmed bad habits, in consequence of which, her husband, who is a respectable working man, had separated from her, giving her an allowance of fourteen shillings a week. The magistrate thought he ought not to have left the children with her.

PARRICIDE.—Robert Telford, a labouring man, has been committed for trial by a jury at Askerne, near Doncaster, on a charge of killing his father. The motive does not appear.

MANSLAUGHTER.—Miles Melia, a porter, was indicted at Liverpool for having, on the 12th of July last, murdered Francis Welch. He was also arraigned on the coroner's inquisition for the same offence. The crime arose out of a quarrel. For the defence, it was contended that the man's death had been caused by his falling with his head on the flags. Witnesses were called to prove that the fight commenced with a dispute between Melia and Welch as to half a day's wages, which Welch said he did not owe the prisoner. The jury found the prisoner guilty of manslaughter, and he was sentenced to transportation for life.

FALSE PRETENCES.—Mr. George Fossey, a timber merchant, residing at Ferry-road West, Millwall, appeared before the Lord Mayor, upon a summons charging him with having unlawfully conspired with other persons to obtain by false pretences certain large sums of money, and with having cheated and defrauded Mr. John Walker, corrugated iron merchant, of Arthur-street West, of the same. Mr. Bodkin, in opening the case, said:—"The prosecutor in this charge is a large contractor for the erection of houses for Australia and other parts of the world. He is a large consumer of timber, and from the year 1852 down to 1855 he dealt largely with the party before you, Mr. Fossey, for timber. In the year 1853, Mr. Walker paid him between 6000*l.* and 7000*l.* for timber bought of him in that year. The prosecutor had premises in Mill wall, where the business of his factory was carried on. He had also a counting-house in Arthur-street, in the City, where his books and accounts were kept, and you will find that the fraud which has been committed systematically upon him has consisted in sending to the factory at Millwall, in some instances, small quantities of timber, which have been charged as larger quantities and in many instances charging for timber which never was delivered." After a statement of the facts as regards Mr. Fossey, Mr. Bodkin also indicated a case against a clerk named Neary, saying:—"By arrangement with Mr. Fossey, Neary, who was Mr. Walker's clerk, and who was constantly the drinking companion of Mr. Fossey, was induced to enter in that book items which never appeared in the receiving-book, and which referred to timber which was not delivered at the factory at Millwall." Evidence having been given to this effect, the further consideration of the case was postponed. Mr. Fossey was admitted to bail, and a warrant was granted for the apprehension of Neary.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

A girl, about thirteen years of age, named Elizabeth Bramhall, daughter of a mechanic living at Stalybridge, Manchester, has met her death through a fatal mistake made by one of the assistants at a chemist's shop in that town. The girl being unwell, her father sent to the chemist's for a tincture of rhubarb, when one of laudanum was given instead. The two bottles containing each mixture stood close together in the shop window, and there was nothing to distinguish them, as they exactly resembled each other in colour. A fatal accident has happened at the Howgill Fells, Westmoreland, to a gamekeeper of that place, named Robert Herd. Several gentlemen from Liverpool had come to the Fells on a shooting excursion, and Herd joined in the sport. He and two others were engaged in shooting grouse, when the contents of one of the guns lodged in the lower part of Herd's body. He was at once taken home, and although medical assistance was speedily obtained, he died a few hours after the occurrence. An inquest was held, and a verdict of "Accidentally Shot" returned. A little boy of six years old, named George Wood Downe, has been killed at Putney by the falling on his head of one of the heavy triangular supports of a swing, which some people were putting up in a field near the Half-moon Inn. Several children were playing on the spot at the time, when the support, which is twenty feet high, and bolted with iron, suddenly gave way and fell on the head of

the child Downe with such violence that he was crushed to death. An inquest was held, when, after a lengthened inquiry as to the safety of the erection, a verdict was returned of "Accidental Death."—Thomas Pounder, a pilot, left Hartlepool Harbour in search for vessels, on Monday morning, in his coble, accompanied by his two sons, John and Robert. The father was put on board a Swedish vessel, near to the stone buoy, leaving the sons in the coble. Shortly afterwards, the coble was observed from the shore to capsize, and a signal was given to some other cobles at a distance, which set sail, and were soon near to the seat of the accident; but both men had disappeared.

A verdict of manslaughter has been returned against Thomas Baxter, the driver of a passenger train which ran into a goods train while the latter was being shunted across the line at the Albion Station on the Stour Valley Railway, in consequence of which an old man, named Thomas Wilbraham, received such injuries that he died in the course of a few days. The danger signal was up at the time the goods train was being shunted; but Baxter either did not observe or disregarded it.—A child, about three years old, was being fed by its grandmother with mashed potato. Suddenly, about half a potato was missed; the child made a noise as if choking; its face turned black, and its tongue protruded. Surgical aid was sent for, but it was too late. There was no doubt that the child had seized the half-potato while the grandmother's back was turned, and had endeavoured to swallow it without mastication.

A sixty-horse-power steam boiler burst early on Wednesday morning, at Hampson Mills, near Bury, the property of Messrs. Warburton and Holker, bleachers and dyers, completely destroying the engine-house, dye-house, and a warehouse, and carrying a large iron flue, eighteen feet long, to a distance of eighty yards. Nine lives, according to one account, have been sacrificed, in addition to many more placed in jeopardy. The number of those severely scalded and injured exceeds that of the killed, and one of the number was scarcely expected to survive the night. Another report states the loss of life at only six, with four bodies missing. The cause of the accident is not yet known.

A child has been drowned in a tub, in which the mother was washing some things. During her absence, the child (a little girl, four years old) must have climbed up the tub and tumbled over. She was found with her face downwards in four inches of water, and, on being removed, she was quite dead.—A dreadful accident occurred on Wednesday evening to Mr. Badger, a commercial traveller. He was in the act of passing in a gig a crossing on the Moreton and Stratford Branch Railway, when the passenger-train was seen coming along the line at a rapid rate. The guard of the train, perceiving the danger, hallooed at the top of his voice, and applied the brakes; but all was of no avail, for the next moment the gentleman was hurled into the air, and, in falling to the ground, came in contact with the metals. Little hope is entertained of his recovery. The gig was completely smashed, but the horse escaped unhurt.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

SIEGE OPERATIONS AT CHATHAM.—Some siege operations, on a scale of great magnitude and splendour, were conducted at Chatham on Tuesday in the presence of the new Commander-in-Chief. The evolutions were of an exceedingly elaborate kind, and appear to have been executed with the utmost precision and brilliancy. The crossing of the pontoon bridge exhibited the vast improvement which has recently been effected in this species of extempore communication from shore to shore. "Another operation of the Sappers," says the *Times* reporter, "which attracted much attention was that of subaqueous explosion. A charge of 50lb. of gunpowder was attached to a case filled with balks of timber and sunk in the middle of St. Mary's Creek. At a given signal it was fired by a voltaic battery, under the direction of Captain Cumberland, and instantaneously there rose from the surface of the river a vast pillar of water resembling a waterspout. The siege operations having been brought to a close, the Duke of Cambridge, who expressed his cordial approval of the manner in which they were conducted, visited the hospitals and inspected the Crimean invalids of the Royal Engineer corps." As usual, an accident occurred during the operations. A mine exploded; a quantity of clay was thrown into the air, and a portion of it descended on some of the men of the Provisional Battalion, breaking the leg of one, and bruising others; but no lives were lost. The men are progressing favourably.

MILITARY SWINDLERS.—The practice has become so prevalent of late, amongst several of the young officers at the Southampton garrison, of giving fictitious bills to their tradesmen in payment, that the commandant (Col. Jeffries) has found it necessary to caution the public never to take any of them in exchange for goods or cash without first ascertaining from their bankers or army agents whether there is any balance in hand to meet them.—*Hampshire Independent.*

THE ZEBRA STRAMER, wrecked at the Lizard Point, broke in two at five P.M. on the 16th inst., about the forward engine-room, owing to the strong east wind and heavy ground swell which had set in, and to which she was completely exposed. Had the weather continued

moderate, there was great expectation of saving her, all machinery and necessary appliances being on the spot for use after the blowing up of the rocks under the star-board bilge had been accomplished.

THE BASIN AT SHEERNESS.—In consequence of the constant filling up of the middle discharging basin and camber at Sheerness, which now prevents vessels of moderate draught of water entering to be discharged, the Lords of the Admiralty have entered into a contract with Mr. Thomas Stutely, merchant, of Sheerness, for the removal of not less than thirteen thousand tons of mud from the basin and camber. A powerful mud-engine has been set to work, by which three hundred and sixty tons of mud per hour can be put into barges. The work will be completed in ten weeks, and when done, ships drawing from fifteen to sixteen feet of water will be able to be taken in for the discharge of their cargoes.

THE MEDITERRANEAN SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—Mr. Brett has arrived at the Isle of Galita, on the Algerian coast, with the cable and communication in excellent condition, after having successfully passed depths of two thousand metres. A despatch has been sent to London to order a cable of sufficient length to reach to Bona.

ARMY REGULATIONS.—A circular, of which the following paragraphs are the most important parts, has been addressed from the Horse Guards to officers commanding certain regiments:—"The establishment of the regiment under your command will probably be shortly reduced to fifty-seven sergeants, twenty-one drummers, and one thousand rank and file. As the regiment is now considerably above that establishment, I am desired by his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief to request that you will select from the whole present strength of the corps the specified number of men, being careful to retain none but such as are in every respect able-bodied and effective soldiers and not under the prescribed standard of five feet six inches, if so many are available. Should there be any very eligible young men, well-limbed and broad-chested, of five feet five inches, you may use your discretion in retaining them. Having completed your battalion, you will cause a strict medical inspection to be made of the remainder, and send to this department the usual discharge documents of all such as are deemed unfit for the service, accompanied by a nominal list, according to the form enclosed, and report how many are left, in order to their being permitted to volunteer for other regiments, which will be hereafter notified to you."

THE BATH WATERS AND THE CRIMEAN SOLDIERS.—The medical authorities of the army have advised that a large number of invalid Crimean soldiers should be sent to Bath for the benefit of the mineral waters of that city. Accommodation is required for one hundred and fifty men, and on Friday week a gentleman sent down by the Government, accompanied by Mr. Bush, the Mayor of Bath, inspected various buildings with a view to the selection of one adapted to the required purpose.

BANQUET TO THE HON. BARRINGTON PELLEW.—The Hon. Captain Pellew, of the second battalion of Rifles, having returned from the Crimea to the residence of his mother, the Dowager Lady Exmouth, at Canonleigh, Devonshire, the inhabitants gave him a hearty welcome, and invited him to a banquet. Mr. Laurence V. Palk, M.P., presided, and, in proposing the health of the Captain (which was drunk with enthusiasm), he alluded to the achievements of his grandfather, Lord Exmouth, "who, when told to attack stone walls, thought not of his ships, and who, when he was ordered to attack one of the greatest arsenals of the world, placed his wooden ships against stone walls, and there nailed his colours to the mast. His name was Pellew, and not Napier."

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty, on Friday week, proceeded by special train to Salisbury, where she was received by the Mayor and corporation. Having visited the cathedral, they proceeded on to Gosport by the South-Western Railway, and from thence to Osborne.—The Duchess of Cambridge, and the Princess Mary of Cambridge, started on Saturday evening from Dover for Cologne.

THE WEST INDIES.—Most of the West India islands are suffering from the ravages of yellow fever; but a slight decrease in this disease has taken place in St. Thomas's. At Demerara, the Court of Policy met on the 11th ult. Several bills were under consideration, among which was one to authorize the payment of bounties to Indian immigrants who might prefer to re-indenture themselves instead of returning to India. Bills for improving the criminal law have also been introduced. The Hon. Peter Rose was elected a member of the Court of Policy in the place of the Hon. Robert Smith, whose term of service had expired. The Governor has sent instructions to the agent of the colony at Madeira not to send any more Portuguese immigrants until they were ordered. The Portuguese immigrants on the east and west coasts of Demerara have suffered greatly from sickness. Fever and dysentery have been prevalent at Georgetown; but the public health at Barbadoes is excellent, and the general aspect of affairs satisfactory. At Trinidad, the Council of Government had a meeting on the 14th ult. It was stated that an increase of 11,000*l.* had taken place in the Customs

revenue over the same period of last year, and 9500*l.* over the half-year of 1854. A very favourable turn had also taken place with regard to local taxation, the number of defaulters having diminished from nine hundred in 1855 to four hundred for the present year.

AUSTRALIA.—The opening of the Colonial Parliament at Sydney under the new constitution, establishing the system of responsible government, passed off favourably, and suitable replies to the address of the Governor-General were voted unanimously in the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly, the Ministerial programme being generally approved. In the Assembly, Mr. Daniel Cooper had been chosen Speaker by a vote of 24 against 23 for his opponent, Mr. Parker. Mr. Cooper is a wealthy native of the colony. It was he who headed the New South Wales subscription for the Patriotic Fund with a donation of 1000*l.*

EGYPT.—Saïd Pacha, the Viceroy, has just resolved upon running steamers, carrying the Egyptian flag, all round the Red Sea, from Suez to Cosseir, Massawah, Aden, Mocha, Jeddah, Yambo, and to extend occasionally to Bussorah and Bagdad. The Pacha has requested a number of Europeans to act as directors of the steamers.

NEW ZEALAND.—A war between two hostile tribes has broken out in New Zealand. Several of the natives have been killed.

A CITY MISSIONARY.—There lives at the east end of London a City missionary (Mr. P. L. Jackson), belonging to we know not what sect, but assuredly a Christian, who for many years has devoted his life in the most practical way to the rescue of young people of either sex who have become thieves, vagrants, and profligates. With no more than the very slender income that a City missionary gets, he has habitually and for many years brought miserable creatures to his house, has filled his home with people of bad character, upon whose hearts he has been working, and who have said that they are willing to be honest. With his own hands he has cleaned and cured of skin diseases miserable youths whom even their companions loathed to touch. To the utmost of his power he has kept such people out of harm's way, until, by immense efforts, he has found for them admission to some charity, or means of emigrating, or of earning in this country an honest living. Also, when he has touched the heart of some castaway boys or girls, he has not seldom discovered their first homes, and, by urgent letters and persuasion, reconciled them to offended parents. The contributions by which he is now aided do not amount to more than about fifty pounds a year. That is the whole endowment of his little hospital.—*Inquirer.*

THE EARL OF SHREWSBURY died at Lisbon on Monday week, in his twenty-fourth year. He succeeded his cousin John, the sixteenth earl, in 1852, and was premier earl in the English and Irish peerages, and Hereditary Lord Steward of Ireland, in which office, as well as the Earldom of Shrewsbury, he is succeeded by his kinsman, Earl Talbot, of Ingestrie Hall, Stafford; but it is supposed that the large family possessions do not descend with the title. His death will be greatly lamented by the Roman Catholic Church, of which he was a member.

RAILWAY DETENTION IN THE NORTH.—Our table is literally covered with complaints from all quarters as to the loss of time and inconvenience experienced from the irregularity of the railway trains. Not a single day passes without the trains being hours behind their time, and on Saturday night it was no less than four hours late. We have heard it reported that Lord Panmure was kept two hours sitting in a wheelbarrow at Guthrie, last week, waiting for the train.—*Montrose Standard.*

DARTMOOR CONVICT PRISON.—The eighth report of Colonel Jebb, surveyor of convict prisons, just issued, gives some interesting information relative to Dartmoor prison. The establishment having been formed as a prison for invalids capable of light labour, it is of importance to know how far it has answered the purpose as regards health. Phthisis appears to be the cause of the greatest mortality, but during the year 1855 there was a considerable reduction in sickness and mortality. The deaths only amounted to 24, and this decrease, as compared with previous years, was the more remarkable from the increase that had taken place in the invalid class. Out of 545 prisoners received during the year 1855 not more than about 20 were able-bodied men. The convicts are chiefly employed in agricultural work—in reclaiming the waste moorland, by trenching, draining, and enclosing with stone walls. In reference to the ticket-of-leave system the governor of Dartmoor prison says,—"Another year's trial of the license system affords an opportunity of referring to its results. Since the passing of the act for the discharge of prisoners on license in this country, 962 have been liberated, of whom 25 have had their licenses revoked, and I have only heard of five who have undergone a new trial and are again the inmates of a prison." On the whole, the prison at Dartmoor is said to be "going on in all respects as satisfactorily as can be expected, considering the difficulties inseparable from the enforcement of discipline on such a class."

NEW INVENTION TO PREVENT STEAM BOILER EXPLOSIONS.—An experiment has been made at Manchester, in the presence of a number of scientific gentlemen, to test an invention to prevent steam boiler explosions. The trial took place at the works of the patentee, Mr. William

Routledge, Newbridge Brass Foundry. The apparatus, which is of most simple construction, consists of an elbow pipe connecting the furnace with the side flue, and is fixed just below the water level in the boiler, but may be fixed at any elevation, or in any position requisite, and can be applied to any kind of boiler, as an opening into a side or centre flue is all that is required. This pipe is perforated with a number of holes, about half an inch diameter, so placed as to be subject to the immediate action of the furnace fire. In these holes are metal plugs, more or less fusible, according to the working pressure of the boiler. The moment the water in the boiler, from neglect or otherwise, is below the level, and leaves this pipe bare, the heat from the furnace acts upon the plugs, which melt, and the steam escaping through the holes, immediately relieves the pressure on the boiler, and in a short time extinguishes the furnace fire. The experiments were highly successful.

AMERICA AND ENGLAND.—The Liverpool Reform Association has sent a friendly rejoinder to the answer of the mayor and citizens of Philadelphia to the addresses from Liverpool and Manchester on the subject of war between America and England. The rejoinder expresses the most amicable feelings, laments the evils of secret diplomacy, and points out the necessity of abolishing resident ministers of state in foreign countries, as being "intriguers at the best, and too often nothing better than spies vested with official immunity."

THE RECENT STORMS.—Extraordinary accounts are published in the *Wakefield Journal* of the devastating effects of the violent hail, thunder, and lightning storm which passed over the neighbourhood of Wakefield on the 23rd of July. Though rather out of date by this time, the details are of sufficient interest to bear repetition. The storm, though extremely heavy, was very narrow in its operation. Several fields of corn were completely destroyed, a large amount of glass was broken, whole limbs were torn from the trees, and the country presented a desolated appearance. "A field of wheat near the tollbar, on the right-hand side of the road from Wakefield to Doncaster, affords an excellent illustration of the law of hailstorms. The bulk of the field is unaffected by the storm, showing clearly that it was beyond the limit of the hail in that direction; but the corner pointing towards Badsworth Church happened to be within the limit, and the effect of the hail across that corner is distinctly visible. The wheat is damaged for twenty or thirty yards into the field. The breadth of the storm at Badsworth was about a mile and a tenth. From Badsworth to Thorpe, the ravages of the storm are everywhere visible. Corn crops are thrashed in the field, and the ears cut off from the stalks. An orchard at Thorpe is as black as if it had been enveloped for a minute or two in a sheet of flame. A gentleman named Seaton, residing at Wentbridge, was sitting with his family at table when the storm came on. In a few moments most of the glass in the front of his house was broken; masses of ice went through the panes with such rapidity as not even to splinter them, cutting out holes as cleanly as rifle bullets. A decanter three-parts full of wine was knocked off the table, the wine-glasses were broken, and the table was indented in many places. The stone walls of this gentleman's buildings are pitted all over with holes made by the hail, for the most part larger than would be made by firing swan shot at them. Mr. Seaton states that five or six buckets of ice were gathered up in his dining-room. A person living at Wentbridge was about a mile and a quarter from home, at right angles to the storm's path, when the storm occurred. With two or three other persons, he took shelter in a turnip-field from the rain. There was no hail where he was, but so strong a wind set in, blowing at right angles to the storm path, that the turnips were lifted up out of the ground above an inch."

A MYSTERIOUS FIRE.—A strange story comes to us from Bedford, where fire has suddenly burst forth from various parts of a house, without (except in the first instance) any apparent cause. Articles thrown down upon the floor instantaneously kindled; the damp towels on the horse in a bedroom ignited; a handkerchief placed on a sofa burst into flame; a box containing articles of apparel was found suddenly alight; smoke issued from cupboards, from drawers, from unopened boxes; the very furniture appeared to be charged with some mysterious self-igniting gas. The house was several times in flames; but each time the conflagration was stopped in the bud. A jury was summoned to inquire into these strange facts; and the only apparent mode of accounting for them lay in the circumstance that, a few days before the first fire, some brimstone and charcoal had been burnt in one of the rooms to rid the house of vermin. It was shown that a portion of the sulphurous fluid escaped on to the floor, and set fire to it; and it was suggested by several scientific men that the house had become charged with sulphurous fumes and charcoal gas, which took fire, in some cases by means of electricity, in others by friction. The verdict of the jury, as regards the first fire, was "Accidental," and, as regards the rest, the verdict was open.—[Query: has another hoax been played off upon the daily press in this strange story? How is it we never hear of these romances in the Parliamentary season, and that we always do hear of them when news is slack and dull?]

A DISAPPOINTMENT AT BATH.—A correspondent writing from Bath, on the 16th inst., says:—"All Bath was thrown into a ludicrous state of excitement

yesterday by the sudden announcement that the Queen was expected at one o'clock. How long will she stay? Where will she go? What will she think of the new fountain? Will the Hanoverian band play *God Save the Queen* at the station? Should the clubs turn out with banners and drums? Up went St. George's banner, broad and gay, at the Abbey—bunting fluttered at the corner of every street visible from the station—several hundreds of Sunday dresses strutted or wriggled down to the railway—little boys rehearsed their shrill hooray! little girls put their hair straight and jerked their bonnet forward—the clergy brushed their coats and lengthened their visages—the Mayor practised walking backwards for an hour by St. Michael's clock, to the peril of the drawing-room furniture and of his wife's nerves—many a boiling of preserves was spoiled, as the good housewife hurried away to clean herself and look a bit tidy. Suddenly the bells rang out as when the demon steed of Michael Scot smote the pavement with his hoof, and all the steeples of Paris shook. The Royal Train was in sight. The Mayor, the Clergy, the Fashion, and the Beauty stood, metaphorically at least, on tiptoe. The Royal Train entered the Station—the Royal Train slackened its speed—the Royal Train passed through the Station—the Royal Train quickened its speed—the Royal Train was out of sight—before a hat could be raised, or a shout uttered. There stood the Mayor and Co., fairly dumbfounded. One gaunt lady, indeed, pretended that she saw her Majesty's bonnet, and part of Prince Albert's face. But nobody believed her. She was no doubt a very ill-natured and invidious person, and wanted to make others miserable by proclaiming her own superior good fortune."

TRANSPORTATION.—The select committee of the House of Lords have reported to the effect that a continuance of the system of transportation to some colony or colonies would be highly desirable, provided the system could be carried on with advantage to the colony and with satisfaction to the colonists. The committee call the attention of Government, in the event of a new convict settlement being formed, to the northern portion of Australia, and more especially to the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria and the adjacent islands. Among existing colonies, Western Australia seems to offer the only field for the continuance of transportation; but the committee suggest that a return should immediately be made to the lately abandoned principle of selecting the convicts.

A METHODIST SIN.—Dancing and card-playing, it seems, have become common of late years among sundry backsliding Methodists. At the last sitting of the Manchester Conference, the question was brought before the notice of the reverend councillors; and, after many groans of horror had been vented, it was resolved to "improve"—that is to say, to render more strict—the wording of the rule which prohibits all such worldly amusements.

GALES IN THE CHANNEL.—Dover was visited on Wednesday night by a fearfully heavy gale of wind from the south-west, which caused considerable damage to the railway station, and some slight injury to the new works of the harbour of refuge, where large blocks of granite were wrenched from their places. Some poor fishermen have also suffered loss by the destruction of their boats on the beach.—A severe gale also visited the Sussex coast, extending eastward from Brighton during the early part of the night of Wednesday. The storm occasioned a vast amount of damage to small shipping, and the loss of eight lives. Many thousands tons of shingle have been washed away, and some injury was done to the Chain Pier, the lower platform being washed up together with portions of the lower railings.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL arrived with his family on the 12th instant at Vevay. He will probably return to England about the close of next February, or at any rate before Easter.

THE COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR OLDBURY.—Two inquests have been held on the bodies of the men who were killed by the explosion on Wednesday week at Lord Ward's Ramrod Hall Colliery. The evidence, as far as it has yet gone, seems to show that the pit was not properly ventilated, and that the men were culpably careless, on the morning of the accident, in not taking their safety lamps down with them.

DOVE AND THE WIZARD HARRISON.—The astrologer and wizard Harrison has addressed a long letter to the editors of the *Leeds Mercury* in vindication of his conduct with reference to Dove. He says:—"A more scandalous, unsatisfactory, and impudent statement never appeared in print than that which came out in your Tuesday's impression. It appears to me, and to hundreds more in this town, that Dove's villainous habit of lying followed him even to his prison, and to the scaffold. . . . Gentlemen, it will be of no use me attempting to deny any one particular statement made by that profligate and unfeeling criminal, as I declare to you, upon my honour, that there is scarcely a sentence of it true; and what is true is told in such a raving, incoherent manner, that the public—ay, the public—have seen the folly of publishing it, and that same discerning public declare 'that the document ought not to have been put into print.'" Harrison prays God to help any man who might have dealings with such a profligate as Dove, and concludes with this prodigious piece of self-glorification:—"I am preparing for the press a something which will alter your opinion, and the opinions of

those of the London press as well, I hope, and something which will prove to my countrymen that Henry Harrison is, and will continue to be, not an impostor, but a real benefactor of his species."

RAILWAY SLEEPERS.—Some interesting experiments were made on Monday on the premises of the Permanent Way Company, Great George-street, Westminster, showing the operation of Dr. Boucherie's patent process for preserving timber sleepers from decay. The effect of the process is first to expel the sap, and then fill the pores of the timber with a preservative solution.

MADEIRA.—The cholera is beginning to abate; but the mortality up to the present point has been very considerable.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The inhabitants of London are not in an average state of health. 1250 deaths were registered in the week that ended August 16, whereas the corrected average of the corresponding eight weeks of previous years, when cholera was not epidemic, is 1127. In the second week of August, 1849 and 1854, cholera was epidemic, and the deaths amounted to 2230 and 1833. Summer cholera now prevails to a slight extent, and was fatal in 22 cases; diarrhoea was fatal in 253 cases. 242 children died of these diseases under the age of 10; 11 of the adults were under 60 years, and 22 were 60 years of age and upwards. Of 1250 persons of the various stated ages, 760 were under 20 years of age; 150 were of the age 20-40; 145 were 40-60; 156 were 60-80; 39 only were of the age of 80 and upwards. 620 of the persons whose career was cut short under 60 years of age died either of zymotic diseases or of diseases of the respiratory organs and consumption. These diseases are natural to man, but their ravages are greatly aggravated by the physical impurities of the atmosphere seen from a distance hanging in a cloud over London.—During the week, the births of 793 boys and 782 girls, in all 1575 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1846-55, the average number was 1427.—From the Registrar-General's Weekly Return.

THE CYMMER COLLIERY EXPLOSION.—The protracted inquest on the bodies of the men killed in this awful catastrophe still continues; and instances are constantly coming out of the singular recklessness of the men. One of the witnesses, William Morgan, a collier, said that, on the Friday before the explosion, "my stepson, who has since been killed, called my attention to the fact that there was no air, the candle not moving in the air-way. I took the candle in my hand and examined the stall. The air was very bad, and there was a cap on the candle of from an inch to an inch and a half in length. This was on the same morning. The flame of the candle did not move, there not being the slightest air there. I went back with my candle, buttoned my jacket over my head, to enclose a portion of the air, and put the boys to stand back. I then went very cautiously to the face of the work to examine whether there was a danger-mark there. I reduced the flame of my candle down to one thread of the wick, but the cap did not at all decrease; the colour of the cap was red. Having proceeded to the face, I held the candle up to the top, but it would not catch."—The Coroner: "What, did you want to set the place on fire?"—Witness: "No, to try it with my candle; in that way there was no danger in my opinion. It is frequently done. When I went to the face of the coal I found no mark of the fireman having been there. I had no ticket. My mark was a shovel or mandrel; there was nothing there then. I did not complain about the gas." Surprise having been expressed at this omission, the witness stated that, since the last strike, the men did not like to complain. He was afraid he should have been turned off had he done so.

INTERESTING DISCOVERY AT GUILDHALL.—The workmen engaged in making the improvements at Guildhall, while removing, on Tuesday, a portion of the wall on the south side, disclosed a Gothic window in the old wall. It has been closed ever since the Great Fire of London, nearly two hundred years ago.

BAMBOOZLING THE PAPERS.—Three hoaxes, in the shape of false intelligence of murder, rape, &c., have been passed on some of our daily contemporaries during the present week. The *Times* suggests that all the editors must be "out of town," or the bamboozling would not be so successfully carried on. In the same page of the same day's *Times*, a ludicrous mistake as regards one of their own correspondents is made in the course of a leading article, where a Mr. Aytoun is turned into the well-known Professor Aytoun.

THE ROYAL FAMILY OF ORDE and suite have arrived at Southampton.

THE ROYAL VICTORIA YACHT CLUB REGATTA took place on Tuesday, when the *Thought*, owned by Mr. G. Coope, won the prize for cutters, beating the *Extraganza* (Sir Percy Shelley), which won Prince Albert's cup at Cowes, by ten minutes.—The Royal Thames National Regatta commenced on the same day, when several exciting matches were stoutly contested, and the banks of the river from Putney to Chiswick were crowded with spectators, notwithstanding the rain, which obliged them to stand all day "under the shade of melancholy" umbrellas.

ST. PANCRAS WORKHOUSE.—A communication from the Poor-law Board was read at a meeting on Tuesday of the directors and guardians of the poor of St. Pancras. It was to the effect that, although some improvements

in the treatment of the poor had been made since the interference of the Board in April and May last, yet that these improvements had not been carried out to a sufficient extent; and the Board therefore intend to issue the following orders:—"One fixing the maximum accommodation of the workhouse, and of its several wards respectively; one regulating the management of the workhouse, and prescribing the duties of its officers; and a third containing rules for the administration of out-door relief." The communication further states:—"With a view to secure a regular and complete examination of the parochial accounts, and to assist the directors in carrying out these orders, by enabling them to exercise a complete control over all the officers, it is also the intention of the Board to issue an order authorizing and directing the appointment of an auditor. The directors are doubtless aware that the salary of this officer will not be a charge upon the parish, but will be paid out of the Consolidated Fund so long as his duties are regularly and efficiently performed."

THE FIRE AT MESSRS. BROADWOOD'S.—In consequence of the general sympathy expressed, and the offers of assistance that have come in from all quarters, a committee has been formed among the artisans whose working tools were destroyed by the recent conflagration in the Horseferry-road, to receive subscriptions through the medium of one of the London banks.

SUICIDE.—Elizabeth Ann Steer, a young woman, twenty-one years of age, has committed suicide by hanging herself. She had been seduced by a man named West, but was about to be married to a carabinieri, who, with his company, was ordered for India. The commanding officer, however, refused to grant leave to the man to marry, and this appears to have led the girl to the commission of the act. Her friends also were opposed to the marriage, and her mother-in-law had caused her to leave home in consequence of her desiring the wedding to take place. She went to her brother's home, and her body was discovered hanging in the wash-house. The subjoined letter, addressed to her former lover, was found in her bosom:—"George,—You took great trouble to write to me on Tuesday about my going with Greaves. He was a man—he will either live or die for me, and I will do so for him. Remember, George, how you deceived me. Daily and hourly you sought my ruin—often did you wish to get me into trouble, but the Lord protected me so far. Your conscience will tell you you was a base, deceitful man; but God never pays debts with money. My life I will forfeit. Pay my dear father and mother what you owe me—it will help my funeral expenses. You have broken my mind—you seduced me—and God will reward you for it. You will never prosper. Remember these last dying words of one who has been the dupe of all your lies. My heart aches—my hand trembles—and in a few moments I shall be launched into eternity." The inquest terminated in a verdict of "Temporary Insanity."—A person named Henry James Jukes, formerly a clerk and commission agent in the City, has poisoned himself, out of fear of being reduced to starvation, as the result of several recent reverses. He left behind him two letters, both very deliberately pointing to the probability of his committing the act, for it would seem that when he wrote them, he had not quite made up his mind. One is addressed to his wife, and in this he says, "I do not wish you to remain a widow any longer than is usual—say, twelve months." Further on, he adds:—"You will pray for my soul; and in my last moments I declare you to be a really good, true, fond, and faithful wife. From your departed, unaccountable husband, Henry James Jukes. The remainder of the poison is in my trousers-pocket."—A labouring man at Wendover has drowned himself, apparently in consequence of his wife having been apprehended on a charge of incendiarism.

FIRE.—A large range of premises belonging to a boot and shoe maker in Church-street, Shoreditch, took fire early on Sunday morning, and it was not till the flames had got a mastery over the edifice that the discovery was made. By that time, the staircase was on fire; escape that way became impossible, and the inmates, who were roused from their sleep by the police, were obliged to wait at the windows for the arrival of the fire-escape. Their perplexity was increased by the fact of there being an old man who was also a cripple in the house; but, on the arrival of the escape, all were saved. The conductor, as he brought the inmates down through the dense smoke, and placed them upon terra firma, was loudly cheered. The present makes no less a number than thirty-two persons whom the same conductor has saved at fires in the immediate neighbourhood during a year and ten months. The fire-engines speedily arrived; but the premises were entirely consumed, and an adjoining house was much damaged.—A block of buildings in Shaw's-alley, Mersey-street, Liverpool, was on Wednesday morning burnt to the ground, and six persons perished in the flames. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE STOWE ESTATE.—Portions of the Stowe estate, in Buckinghamshire, have recently been sold.

M. KOSSTER and his family are residing at Ventnor, at the back of the Isle of Wight.

C. R. M. TALBOT, Esq., the Lord Lieutenant of the county of Cardiff, has presented the sum of 200*l.* to the fund for the relief of those who have suffered from the recent explosion at Cymmer.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, August 23.

THE LATE FATAL COLLIERY EXPLOSION IN SOUTH WALES.

Pontypridd, Thursday Evening.

AFTER a short adjournment, the court resumed, and the coroner summed up with great minuteness.

The jury retired for the purpose of considering their verdict at a quarter past three o'clock, and returned at half-past four.

The Foreman said: "Seventeen of the jury are of opinion that the explosion in the old pit at Cymmer, which occurred on the 15th of July, whereby Thomas Lewis and 113 other men lost their lives, was caused by the negligence of Jabez Thomas, the manager, Rowland Rowlands the overman, and Morgan Rowlands, David Jones, and William Thomas, the firemen. They therefore find against those persons a verdict of manslaughter."—*Morning Herald this day.*

PRUSSIA—THE RIFF PIRATES.

Conformably to the orders of the King of Prussia, the President of the Council on the 17th inst., sent a despatch to London, in which he applied for the support of the English Government in an expedition which Prussia intends sending against the pirates of the Riff.

NAPLES.

Our diplomatists (says a letter from Naples in the *Correspondance Italienne*) are very active in their endeavours to prevail on the King to give satisfaction to the Western Powers. The representatives of the Pope and of the Grand Duke of Tuscany earnestly support the demands of Austria. Count dell'Aquila and Count Trapani, brother of the King, have been applied to and entreated to represent to his Majesty the danger of his position. The accounts from the provinces are satisfactory. There, as well as in the capital, the people are calm, but resolute. It is said that the last reports, received from the intendants of Cosenza, Reggio, and other provinces of the kingdom, have produced considerable alarm at Court. Orders have been given to concentrate the Swiss troops in and about Naples. The Government is also said to entertain serious apprehensions for the tranquillity of Sicily.

THE HARVEST.—According to the country papers, the weather since Sunday last begins to excite fears for the safety of the bounteous harvest, a great part of which is still abroad. No serious injury has, perhaps, been yet done to the wheat crop, so as to affect to any extent the supply of the people's food. The fears are rather for the future. A return of that bright sunshine which so rapidly ripened the harvest and brought it on before the period anticipated, would set all right again—or nearly so, for it cannot restore to the barley on the ground the fine appearance it possessed before the discolouring showers.

SUICIDE OF A PORTRAIT PAINTER.—An inquest has been resumed and concluded on the body of Mr. Smart, a portrait painter, aged forty-six, who committed suicide at a miserable lodging in Gray's Inn-lane. The unfortunate man was in very reduced circumstances, and he had lived in his late lodgings nearly three years, during which period he never permitted any person to enter the apartment. His own appearance at all times was exceedingly wretched, and his tattered clothes frequently obtained the commiseration of the neighbours. A short time before his death, he spoke to his landlord about being unable to pay his rent (some two or three shillings a week), when, much to the credit of the landlord, he told him that he might run on as long as he pleased without paying. For some days Mr. Smart did not appear. At length, after considerable knocking at the door, the apartment was forcibly entered, with the assistance of the police, when the miserable remains of the poor creature were found, in a fearfully putrid state, on some dirty old rags, which served as his bed. A deep gash across the throat nearly divided the head from the trunk. In the room were a stale loaf, fourpence halfpenny in money, and some old ragged garments, which served the deceased for clothing by day and as a bed at night. The only particle of furniture was a chair without a bottom. The landlord stated that latterly Mr. Smart was very eccentric in his manners, and had taken to intemperate habits. At the suggestion of the coroner, the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide," leaving the state of the deceased's mind an open question.

FORGERY.—Lewis Bohn, August Freitag, and Charles Thompson, were found guilty yesterday at the Central Criminal Court of feloniously having in their possession a plate, and a variety of other instruments calculated to make forged Bank of England notes.—John Dumont, another German, was also indicted for uttering a forged 5*l.* Bank of England note, supposed to be one of the impressions from the plate referred to in the previous trial.—He was convicted, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

GILLEM may obtain the required Nos. on application to our Publisher.

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

The Leader.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1856.

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.*

ITALY IN PROGRESS.

WE think it may be assumed that the Italians possess the sympathies of the English nation. What is now important is to ascertain how far those sympathies may be converted into a policy, for without this they are deceptive, and therefore dangerous. It is to little purpose that we multiply the illustrations of tyranny. We know, well enough, that Naples is governed, with the aid of a Lazzaroni legion and a band of Swiss mercenaries, by an incorrigible despot, that Italian patriots are liable to be flayed alive by Austrian soldiers, that women may be flogged at Milan, and children shot at Contarina. The anecdotes are new, but the practice is old. We are also perfectly familiar with the prophecy of an impending revolution. But what have we to do with it? Why is the public indignation fed with daily supplements of horror? Either the discussion of Italian affairs is mere gossip, or it is designed to influence the policy of England in relation to the next political crisis in Italy.

Up to this moment, the effect of English policy in Italy has been pernicious. When we have interfered directly, it has been in behalf of the worst enemies of the Italian nation; in behalf of the nation itself, we have merely tampered with our responsibilities, menaced where we had no intention to coerce, encouraged where we had no intention of assisting, and played the part of mischievous insincerity. It is time to discover whether we are drifting into the same course of action. If we are, it would be well to resume an attitude of harmless inactivity, to withdraw indeed from all vigorous participation in the affairs of Europe, because, if we are simply to repeat the policy of the last European war and the last European revolution, we shall become an object of hatred to nations which we have no interest in oppressing, and an object of contempt to governments which we have no interest whatever in upholding.

The history of Naples, since the defeat of NAPOLEON, is an illustration. We could then not release any part of Italy from one despotism without substituting another. The Bourbons were forced upon the Neapolitans amid scenes of terror, to which a British admiral was something more than a witness. They have ever since acted as our enemies and libellers. The reigning King, especially, refuses our influence, and recognizes that of a Government directly contrary, in its principles, to our own. We resent his contumacy. We recall

to mind that FERDINAND would not have possessed Naples but for our interference during the French war, and that Naples would not have possessed Sicily but for our interference in 1815. It has been our practice, exemplified in Naples as in Spain, to set up thrones upon certain conditions, and then to neglect the conditions altogether, and sacrifice everything to the thrones. In 1848 we propose to take Sicily from its unworthy master, and create for the Duke of Genoa a royal realm in the Mediterranean. We also encourage the Neapolitans to enforce a constitution. Then, retreating from that position, we leave Sicily to be devastated, and Naples to be governed by a system which drives every man of honesty and spirit—soldier or civilian—into conspiracy, which, under an absolutism, is the only possible form of political opposition. These things endure for years. We at last remonstrate, and are insulted in reply. Whereupon, there is a magniloquent demonstration of zeal for Italian liberty. The Neapolitan King is threatened with a sentence of deposition; we allude to our line-of-battle ships; we declare that, if Italy chooses to follow the instincts of freedom, France and England will not move a hand to prevent the breaking of her chains.

This would be a cheering, if it were a scrupulous declaration. But it would be more encouraging if our journalists were to guarantee the conduct of England only, not the conduct of France also. They do not, and cannot, know what are the plots of LOUIS NAPOLEON. When, therefore, they promise for him, as well as for themselves, a policy favourable to the national restoration of the Italians, we are enabled to set their proper value on these liberal professions. Italy will not be duped. A few guns may be subscribed for in England, to point from Alexandria across the Austrian frontier; but the British Cabinet does not address Austria as it addresses Naples, and that is the test of its sincerity.

A demonstration in the Bay of Naples would, probably—as is predicted—be the signal of an insurrectionary movement. But we cannot map out the limits of an Italian war. Suppose the Neapolitan King unable to cope with his subjects, one of two things must happen—the Austrian Government will come to his assistance, or the insurrection will spread into the other Italian territories and revive the crisis of 1848. To this point we must carry our anticipations. We must be prepared to say what would be the policy of England in the event of a general conflict in Italy; and here it is impossible to discern, through the cross-purposes of diplomacy, any definite course which we may feel assured our Ministers will select. They are committed to France, to Austria, to Sardinia, to the Neapolitan Liberals, to Sicily; they are committed to the people at home, and to various governments and parties abroad. Until the way seems clearer through this maze, we trust that the Italians, though they may receive a brass gun from Sheffield, and may hear of official remonstrances addressed to their secondary oppressors—will not be convinced that England is really ready to carry out the principles upon which her institutions are supposed to be founded. It is not for them to expect deliverance from diplomacy. The weight of two empires presses on their northern and central territories, and with those empires Great Britain is too intimately leagued to permit the hope that, without a dissolution of her political partnerships, she will ever render an effectual service to the liberties of Europe. For the present, however, the union has been ratified by the Triple Treaty.

We protest against the doctrine that the

Neapolitans ought to be excited to insurrection, unless Great Britain be prepared to support a national movement throughout Italy. Naples cannot be free while Lombardy is in chains, nor is the administration of the King FERDINAND in any respect more brutalizing than that of the viceroy of the Emperor FRANCIS JOSEPH. With the gaolers of Paris stand the executioners of CICERUACCHIO. When we hear of a patriot scourged by the CARAFFAS of the Capuan Gate, we say we hear worse from Milan, where an Italian has the skin stripped from the crown of his head, and from his fingers, before he is shot by the Austrian Mohawks. And the people of the Legation, who have dared to represent that they are taxed beyond endurance without being protected against military brigandage,—and the people of Rome, whose dearest friends are fettered in pestilential cells,—shall we send our line-of-battle ships to Venice, or to the central coast of Italy, to make demonstrations in *their* favour? Shall we warn from the Sardinian boundary that gathering mass, which is now almost equal to the whole German army of Austria? Will Sir DE LACY EVANS, or any other sympathizer, be empowered to raise a British Legion for the defence of Alexandria? If not, it is cowardice to bully the King of NAPLES, who has no fleet, and whose national troops are disaffected, and it is mere hypocrisy to sigh over the woes of the Italian race.

The French Republic would have defended Piedmont, and perhaps rescued Lombardy, in 1849; but British policy interfered. In the previous year Lord PALMERSTON discouraged the national party in Venice, and recommended MANIN to submit to Austria. We thus lost the confidence of the Italians, and we shall not regain it by making noisy professions, and engaging, in behalf of France, in favour of a revolution. Let us be sure of our own intentions. LOUIS NAPOLEON, probably, is sure of his, and the Austrian Emperor of his,—which were represented when SCHWARTZENBERG said, "It would be better for Austria to perish with arms in hand than surrender Lombardy."

AUTOCRATIC NAVIES VERSUS THE REPUBLICAN NAVY.

MR. MARCY has exposed, and exposing resisted, one out of the several juggles attempted in the Paris Conference on the now notorious 8th of April. At that sitting Count WALEWSKI brought forward the question of Italy to burke it, by stifling it between the supererogatory "Greek question" and a beggarly question about some anonymous Belgian newspaper; and he crowned the labours of that sitting by promulgating his famous Declaration on Maritime Law. The declaration was worthy of Professor ANDERSON. He enunciated four principles—"Privateering is, and remains, abolished;" the neutral flag covers enemy's goods; neutral goods are safe under enemy's flag; blockades to be binding must be effective. Now, few states had disputed the last principle except France; but she made a grand concession by pledging herself not to renew paper blockades, whether from Berlin or Milan: that was the contribution of France. England had rather stickled against the two middle principles, but France wished the concession, and that was her contribution. It so happened that America had proposed the very same principles two years previously, so she would obtain her pleasure, even if WALEWSKI obtained the credit. Could the Republic, therefore, refuse to contribute her mite, by giving up the right of employing privateers. She could not make her selection; for Count WALEWSKI declared that the principles must be taken

together, or not at all. Nay, he went further: on his invitation the Plenipotentiaries of England, Prussia, Russia, Sardinia, and Turkey, "agreed that the Powers which shall have required and shall have acceded to it [the Declaration] cannot hereafter enter into any arrangement in regard to the application of the right of neutrals in time of war, which does not at the same time rest on the *four* principles which are the object of the said declaration." Now this agreement evidently had three effects besides those which appeared on the surface: after they entered into that agreement, the signatories were less free than before to co-operate in any improvement of the right of neutrals; the endeavour which the Washington Government had made to procure adhesions to the same principle was effectually cut off; and if the Americans desired to obtain recognition to that principle, a compulsion was put upon them to concede the right of privateering.

In order to appreciate this cunning device, let us remember the calculation made a few months back, when there was an idea that France and England might go to war with the United States, *à propos* to Cuba or Central America; it was then reckoned that the Republic would be quite unable to face the navy of England alone; that she would probably remain in a condition of inferior naval strength for two years, before she could get a navy built; so that the restraint against privateering would have bound her hand and foot in presence of the allied fleets of France and England.

We do not know whether there were any special reasons for making such a proposal just at that time; but the circumstances are unlookily suspicious. England had conferred great obligations on France, adopting her Emperor from his birth out of the President, by taking up his *coup manqué* in the East and converting it into a most successful *coup*, by helping to place him at the very pinnacle of Europe, and by supporting him there with British timbers for the props. All this was done in the most liberal style. No misunderstandings were allowed to mar the alliance. If the French did rather get the weathergauge of us in the Crimea, there was no jealousy—at least no official jealousy of the manœuvring PELISSIER. If the French fleet in the Baltic did prevent our getting the weathergauge of it, while it ineffectually tried to steal that same from us, our sailors were drilled into the utmost patience; so that literally British timbers were used to prop the throne of LOUIS NAPOLEON, and thus to help the advancement of his numerous lieutenants—the advance, for instance, of WALEWSKI towards his Polish estate. These were large favours; and the attempt to chain Great Britain's only rival at sea was exactly one of those recompenses which would suit Parisian generosity—since it would help the calculations of France herself. For France, God wot! calculates just now on making herself a maritime power. Now the French cannot be made a maritime *people* as the Americans are; so if the Americans would be persuaded to cease to be so, there was a gain to France as well as to England.

It so happened about that time, too, that France and England had views of "settling the Central American Question," possibly by an appeal to arms *by sea*. That is a significant fact.

It so happens, moreover, that France and England had previously tried to bind the United States not, under any circumstances to take Cuba.

The pretence for this new attempt to jockey the United States is "humanity"—the sparing of private property. France and England desire to undertake a chivalrous

mission to protect private property against robbers and pirates by sea and land. Let them. There are worse robbers and pirates than American citizens are likely to be. There are the Riff pirates at sea; and there are the Austrian buccaneers, who slew CICERUACCHIO and his sons; the Austrian thief who "sequestered"—the "wise convey it call"—the private property of Piedmontese subjects; the Neapolitan thief who robs all his subjects at a blow by debasing his coin, and who keeps the bravest in mortal prison by help of Austrian complicity—and by help of French and English passiveness. If the love of justice, the desire to protect property, and the reverence for human life and liberty animate LOUIS NAPOLEON and his assistants, French or English, there is an enterprise for them. Chivalrous enterprises are not to be accomplished by jockeying tricks to deceive a great and free country into disarming itself.

THE REFORMATORY PARLIAMENT.

THE people of this country, like that of America, usually bring any newly adopted principle into practice, and constitute it an established custom, before they can get the Legislature either to enact a positive law in such behalf, or to repeal the law which obstructed the reform. If the local government fails, the notables of the Anglo-Saxon family take the matter into their own hands, as they have done in San Francisco. When, contrary to the law and spirit of the constitution, our Government decreed that transportation of convicts should be commenced to the Cape of Good Hope, the colonists formed a Committee of Safety, and assumed a position which compelled the Government to withdraw the convicts. In most cases at home we are chary of taking this summary course; yet we are scarcely less summary in point of fact. We have agitated the reform of laws with respect to women; one reform in particular has been pressed upon the Legislature with strong arguments, strong authority, and strong personal interest; the House of Commons agrees, and the Lords alone stand out. We allude to the permission of a widower to marry his sister-in-law. But what has the community done? In most cases where such a marriage is contemplated, the parties simply get themselves married; the union is recognized by society, and Lord LYNCHURST'S Act is repealed *de facto*, although the House of Lords refuses to give its affirmative vote.

With respect to reformatories for juvenile offenders, the subject is one which gives rise to less controversy. We have there to deal principally with the *vis inertia*,—and a tremendous *vis* is it. The facts are known to most of us. Lord STANLEY tells us, in his inaugural speech at Bristol, that 11,500 children annually pass under the operation of the criminal law: about 11½ per cent. of the whole; while lads between the age of 17 and 21, who are to the whole population as 10 per cent., are to the criminal population as 25 per cent. There is, however, no special criminality at that age, or in a more youthful age; but the drunkenness of parents, the example of stealing, the positive instructions to steal, the total neglect of education at home, and sometimes the being positively turned out of doors to shift for life in the wide world, are the causes why those 11,500 children, those thousands of youths, are handed over to the police magistrate, the criminal judge, and the gaoler. Now, by the experience of all who have had to do with reformatories, from M. DE METZ or SYDNEY TURNER to Mr. BARWICK BAKER or any other founder

of a more recent institution, it is well known that a large part of this criminal childhood, from 60 to 70, or nearly 90 per cent. can be redeemed. From that single range of experience, it is evident that if so many can be redeemed *after* they have become vicious, a still larger proportion could be prevented from ever falling into vice. This is the position that Lord BROUGHAM took up in the paper read at the Bristol meeting on Wednesday. Now all this is as plain as possible.

Parliament itself is as perfectly familiar with the whole facts. It knows that it has not to deal with theory; but that there are more experiments than ever where required in any mechanical invention. A roving committee of the House could, in the course of a vacation, visit a number of reformatories—some under Government, some not under Government—some so called, others bearing different titles—varying in their mode of management, and therefore in their results; but all illustrating exactly the same principle. It is quite useless to appeal to the constituencies. Constituencies, as such, have particular personal, political, or other crotchets concerned; they lend themselves to local lawyers and other gentlemen who manage elections; and any question of British law is rendered secondary by every constituency in the country to some public dodge of the day.

What then do the British gentlemen do? They begin by forming an association. They collect facts, and publish them in tracts, newspapers, lectures, speeches, conversation. They establish branch associations in Birmingham, Wakefield, Bristol, Gloucestershire, and Glasgow. Their members have already established reformatories, as a philanthropic experiment; the reformatories become permanent; others are formed; and thus we have already established in this country by Englishmen the system of reformatory institutions for juvenile offenders.

The system, however, is of course very imperfect. In the first place, those who manage this new plan for the public can only obtain—from a Parliament vacillating between ancient prejudice, modern indifference, and the dread of responsibility—a small instalment of authority insufficient for all that should be done. At last, about two years ago, we obtained a law permitting youths to be detained in schools for a period of five years, with a payment from Government of 5s. per week towards that support; that payment to be recoverable, if possible, from the parents. There ought, indeed, to be a public school for every district, anticipating the reformatory—preventing the reformatory from being useful by drawing away its food. But if we are to establish a system of public education, the founders of the reformatory Union have shown us the way to do it. We must first establish our public education; and then Parliament will permit us to establish it; perhaps assist, after the system is established, in developing it. In short, all these great reforms are effected first of all by a Parliament out of doors, which understands the subject, and knows how to carry it forward. When that Parliament has done its duty, some Right Honourable member in the House takes up the subject; obtains that series of affirmative votes which independent electors and Honourable House are always ready to give to any crack parliamentary broker; and the work is finished. It is very troublesome for the British people to be obliged to get up a special Parliament for every new piece of work, but they must be content to undergo that trouble until they have rendered the main Parliament effective to do all the duties of the country.

PIOUS WHITEWASHING.

THERE is a danger attending all mature reforms—even philanthropy may degenerate into humbug. FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE has executed her work from beginning to end as if it were a professional labour; for spontaneous enthusiasm is quite capable of exertion as great and as effective as the best trained skill. The enthusiasm is catching; there is a kind which is not spontaneous, but acquired; the imitation sets going a fashion; the fashion degenerates into simple mimicry; its exaction is fulfilled only in form; and by that time the enthusiasm has degenerated to absolute humbug.

We have lately seen a very warm laudation of a society whose object is unquestionably meritorious—we mean the Society for Improving the Dwellings of the Poor. It has been labouring in some of the most crowded and ill-conditioned neighbourhoods of the metropolis; it has been followed by a large amount of newspaper laudation; and what with the unquestionably meritorious purpose, the distinguished gentlemen who are implicated in the project, and the union of high connexions with pious purposes, the Society has taken its rank as a great public benefactor by the simple force of courtesy. Who could call in question a set of gentlemen so eminent, with such manifest sincerity, pursuing a vocation like a missionary band, a collective good Samaritan, amongst the kennels of St. Giles's, and converting the most squalid into the most clean-looking abodes? Now it is well for the leaders of the Society to know that the sterling character of these reforms is called in question, and we do feel ourselves compelled to ask, whether the Association really causes that regenerate state of society in low neighbourhoods, or whether it does not leave matters pretty much as they were, save only a certain artificial gleam of improvement, and the printed praise in the newspapers?

We will take one of the districts in which the Society prides itself upon its reforms. It is true that the Broadway through St. Giles's, the direct route between the north of London and Charing-cross, is becoming more frequented by a respectable class, and is beginning to show that strange mixture between the old corruption and the invading spirit of improvement which can be seen in other parts of London. But this is not the work of the Society. That Society was to create blessed oases of cleanliness amidst squalor; and one place which was to be improved was Clark's-buildings, Broad-street, St. Giles's. The reader who wishes to know the topography of this place may station himself in the Broadway of St. Giles's, where Endell-street and Bloomsbury-street unite; if he will then walk towards Tottenham-court-road, he will presently find both his senses of sight and smell painfully assailed by the emanations from the court or "Buildings." Let him enter, if he has the courage. He will find, indeed, a few respectable families, who have been drawn, perhaps, by the report of reformation. He will also find a society of the least regenerate character—men who are accustomed to the roughest part of London; girls, or young women rather, who belong to a class readily recognized; and boys in training for the worst callings of the metropolis. The inhabitants of the building look very much as if they must exceed in proportion the number of dwellings; and such we believe is the fact. It is said that there are no fewer than twelve, if not thirteen persons of both sexes sleeping and living in one single room. The Society has rules contrary to these practices; but it is one thing to have rules, and another to have the rules observed. The external character of

the court is only the domestic character revealed. From the beginning of the day until far into the next day there is a continual tumult—the effervescent sport of the boys—a tumult which no school hours suspend. When night comes on, before these puerile tumults cease, the drunkenness of the maturer class adds to the chaos. The language is not such as would instruct the hearer; and the disorder of noise is occasionally varied with disorder of a more substantial kind.

Now it is possible that if the Buildings had been very substantially reformed, a thoroughly respectable class might have been called to them, and the non-respectable class might have been kept away by the force of extrusion—by the pre-occupation of the place; such is not the case. When the repaired houses are first visited, they have unquestionably a show of cheerfulness and cleanliness strikingly in contrast with the squalid houses usually belonging to the class. It would be very desirable if the exhibition of such renovated dwellings were examined by competent persons. The grand object is to get rid of the decayed wood-work, and of the vermin bred and harboured by the squalid and dilapidated state of the dwellings. To that end the walls should be thoroughly scraped, the old paper hangings should be entirely removed, and the old dado-skirting and other wood-work should be carried off to be replaced by KEEN'S or other cement. This would destroy the vermin and remove all harbour for them. It would perhaps cost a little more than the process actually employed, which consists in putting yellow ochre over the surface—an expedient superficial in every sense of the word.

When the houses are first repaired they have unquestionably a beautified aspect, and they have been cleaned. Revisit them after they have once come into use, and you will find the old abuses existing as before—the drains choked with filth, unsluiced with water. And the want of water, indeed, gives occasion to many of the altercations that disturb the peace of such places. We can understand that this course may entail less outlay, and may therefore exhibit, with comparatively small subscription, a good balance in the annual account. We can suppose that there is some real improvement in the state of the houses. But when we are asked, as we have been asked, whether this is doing the work in a thorough style, undoubtedly we are not prepared to reply.

We must hand the question over to the Society. We must ask whether the builder's work has been thoroughly done? Whether, if the best class of tenants cannot be called in to occupy the whole of the space "reformed," some protection should not be afforded to those of a better class who do begin the colonization of the "low" neighbourhoods, by establishing some sort of beadle to defend the peace. Not long since, the leading journal, in an article entirely after the fashion, informed us what the Society had done to improve the neighbourhood: we are challenged to state what the Society has *not* done.

Now this Society is extending its operations, and we would respectfully suggest that if it desires to maintain the character which it claimed for itself, it will perform its work hereafter in a more thoroughgoing style. Its next operations, we understand, are to be directed to Church-passage in George-street—a very den of iniquity. When the present leases are out, this place, we hear, is to be handed over to the Society to be reformed. Perhaps before that time the Society will have reformed itself, and will be able to execute that good at which it has heretofore so creditably aspired. Indeed, George-street

might claim the attention of the Society, if it were prepared to realize the objects which it professes.

Of course a Society so respectable, and intending to perform services so sterling, can neither expect nor wish to escape criticism. It cannot intend to improve the dwellings of the poor only within Exeter Hall; but of course it *must* desire to be judged by the dwellings of the poor where those dwellings exist,—to be judged by the results in Clark's-buildings or Church-passage.

THE GENERAL POISONER.

It would be worth while to inquire whether any connexion exists between the defective intellect of the baker and the sulphate of copper he puts into his bread? And whether that defect entitles him to mercy? And what is to become of the population, supposing that to be the case? It may not be very lamentable to eat potato starch with arrowroot, roasted wheat with coffee, sugar with cocoa, flour with mustard, or even turmeric with cayenne; but to be dessicated with alum, dyed with red lead, choked with plaster of Paris, burnt with caustic lime, is more than can reasonably be endured. Take notice that according to the final Report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, we are poisoned, or cheated, as follows:—

Arrowroot is mixed with potato and other starches.
Bread with potatoes, plaster of Paris, alum, and sulphate of copper.
Bottled fruits and vegetables with various salts of copper.
Coffee with chicory (adulterated), roasted wheat, beans, and mangold-wurzel.
Chicory (to adulterate the coffee) with roasted wheat, carrots, sawdust, and Venetian red.
Cocoa with arrowroot (adulterated), potato-flour, sugar, chicory (adulterated), and ferruginous red earths.
Cayenne with ground rice and mustard husk, coloured with red lead, Venetian lead, and turmeric.
Gin with grains of paradise, sulphuric acid, and cayenne.
Lard with potato-flour, mutton suet, alum, carbonate of soda, and caustic lime.
Mustard with wheat-flour and turmeric.
Marmalade with apples or turnips.
Porter and stout with water, sugar, treacle, salt, alum, cocculus indicus, grains of paradise, nux vomica, and sulphuric acid.
Pickles and preserves with salts of copper.
Snuff with various chromates, red lead, lime, and powdered glass.
Tobacco with water, sugar, rhubarb, and treacle.
Vinegar with water, sugar, and sulphuric acid.
Jalap with powdered wood.
Opium with poppy capsules, wheat flour, powdered wood, and sand.
Scammony with wheat flour, chalk, resin, and sand.
Confectionary with plaster of Paris, paint, with deadly pigments, and essential oils containing prussic acid.

This is no longer suspected, but proved. But the Committee of the House of Commons, for once reversing the maxim that property is more valuable than life, propose to exonerate the cheat, and to fine or imprison only the poisoner. Had they looked far into the nature and effect of laws, they would have perceived that dishonesty, legitimized, becomes dangerous, and that to admit the practice of adulteration is to encourage adulteration of all kinds, whether hurtful to life or not. If you suffer the petty tradesman to mix ground rice with cayenne, is not that a temptation to the use of Venetian red as a colouring matter? Suppose the law were to prohibit the Venetian red and allow the ground rice, would not the adulterator find out some unnoticed poison, such as those which have been lately discovered in South America, and thus evade the *index expurgatorius* of colouring ingredients? The only safe and intelligible principle is to insist that what is sold as sugar shall be sugar, and not plaster of Paris, and that to forge a green tint in pickles with salts of copper shall be as illegal as to utter a spurious bill of exchange. When is money obtained under false pretences, if not by the dealer who sells powdered

carrots for chicory, flour for mustard, potato meal for cocoa? Of course the sale of caustic lime for lard, and powdered glass for snuff, is a worse offence; but it is the office of legislation to discriminate between the qualities of crime, to inflict on mere rogues the penalties of roguery, and on the more desperate adulterators, who traffic in poison, punishments adequate to the atrocity. If the maxim of law holds good, that a man intends the consequences of every deliberate act, why should the miscreant, who, taking advantage of the confidence of trade, introduces into your system a daily dose of red lead, or sends ground glass into your brain, or prepares you for the Asiatic cholera by infusions of verdigris, be treated as less than a felon or a misdemeanant of the worst order? But, that he should be punished severely is no reason why the "cogging knave" who gives the poor invalid potato starch for arrowroot, or decomposed turnip for marmalade, should not be punished at all. What we want is honesty, and the law that should tell the tradesman he may be dishonest, but only "to a certain extent," would not be a very creditable addition to our statute-book.

THE DULL DAYS.

EVEN on the dullest day something may be said. We can always say, How dull it is! Yet that is not very interesting. With Parliament dispersed, men silent, books few, everybody engaged in the serious pursuit of pleasure, publishers abroad, announcements held back, how many are forced into reminiscent moods, to cast up the accounts of the season. It is carefully recorded what bills were passed, and what were not passed; total amounts connected with trade and revenue are laid before us; leaders count their parties, and parties criticize their leaders. Still the days are dull. There is no excitement anywhere, except that of some agonizing scene in a court of justice, or the miserable moralities of the scaffold. This week, one of our excellent contemporaries was furnished with a fictitious report of a trial in the Court of Exchequer, which is not sitting, and printed it at the cost of an apology. The whole case—names, dates, incidents—proved to be a fabrication; but as they raised the curtain upon some of the equivocal dramas of modern life, the story was too acceptable to be laid aside for authentication.

The Court is not particularly active just now, so that Court correspondents have nothing to say, but that Prince ALBERT went up Southampton Water in the *Elfin*, and then joined the QUEEN in the *Fairy*, and that afterwards they asked Lord BRISTOL to dinner. It is true that, a few days ago, the "authorities" at Plymouth were "astounded"—did not the *Post* say so?—by a signal that the royal yacht was in view, and that the establishments were to be royally inspected. But such events have been few. We have fallen back on comets, and count the meteors. We hear with interest that turnips are late, that wheat looks well, and that oats have stood the rain surprisingly. Some one, too, has come to the relief of the used-up, by inquiring why the Victoria Cross idea has faded with the roses and lilies of 1856. There is even a disposition to forge bright sayings of SYDNEY SMITH; but the weather is against it. Nor has the Kraken loomed this early autumn off the Norway coast.

Of course we have had the British Association, but that is over—the breakfasts, the presidential oration, the sectional tables, excursions, the dining, and promenading. A great philanthropic congress, however, is held at Bristol, and one of the happiest things connected with it is that Lord BROUGHAM has emitted a spark. The Em-

peror of RUSSIA is to be crowned, and gilded squadrons are to tramp through Moscow, and carriages like fairy pavilions are to be drawn along by milk-white horses, and the city is to wear a purple dress, and to be plumed, and burnished, and turned for the day into a barbaric dream. Perhaps, too, Italy may present a burning contrast to this scene of pomp, half French, half Tartar, for at any hour the Lazzaroni may be assassinating the Neapolitan people, the tocsin may be heard in Milan, and a shock may take place upon the Sardinian frontier. But all these matters are apart from the London season. No matter where there is to be a coronation or a revolution, we are dull at home, and we almost wish that Prince ALBERT would give the Emperor of RUSSIA an invitation to come and see the people of England, exactly as he invited the Emperor of the FRENCH to spend a week in his England.

Of other theatricals we have not many. Tragedy has retired, for a season, and not being able to enjoy *La Traviata* for the present, we are free to hate its immorality, and to wonder whether Vice should wear a perpetual mask, like a prisoner at Pentonville. Only our LUCIANS, small and smaller, are on the stage, some practising wit, others comicality, that most melancholy resource of dullness, next to suicide. Woe to the destitute, shut up in London, who hope to be amused by hearing a kennel lyric sung on the top of a paper Parnassus! But what is to be done? The weather is bad. No one is in town. There are few new books, or few worth reading. The daily journals are criticizing, at columnar length, the productions of last spring. Dead masses of dust and shilling volumes encumber the stalls. Only an occasional novel is published. The one chance for a heart drowned in dullness is an introduction to the Queen of OUDE, and her six maids of honour, who are unwarrantably kept behind red and yellow screens. A lady who can pay twelve guineas a day for the use of an hotel is worth knowing. But she is accompanied by several of those peculiarly qualified Asiatics, who stand with rattans at the doors of the harim to guard whatever mysteries of beauty or ugliness may be within. So that, while her gold and her rubies circulate, she will be like the divinity of a Grecian river—invisible, though bounteously bribing.

THE LECTURING SEASON.

LORD PALMERSTON leads off the amateurs at Manchester. There are announcements of other noble lecturers. They will be followed by the professional class, and by the class of local gentlemen who talk to their neighbourhoods for an hour and a half, with no other cost to the institution than a vote of thanks. These are good influences at work; but a remark contained in the thirty-second annual report of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution brings to notice a reform that has been found necessary in the lecturing system. The system, to say the truth, has been woefully abused. A number of men of very low qualifications have adopted lecturing as their vocation; audiences have been pleased by flashy experiments, and loose tissues of anecdote; frequently, the lecture degenerates into an entertainment, and under the pretence of illustrating the history of music, becomes a series of violent solos. The Directors of the Manchester Institution have felt, therefore, that the old system was expensive, unprofitable, and deceptive. It had ceased to be educational. It had dwindled into a mere process of amusement and display. Certainly they are right to set it aside in favour of less frivolous and superficial methods of instruction. The proposal is to have better

lecturers and fewer of them, and Mr. FAIRBURN, Mr. MORELL, and Mr. HUNT have, during the past season, proved that the audience of a mechanics' institute may be addressed with effect on subjects of large interest, in a comprehensive style. There is an essential difference between the common professional lecturer and the common amateur. The Professed is lively, shallow, universal, and indefinitely voluble. He can lecture on the relations of the sciences, on the Hindu cosmogony, on the British Constitution, on things remote and things familiar, with inexhaustible facility. He is never doubtful or embarrassed. He never penetrates too far into one branch of knowledge, he wants only "facts" and "illustrations" for an hour and a half of discourse, rapid and random, and, whether in regard to the atomic theory, the sources of the National debt, the *volvox globator*, or LEWENHOECK's notions of animalculæ, can "get up his matter" so as profoundly to impress the two hundred persons, two hundred miles from London, who attend to his clever outpourings. We have heard of a lecture on Eastern history "got up" in a railway carriage, between Paddington and Monmouth. We have heard of others, which the lecturer was perfectly aware contained statements of exploded but fascinating hypotheses, especially in connexion with the natural sciences.

The Amateur is usually more sincere. He has gone deeply into his seriously-selected topic, and, with somebody "of influence" in the chair, a body of well-dressed friends to encourage him, and the one stray mechanic who is usually seen in a mechanics' institution to listen, believe, and admire, is often a "decided success." His object is most frequently abstruse, or very special, and he has, in almost all cases, "new views" of his own in connexion with it. Certain hitherto unsuggested ideas in connexion with the Targums and Talmuds have struck the Amateur, and the friends of "the Institute" who would be glad to know what Targums are, are told that there really is some doubt whether ONKELOS or JONATHAN had anything to do with them. Or the worship of the serpent is discussed, the Mosaic idea of serpents being attributed to all nations, so that a very ingenious theory inevitably starts into being. These, of course, are exaggerated illustrations, though not fictitious; but we think some of our readers would be able to contribute a few notes of not dissimilar purport.

The Society of Arts has aided in effecting a change for the better. Many names in its annual list, however, prove that no high qualifications are necessary to obtain whatever in the nature of a credential is implied by a mention in the official catalogue of lecturers. As lecturing will obviously become the fashion of the age, and as it might be converted into a powerful educational influence, it seems worth while to reflect upon the remarks of the Manchester Board, and to ascertain whether the system may not be largely improved.

THE FEARS OF DESPOTISM.—"A London Lawyer" communicates to the daily papers a story of petty oppression on the part of the Austrian Government. He has been practically refused admission to Lombardy, because he belongs to a family which has shown sympathy with the Italians. Being told to attend personally at the Austrian embassy to get his passport *visé*, he was there informed that the required authorization could not be given. After a good deal of mystery, the reason came out, as already stated. "I at once admitted," says the gentleman in question, "that I numbered among my friends several of the Italian refugees in this country. The pettiness of this system of espionage is a fitting pendant to the oppression of the Government of His Most Apostolic Majesty."

GENERAL KMETZ has addressed a letter to General Sir W. F. Williams, complaining of his scanty recognition of his (General Kmetz's) services at Kars, in the course of one of his recently delivered speeches.

Open Council.

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

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

THE REV. WILLIAM LAMBERT.

(To the Editor of the Leader.)

SIR,—As you have admitted into the columns of your journal an official notice concerning me, which appeared in the *Ecclesiastical Gazette*, I must appeal to your sense of justice to insert my protest against the cruelty of the sentence which it records, and which, from my age and other circumstances, amounts in effect to a sentence of deprivation.

I was compelled by my poverty to throw myself upon the just and merciful consideration of the Bishop of London; and I confess that my knowledge of his Lordship's character led me to expect from him a decision very different from that which he has given.

Had I possessed the means of going into the Court of Arches, I am persuaded that I should have been able fully to confute the evidence on which I have been condemned. But as I could not afford to pay for justice in any of the ecclesiastical courts, I can only thus publicly declare, as in the presence of Almighty God, and in the near view of death and the eternal world, that I am entirely innocent of everything laid to my charge, with the exception of that which I had myself confessed, and which took place nearly three years ago.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM LAMBERT.

Ealing, August 13, 1856.

A CHILD WITH TWO MOTHERS.—A strange dispute as to the maternity of a child is related by the *Durham Chronicle*. A young woman came before the magistrates to make a complaint. Her counsel stated that she had formerly been an unfortunate girl, and in the month of December, 1852, she became pregnant. She entered the Sunderland workhouse to be confined, where she gave birth to a fine, healthy female child. Mrs. Davison, who was acquainted with her, called to see her at the workhouse. Mrs. Davison then appeared as if in a state of pregnancy, caused, as it afterwards turned out, by pillows and padding having been placed about her person. Mrs. Davison then stated to the young girl that she lived unhappily with her husband, owing to her not having any children, and he frequently beat her for no other reason. She asked the girl if she would let her have the child, which was then about a week old, and she would bring it carefully up, and also make her husband believe that she had been delivered of it in his absence. She would consider it a particular favour, as it would cause her to live more comfortably with her husband. The child, she said, could be seen by the mother whenever she thought proper to visit it. To this proposition the girl agreed, and gave Mrs. Davison the child. Mr. Davison returned home, and was quite delighted with the "young stranger." For a time, all went smoothly on; the mother frequently saw the child, which was treated with every kindness. Ultimately, however, the mother got married to a shipwright named Fenwick, who, when he learnt the story, expressed a great desire to have the child brought home. Mrs. Davison, after the mother's marriage, refused to allow her to see the child, and therefore Mrs. Fenwick went to Mrs. Davison's house, and during her absence ran off with the child. When Mrs. Davison returned, she was greatly alarmed at her loss, and went to Mrs. Fenwick's house and took away the child. The mother, being determined not to be outdone, went again to the other woman's house and stole the child a second time. She was afterwards followed by Mrs. Davison and her husband, who claimed the child, but this time the mother had the child safe. Thereupon violent dissensions ensued, which were continued to such a degree that the police interfered, and both the mothers were taken before the magistrates, who, finding it impossible to decide as to the maternity of the child, advised Mrs. Davison to allow Mrs. Fenwick to keep it, and not to interfere with her in future. This singular case was then dismissed, and Mrs. Fenwick walked off in triumph with the child.

THE LATE MADAME VESTRIS.—The funeral of the late Madame Vestris took place on Thursday week at Kensal-green Cemetery. The ceremony was of a perfectly private nature, there being only one mourning-coach, in which were Mr. Charles Mathews, the physician attendant upon the deceased, and Mr. Morison, a friend of the family.

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 only periodical which France possesses as a rival to the *Revue des Deux Mondes* is the *Revue de Paris*, which, after four years' existence, now seems likely to hold its ground as an organ of liberal opinion. In the July numbers there are, besides other papers of interest, two of more than ordinary ability, written by M. FRÉDÉRIC MORIN, on the "Philosophy of Science sought in its History." We by no means agree with the conclusions of this writer, but we call the attention of thoughtful readers to his articles. He endeavours to prove that the vulgar notion respecting the characteristics of ancient and modern science is a vulgar error; and it is certain that the majority of men hold the opinions he combats, although the few do not. It is only the superficial who think that modern science differs from ancient science in placing all its solicitude in observation, and rigorously excluding everything but fact. Men often talk in this way at meetings of the British Association, and on the platforms of lecture rooms, but no competent persons think it. Those, however, who neither say nor think it, would hesitate before accepting M. MORIN's conclusion that we must either declare science absolutely separated from all metaphysics, or else restrict it to the bare observation and enumeration of facts. He explains how ancient science was guided by metaphysics, how the Ptolemaic system of astronomy was inseparable from the metaphysical conception of "substantial forms," and could not be overthrown till that conception was displaced; he explains how the ancients did not neglect observation of the study of facts, more than the moderns; and having shown that ancient physics depended on metaphysics, he concludes that modern physics also depends on modern metaphysics; and that the present condition is only transitional, awaiting the proper elaboration of the metaphysical idea of force. It would lead us too far to discuss the various points of M. MORIN's essay, but we may sum up our main objection in a sentence. The difference between the Metaphysical and the Positive Methods is, not that the one employs Reason and the other Observation only, but that the hypothesis which the metaphysician employs as a reality, the positivist employs as an artifice; on a basis of fact both build; but the metaphysician ekes out observation by the produce of his own thought, and believes in the equal validity of the two; the positivist does not believe the interpretation of equal validity with the fact, but uses it as a provisional explanation which subsequent observation may verify. In a word, the peculiar character of modern science is that it insists on the verification of every fact, hypothesis, or law; whatever is not verified is held as provisional. A single illustration will suffice. Several persons gently lay their hands upon a table without pushing it, and the table moves round. Such is the fact. A metaphysician desiring to explain this fact, declares it is produced by Spirits, or by Electricity. The positivist demands that this shall be verified. Not accepting the validity of a mere hypothesis, he insists, first that the presence of Spirits or electricity be proved; next, that the action of Spirits or electricity on a table is such as to make it move round. The metaphysician hears these demands with scorn. He is content with his hypothesis because it explains the fact. The idea of verification has never entered his head. He is content with reasoning; but, as BACON profoundly says, such explanations are valueless, for the subtlety of nature greatly exceeds the subtlety of argument—*subtilitas naturæ subtilitatem argumentandi multis partibus superat; sed axiomata a particularibus rite et ordine abstracta nova particularia rursus facile indicant et designant*; and it is these "new particulars" which form the links in the chain of causation.

The photographic portraits of "Living Celebrities" which Messrs. MAULI and POLYBLANK are publishing, will include, apparently, the most various types. After Professor OWEN and T. B. MACAULAY, we have now ROBERT STEPHENSON and J. A. ROEDUCK. Physiognomists and phrenologists will be delighted with the solid sagacity of the great engineer's head, his large perceptive, and his resolute look. The Reformer's somewhat querulous doggedness, rendered pathetic by the evident traces of feeble health, looks out from this photograph with unmistakable verity. We must, however, once more complain of the poorness of the biographical notices which accompany these portraits.

The American expeditions in search of Sir JOHN FRANKLIN were noble acts on the part of our sister country, and America seems determined that the expedition shall not have been altogether fruitless. The second expedition—during the years 1853, '54, '55—furnishes a splendid work which Dr. KANE has written, and which Messrs. TRÜBNER are about to publish, in two richly illustrated volumes. A casual glance at these illustrations has excited our curiosity about the work itself, in which we anticipate a rare combination of romance and science, of adventure and observation.

Last week we spoke of the increasing seriousness with which SHAKESPEARE is now appreciated in France, and the best example of this is, before us in the shape of a translation of the Poems and Sonnets by M. ERNEST LAFOND.

In England, we are accustomed to make merry with French translations; not without cause. But M. LAFOND has produced a translation which, for accuracy and elegance may stand beside the German translations, allowance being made for the difference of the two languages. He has printed the original at the bottom of the page that his accuracy may be severely tested. We will quote one sonnet, literally opening the volume at random:—

Fatigué de courir, je me couche en mon lit,
Ce doux champ de repos pour l'homme de tout âge:
Mais dans ma tête alors je commence un voyage
Et fais après mon corps travailler mon esprit.
Car mes penses, actifs à quitter mon réduit,
Entreprennent vers vous leur cher pèlerinage;
Je tiens mes yeux ouverts pour pouvoir au passage
Dérober quelque chose aux ombres de la nuit.
Heureux! quand j'aperçois, par les yeux de mon âme,
Votre forme apparaître aux plis de mon rideau,
Et dans l'obscurité briller comme un joyau!
La nuit est belle alors; mais vous voyez, madame,
Qu'il n'est point de repos, au dedans, au dehors,
Ni la nuit le jour, pour mon âme ou mon corps.

Weary with toil, I haste me to my bed,
The dear repose for limbs with travel tir'd;
But then begins a journey in my head,
To work my mind, when body's work's expir'd.
For then my thoughts (from far where I abide)
Intend a zealous pilgrimage to thee,
And keep my drooping eyelids open wide,
Looking on darkness which the blind do see:
Save that my soul's imaginary sight
Presents thy shadow to my sightless view,
Which, like a jewel hung in ghastly night,
Makes black night beauteous, and her old face new.
Lo, thus, by day my limbs, by night my mind,
For thee, and for myself, no quiet find.

A close comparison will detect in this the weaknesses inevitable in translation; for how could the same felicities be preserved in a different form? For example:—

And keep my drooping eyelids open wide,
Looking on darkness which the blind do see,

is weakly paraphrased:—

Je tiens mes yeux ouverts pour pouvoir au passage
Dérober quelque chose aux ombres de la nuit.

And further, *les yeux de mon âme* do not reproduce the force of "my soul's imaginary sight." When, however, we reflect on the differences of the French and English languages and poetry, and remember that the translator has the exigencies of rhyme to observe, we shall admit the translation to be singularly successful.

CHARLES READE'S NEW NOVEL.

It is Never too Late to Mend: a Matter of Fact Romance. By Charles Reade, Author of "Christie Johnstone," &c. 3 vols. Bentley.

THIS 'matter of fact Romance' has many qualities which will fix the attention of novel-readers, and, above all, it has the quality of readableness. Without being peculiarly fastidious, the reader will frequently be annoyed by certain defects of matter and manner, but even the most fastidious will go through the three volumes interested, sometimes excited. Mr. Reade has rightly judged that subjects such as prison-life, and life in the Australian settlements and diggings, afford the romancist abundant material of what is at once intensely real and terribly startling. He has dramatized a Bluebook on the prisons; and his readers will perfectly well remember the horror with which the exposure of the cruelties and stupidities practised in the Birmingham gaol was received a little while ago, after the benevolent Captain Maconochie was superseded by another governor, less benevolent and less wise; but most readers will at the same time perceive that, in the dramatizing of these terribly real practices, the author has been guilty of exaggeration as injudicious as it is painful. He has repeated the character of Legree. He has painted unmixed, unmitigated villany, and the black colours have been laid on with a trowel, not a brush. *Indignatio fecit tiburum*—he has been too indignant to draw steadily, he has been too angry to see clearly. The horrors of Birmingham gaol required nothing but simple statement to arouse the reader's indignation; but in this novel we see the writer in a passion—excusable as passion, but inexcusable as art. This is the more to be regretted because the scenes of prison-life have strange fascination, and in many respects are painted with strange power. Mr. Hawes is too gratuitously diabolical, and Mr. Eden too romantically perfect; neither of them is a human being, yet they keep the interest for ever on the stretch. Mr. Reade's object is to excite unmitigated horror for the silent system, and he succeeds; but having an object beyond that of simply thrilling novel-readers, he will learn to regret that his advocacy should so much have damaged his cause by its violence and its exaggeration.

The scenes in Australia, and at the diggings, have doubtless a solid basis in fact, and even if greatly exaggerated, the exaggeration belongs to romance, and will do no harm. The Berkshire farmer's first experiences of the settlement are touchingly told, and so also are the relapses of the penitent thief, and his difficulties in getting back into honest ways of life. The adventures in the diggings are full of excitement—the perils and escapes, the villany and the virtue, the ups and downs are so managed that we read on with unflagging interest, if with slight belief. It is a romance, and the romance-writer uses his privileges. Probabilities are not to be asked of him, only interest, and interest he gives.

Although as a matter of excitement the scenes in prison and at the diggings surpass the quieter scenes of rural life with which the novel opens, we greatly prefer the quieter scenes. Nothing can be older than the

situation: A young Berkshire farmer, George Fielding, in love with his cousin Susan Merton, is in difficulties with his farming, and has a wealthy rival whose pretensions are secret. This rival—of course a rascal, and quite respectable—betrays the state of Fielding's difficulties to old Merton, to make him break off the match. Merton, though a father, is a farmer; and won't give his girl to a beggar. George, however, extorts his promise that, if in Australia he can make a thousand pounds, Susan shall be his. In the hope of getting his thousand pounds, he goes away: leaving the field clear for his rival's machinations. There is nothing new in this, but the freshness of treatment and the happy perception of character make it very interesting. Susan Merton is in these earlier scenes capably drawn; in spite of an occasional inaccuracy in the drawing, we feel that a flesh-and-blood woman is before us. George Fielding is also flesh and blood; so is Jacky the Australian, in many happy details. The rest of the characters are lay figures—the conventional perfect parson, the conventional hypocrite of respectability; the conventional lawyer-villain used as a tool by the hypocrite; the conventional clever fellow; but not the conventional Jew: Isaac Levi is an "Asian mystery" compounded of Shylock, Sheva, and Disraeli's great race.

Mr. Reade is a playwright rather than a dramatist. He shows us some of the dramatist in Susan and George; but the playwright predominates throughout the volumes. It is seen in the constant and irritating striving for 'effect.' He not only shows us that he is working up to a situation—a tableau on which the curtain may fall—but he shows us the puerile efforts at effect in devices of printing—in tirades of rant—in foolish woodcuts meant to be impressive. He can write so simply, and writes so well when he writes simply, that his friends should warn him against unworthy imitations of the inferior French novelists. Short chapters of a few lines, and paragraphs of a few words, or sentences in capitals really are not effective, but only show that they were meant to be so. When he does not show that he is trying to be effective, few writers are more so. When he is not indulging in small affectations, which surely can please no one and certainly displease those whose admiration he would prize highest, he writes clearly, eloquently, picturesquely. He has seen varieties of life, and has had his eye open. His style is graceful and strong. His power of telling a story, not descriptively but dramatically, is considerable; and he has a nice perception of what is healthy and hearty in human nature—especially in women. With these qualities we ought to see him produce a novel which would not simply amuse that unfastidious class of readers subscribing to circulating libraries, but also the other class, larger and more cultivated, which reads with gratitude a good novel but seldom troubles the library. *It is Never too Late to Mend* is such a novel, though not ranking high in the class. No one will re-read it. The author has bestowed great pains on it; he has put into it more solid work than goes to make a dozen novels; but he has been less careful with his characters than with his details, and more solicitous of 'effects' than of effect. Had some real friend gone carefully over the proofs, he might have weeded the pages of their affectations, but the most serious drawback would have still remained, and we call Mr. Reade's attention to this because he is a young writer capable of higher things, we believe, than any he has yet written. What are the qualities which make the *Vicar of Wakefield*—*Tom Jones*—*Pride and Prejudice*—*Ivanhoe*—the *Scarlet Letter* (we select intentionally very dissimilar fictions) works so memorable, works so re-readable? Not their incidents, not their 'effects,' but their quiet, stealthy grasp of the imagination and the affections, their characters, which seem so real. Something of what they have Susan Merton has, when she does not wander into rhetoric; and after all the hurry and agitation of the incidents, after all the villainies, and perils, and successes of this story, the mind goes back to Susan Merton, and the bucolic scenes of the early chapters. This is a fact which should be a lesson.

OLD ENGLISH MANNERS.

The Social History of the People of the Southern Counties of England in Past Centuries.
By George Roberts. Longman and Co.

MR. ROBERTS has had some rare opportunities of research in the social chronicles of England—the southern counties especially. These opportunities, however, have been the result, not of accident, but of a rare enthusiasm. His expenses, he tells us, have resembled those of a man carrying on a devouring lawsuit, in the expectation of a large inheritance. He has paid a staff of clerks and copyists, has travelled long and far, has explored the forgotten archives of ancient boroughs, has amassed a valuable documentary collection, and has published a work which can never pay the cost of its production. We assume that he has fair grounds for this calculation; but the volume bears no comparison to many we have met with that *must* have been a loss to their authors. A late English epic, of more than a quarter of a million of lines, was bequeathed to its editor with a guarantee fund of two thousand guineas. But Mr. Roberts's book is particularly readable, and likely to be popular. He is an antiquary; but his antiquarianism is not obtrusive; he is special but not monotonous; he has produced, in fact, a practical key to Mr. Macaulay's remarkable chapter on the manners of our ancestors. Whoever was interested in that chapter will be interested in this volume—a genuine labour of love, abounding in well-selected miscellanies and pictures of old English life. Many writers have discoursed of the same topics; but few, if any, have possessed the minute knowledge, the conscientious zeal, or what we may term the archaeological intelligence of Mr. Roberts, who applies his testimonies and anecdotes to the illustration of the general social habits, municipal laws, and civil progress of the southern counties of England. The presents formally made to great men, the bribes given to judges, the fees claimed by servants, formed, scarcely more than a century ago, a kind of secret circulation, penetrating and vitiating almost every class of society. From a bottle of Gascon wine, or a basket of shrimps, to a heavy purse of money, bribery, "that princely sort of thieving," was grateful to justices, juries, and members of parliament, though it was seldom practised with so much effect as by Mr. John Trevor, the Speaker of the House of Commons, who, in 1693, was compelled to put the question that he

himself should be expelled. In fact, the Speaker's support of a private bill was fixed at a thousand guineas. Sir Basil Firebrace, however, though not a Speaker, valued himself at 40,000*l.*, and was paid by the East India Company. Other great men were corrupted by corporation dinners, by treats of "cophee" and tea, "that excellent and by all physicians approved China drink, called by the Chinese Tcha, by other nations Tay, *alias* Tee," which Pepys "did fancy" so well. There are curious chapters on our early maritime progress, on the slave-trade, and of the Salee, Turkish, and English rovers in the channel. Mr. Roberts says:—

Thucydides describes the ancient state of the coasts of Greece in language that would be suitable to a picture in olden time of the coasts of England. The old towns of both countries, owing to the long continuance of piracy, were built farther off from the sea, or inland. The later towns were built on the sea-shores and on isthmuses, surrounded by walls for protection.

And was not this the case in England? The first church, the parent church of many towns, is from the sea. Towns that quite eclipse the original village exist, but are much more recent. Thus, for example, see Wyke, the parent of Weymouth; Sutton Poyntz, of Melcombe; Littleham, of Exmouth; Broadwater, of Worthing; Tor, of Torquay; Brixham, of Brixham-quay, for shortness Brixham. See Bridport, Abbotsbury with its monastery, and Charmouth, placed back from the sea. Our old Cinque-Port and sea-side towns were walled, and they needed that protection.

When our traders hired Dutch privateers to protect them, when our government paid an annual ransom to the King of Morocco, when pirates landed at Studland and cut down the gallows, when beacons blazing from cape to cape warned the coast-dwellers to fly inland, when the fortification of maritime towns was left to the burgesses, and when the soldiery were more offensive than useful to the inhabitants, when Captain Wolsely encouraged his troopers to toss the mayor of Scarborough in a blanket "to make him know that the military power was above the civil," the good old times were no very fascinating aspects. Meanwhile, though "the state" was helpless, it was intensely meddlesome. In 1650 it punished John Bryne, of Piddletrenthide, with fine and imprisonment for being "litigious;" it shut up John Barton, of Beaminster, for three days, for being "a discontented politician;" Robert Hancock, for being a railer was committed to the Dorchester House of Correction, to be chastised at the discretion of his keeper. Every assize was a reign of terror:—

In Somersetshire alone, in 1596, forty persons were executed, thirty-five burned in the hand, and thirty-seven severely whipped!

Tumbrels for disgrace and infamy—ducking-stools for the punishment of scolds, witches, and naughty women—whipping-posts for the discipline of women, men, and boys—halters, pillories, stocks, and branks, or gags, for taming shrews, were among the essential implements of borough government. Mr. Roberts has discovered, however, that so late as 1708 there was a woman at Lewes who would whip anybody for a shilling:—

The charge of fourpence made for whipping a boy continued for many years the same. The whipping of a woman who was a stranger was little more costly; but the inflicting such a punishment upon a townsman was remunerated at a higher rate, as may well be supposed, from a consideration of several circumstances. To take a violent, noisy woman from her chamber, tie madam to the tumbrel and whip her round the town, was an undertaking that demanded assistance and protection to the official or hiring that wielded the thong.

Incorrigible vagrants, after being hardened at the whipping-post, were sometimes hanged:—

At the Michaelmas sessions held at Bridport the following entry occurs:—

"Elizabetha Johnson, alias Stevens, pro vagrant tanq. vagabund. incorrigibil. suspend. per collu. usque dm. mortua sit."

The records of the colony of Massachusetts Bay contain nothing so frightful.

This being a book of gleanings, we shall best illustrate its character by gleanings from it. In a chapter on the paucity, in former times, of many articles of great convenience in daily life, Mr. Roberts observes:—

Instead of pining and whining over the decline of hospitality, the disuse of what are called the good old customs, if we pursue the subject we shall discover how comfortable the past was by comparison with the present; that the days of Good Queen Bess were bonny for the great, but miserable for the smaller folk.

The evidence is forcible:—

Inspect the archives of boroughs about the beginning of the sixteenth century. On how small a scale was everything conducted. How poor most men must have been. Everything did not stand in due ratio to each other. The comparative value of money has not been accurately assigned; and though many things were tolerable, taken in reference to men and manners of the time, much misery had to be endured in various ways.

When William of Wickham was building Windsor Castle, Adam de Huntingdon had the control of the work. He was compelled to have all the metal work executed on the spot, to build forges and furnaces, to fetch coals from Durham. The boatbuilder had to make nails for his own use. Tenants of manors were forced to grind their corn at "the lord's mill," and even in the sixteenth century traces of ancient barbarism remained in the west:—

Ships were small; carts and carriages rare; clothing dear; many vegetables unknown. The shops were open to the streets, and not glazed; books were scarce, and very dear. Hundreds of articles, each a great convenience, saving of time, and promoters of elegance and neatness, had never been heard of. The shank bones of sheep were formerly used for skates.

For variety's sake, turn to a gossip on cider:—

The excellence of the cider made throughout the breadth of the cider-growing West is very great; the quantity is enormous. Some localities, which have a good name for their cider, send out much more cider than is produced therein, like in wine countries, so much does man resemble man in all countries and ages. The growers in the localities in question buy Norman apples at a cheap rate, and mix them with their own fruit.

Could the monks of Montebourg have dreamt of cider selling at ten guineas a hog-head for bottling? A wide field for improvement of the fruit trees for orchards still lies before the negligent cultivator. The cockygee, or any other famous apple tree, covers no more space than a worthless tree. Fine cider, properly bottled, is a drink that may compete with much of the sparkling German wine. Those who have met with the following statement will excuse its introduction here:

Some gentlemen, travelling from Strasbourg to Freybury, stopped at the village of Altenheim, in Baden, at an inn kept by a respectable man who farmed his own estate of 100 acres. Perceiving how loaded the trees of his orchard were, the English gentleman spoke of the great crop of apples and of cider. The German informed them that no cider was made in that country; the juice was mixed with the juice of grapes, and made into wine.

And next, to Mr. Roberts's historical note on criminal ordeals:—

In the year 1613, there lived in the country, on the southern border of Somerset, near Wambrook, a Master Babb, who advanced his suit to marry a widow near Taunton. She gave him a refusal; but he afterwards secreted himself in her brew-house, in order to have an opportunity of again preferring his suit.

The widow, when she heard his offer, exclaimed, in the emphatic language of the time, "Have thee, base rascal? No!" and struck him on the head with a pewter candlestick. Babb killed her with sixteen wounds, and put the knife in a wound, and in her hand, to make it be believed it was a case of self-destruction.

Mr. Warre, an influential magistrate of Hestercombe House, a seat near Taunton, believed the common opinion of the time, that if the murderer touched the corpse of his victim the blood would immediately flow from the wound, and discover the guilty. This active magistrate caused the body to be disinterred, that all the inhabitants living within a circle of three miles might assemble to touch the body, and go through this painful ordeal. Babb ran away to escape this dreadful mode of testing each neighbouring inhabitant's innocence. His racking conscience left him no repose: he returned and yielded himself up to justice.

The Assizes for Somerset were held at Chard in 1613, where Babb was tried, and received sentence. He was hanged near Wambrook. Sir Symonds D'Ewes went to see the execution from his school, or from Coaxden Hall, which is at a short distance only from the former place.

These manners were consistent with the prejudices of an age in which potatoes were denounced as the cause of leprosy, and coals as the origin of the plague. "No potatoes, no Popery!" was a popular cry. Stow himself declared that God would punish those who built towers to their houses.

Mr. Roberts's volume, though not written with any special purpose, is, to some extent, directed against the idea that the England of the Tudors was preferable to the England of our own days. Certainly, the good old times will not bear close inspection. If any reader be sceptical on this point, or, whether sceptical or not, be in search of a book by which to be at once amused and informed, "The Social History of the Southern Counties" will satisfy him.

RECOLLECTIONS OF HEINE.

Heinrich Heine. *Erinnerungen von Alfred Meissner.* (Recollections of Heinrich Heine, by Alfred Meissner.) Trübner and Co.

It is the base habit of us mortals generally, to enjoy things first and find fault with them afterwards, to reap some pleasant fruit from other men's doings and then cry out against them as misdoings. Thus we, after running through these *Recollections of Heine* with considerable interest, and gathering from them several details which enable us to correct or fill up the picture of him in our imagination, are inclined, now we lay down Herr Meissner's book, to blame him for falling into the temptation of bookmaking, and diluting into a volume the matter which might easily have been conveyed in an article. But since, after all, the volume is a small one, and is written agreeably enough, we repress our critical impulse, and prefer noticing with satisfaction the at once sympathetic and impartial spirit in which these *Recollections* are written. Herr Meissner is himself a poet, and what is more, a poet with whom Heine never quarrelled; during several long visits to Paris he was a frequent visitor, and in the intervals a constant correspondent of Heine's; and he saw him both alone and in the society of others at different stages of his seven years' lingering death; so that he gives us the experience of an appreciative friend, and not the gossip of a tourist or a lion-hunter. The fact that this experience was always personally agreeable to himself has not prevented him from forming a sober estimate of Heine, and he does not discredit his own testimony by indiscriminating laudation. Considering his opportunities, we might have expected a greater amount of positive material in these *Recollections*, if we had not remembered how fragmentary and often incommunicable are the particulars from which we build up our conception even of many whom we call our intimate friends. Herr Meissner, however, has the power of reproducing such particulars with considerable vividness, and from his successive sketches, for which he assures us he has not drawn on his memory, but on notes carefully made while a scene or conversation was fresh in his mind, the reader may very well gather an idea of Heine's habits and *entourage* at different epochs during the later years of his life.

Nothing could be more common-place than Heine's Paris home—three small rooms on the third story, moderately furnished, and looking on a narrow, dimly-lighted court. The sitting-room had the usual white marble chimney-piece, with the inevitable Parisian mirror and vases filled with artificial flowers; and this chimney-piece was the most striking object in the room. All that seemed exceptional about this home was, that when you knocked at the door, it was opened by an old pock-marked negress, in a motley silk turban, and you heard the screaming of a parrot from Madame Heine's room.

And what sort of woman was Madame Heine? Here is Meissner's answer to this question:—

It is possible to be of opinion that Heine ought to have made a different choice, but it must be admitted that his marriage was characteristic and poetic. He had lived several years with his wife—Crescence Mathilde Mirat was her full name—without being married to her. It was one of those unions which are so frequent in Paris that they are almost legitimized in the eyes of the world, and are called *ménages Parisiens*. Innumerable are the marriages of this kind, especially among artists; the woman enjoys all the rights of a legitimate wife, and only the most intimate friends know that the ecclesiastical blessing and the civil contract are wanting. It is only after the lapse of some years—usually when there are children and the parents become more closely linked together—that the sanction of the church is sought for, and that happens as with Beranger, who in a similar way lived for years with his much sung Lisette:—

"Ces deux époux ont mis enfin
De l'eau bénite dans leur vin."

Heine had no children; but, on the other hand, there was another reason for his completing his marriage in the strictest form. It was the duel with Herr S. In order that Matilda might not be unprovided for, that his relatives might take care of her, in case of his death, he made her his wife. . . . Matilda's nature was the simplest, and her amusements the most harmless conceivable. To chat with her parrot, with Pauline, her companion—to take a drive every day in the Champs Elysées, and then tell what she had seen—this was her life. Heine had a true horror of a learned and strong-minded woman, a blue-stocking, and a feminine reasoner; Matilda attached him by her innocent chat, her cheerful disposition, and her excellent heart. She had a crucifix and a small waxen Jesus in her room, and kept up the practice of prayer in which she had been bred. Heine never disturbed her in these habits. "She is a child, a perfect child!" he used to say; and he was right. . . . In his last years Heine required two nurses, so much was there to be done for him almost uninterruptedly. It is evident that the active assistance of his wife was thus rendered superfluous. Nevertheless, she sat by his bed, held his hand in hers, watched by him, did not leave him. But he, roguish in the midst of his suffering, made the drollest accusations against her with half-suppressed laughter. "Ah! what a night was last night!" he said one morning. "I was not able to close my eyes. We had a misfortune in the house; the cat fell down the chimney and grazed her right ear. It even bled a little. Such a crying and wailing! My good Matilda sat up and applied cold bandages to the cat all night. She never sat up on my account." . . . But this was only the summer lightning of his playful nature. When I remember, and weigh everything, I believe that the poet loved his Matilda more than any being on earth. On his sick-bed, under the severest pains, his thoughts were constantly directed to the means of protecting her dignity before the world, and giving her a secure position for the remainder of her life. It was his perpetual regret that, in the days of his prosperity, he had been too improvident, and had saved nothing; and he sought with all his powers to remedy this omission. It was only for her sake that he strung up his last energies for work, and every clause in his Will bears witness to a solicitude which extended beyond his own death. She was his doll, whom he loved to adorn in silk and lace, and whom he would willingly have dressed in the most beautiful things to be found in Paris. He sent her out to walk, he sent her to theatres and concerts, smiled when she approached him, and had for her nothing but jokes and caressing words. In his intellectual activity she never took any part; of his mental struggles she knew nothing; but she lived in him and stood faithfully by his side for twenty years. He used to say, laughingly, that she had never read a line of his writings. It might be supposed that this would wound him; on the contrary, it amused him. Thus, for Madame Heine, her husband was not the great poet that he was for the rest of the world; but he was for her what the rest of the world denied him to be—an affectionate, upright man.

While we are on the affectionate side of Heine's character, we may cite a pretty trait of his feeling towards his mother, of whom he says so charmingly

"Nach Deutschland lechzt' ich nicht so sehr,
Wenn nicht die Mutter dorten wär!
Das Vaterland wird nicht verderben,
Jedoch die alte Frau kann sterben!"—

he would not yearn so sadly after his native land, if his mother were not there! Germany is not likely to vanish from the face of the earth, but the old woman can die!

One evening (says Herr Meissner), I happened to look in on Heine, just as he was dictating a letter to his secretary, and on my asking him to whom he was writing, he answered: "To my mother." "She is still living, then?" I asked. "Yes," he said, "old and sick and feeble, alas! but still with the same warm mother's heart." "And you often write to her?" "Regularly every month." "How distressed she must be at your condition?" "At my condition?" answered Heine. "Oh, as to that, my mother supposes me to be as strong and healthy as I was when she last saw me. She is old and never reads the newspaper; the few old friends who visit her are in the same predicament. I write to her as cheerfully as I can, tell her about my wife, and how well things are going with me. As it might surprise her that only the signature is from my hand, and all the rest from that of the secretary, I tell her that I have a complaint in the eyes, which will by-and-by be cured, but which in the meantime prevents me from writing everything myself. And so she is happy. For the rest, no mother could believe that her son was so ill and wretched as I am."

At the end of a long conversation on the Jews, recorded by Meissner, Heine sums up his feeling towards them in this way:—

"You hear, by dear Meissner, how I almost in one breath ridicule and compassionate the Jews; in fact, they appear to me at once ludicrous and venerable. I could not devote myself to them entirely, as Gabriel Riesser and others have done; I unite myself with no party, whether republicans or patriots, Christians or Jews. I have this in common with all artists who write not for enthusiastic moments, but for centuries—not for one land, but for the world—not for one race, but for mankind. It would be absurd and petty in me if, as people pretend, I had ever been ashamed of being a Jew; but it would be just as ridiculous if I declared myself to be a Jew. . . . As I was born to deliver over the bad and the rotten, the false and the foolish, to eternal ridicule, so it is equally in my nature to feel what is sublime, to admire what is great, and to venerate whatever has true life." Heine had spoken the last words with deep earnestness, and had become thoughtful. But, as if laughter must always resume its wonted seat on his lips, he added, playfully, "If our little friend Weill comes to see us soon, you shall have another proof of my piety towards primitive Mosaism. Weill was formerly a singer in the synagogue; he has a fine bell-like tenor, and chants the old songs of Judah in all their traditional purity, from their earliest monotonous simplicity to their latest point of Old Testament finish. My good wife, who has no notion that I am a Jew, was not a little amazed when she heard this strange musical lament, this shaking and quavering. When Weill began his first song, Minko the dog crept under the sofa, and Cocotte the parrot tried to hang himself between the bars of his cage. 'Monsieur Weill! Monsieur Weill!' Matilda cried out, in alarm, 'don't carry the joke too far!' Weill went on. Matilda turned to me and said, 'Henry, tell me what songs are these?' 'They are our German national songs,' I answered; and I have obstinately persisted in this assertion."

Heine, to the last, wrote everything himself, except his letters. Paper and pencil lay before him, and as he was able, he wrote in a large hand his latest poems and his yet unpublished Memoirs. When he was tired, or indisposed to work, his wife read to him such light things as Dumas's novels; but he also went through a great deal of serious reading, especially in physiology, anatomy, and pathology. He made himself familiar with the most elaborate works bearing on his own disease. "My studies," he used to say, "will certainly not be of much use to me. At the utmost, they will enable me to give lectures in heaven, in order to demonstrate to my audience how poorly the physicians on earth know how to treat diseases of the spine." On another occasion, he said, "My nerves are so utterly shattered, that I

am sure at the Exposition they would win the great gold medal for pain and misery."

Few friends bear such a test of constancy as a seven years' illness, especially in a great city, and one is not surprised that the visits to Heine's sick room became fewer and farther between as the years wore on. One day, when Berlioz was announced, Heine exclaimed, "What! some one coming to see me! Berlioz is always original!" But in the very last months Heine was soothed by the visits of a new friend, a young lady of "unusual intellectual powers," and it is touching to read his notes to her, some of which Herr Meissner has been permitted to publish. We will quote one—and it must be our last quotation—written at the beginning of January, 1856:—

Dearest *Mouche*! I am very suffering, and vexed to death, and the lid of my right eye falls, so that I can hardly write any more. But I love you and think of you, sweetest one! The novel has not bored me, and it gives good hopes for the future—you are not so stupid as you look! Charming you are beyond all measure, and therein my soul delights. Shall I see you to-morrow? A sort of weeping *malaise* overpowers me. My heart gapes spasmodically. These *bâillements* are intolerable. I wish I were dead! Deepest anguish, thy name is—HEINRICH HEINE.

ANALYSIS OF ORNAMENT.

The Characteristics of Styles: an Introduction to the Study of the History of Ornamental Art. By Ralph N. Wornum. Chapman and Hall.

WHOEVER glances, critically, at the interior of certain well-appointed modern houses—of the middle order—will be struck by the absence of style from the furniture and decorations. He will have been prepared, perhaps, by the external disposition of stone, brick, and slate in a sort of deformed composite—a Gothic door, an Italian balustrade, spiked globes upon the coping, windows with Greek lintels, and above, a dull mass of sloping slate, in contrast with the white stucco of the substructure. Inside, a large Italian hall, lined—to the eye—with blocks of yellow marble, and paved—to the eye also—with blocks of black and white stone, leads to a saloon in which all nature is caricatured under the plea of furnishing and adorning. If the owner have a brilliant taste you step across kingfishers, convolutions of nameless flowers, tropical verdure bursting from Etruscan vases, to a rug, on which a Bengal tiger blinks at the fire everlastingly. A pagan boy, painfully suspended from a gold zenith in the ceiling, swings in an ormolu hand a cluster of white glass globes; the walls are hung in imitation of blue damascened silk—not draped, however; birds, fruit, flowers, foliage, Cupids cling along the upper line; a base, uncoloured wainscot edges the floor; there are sweetly-shaped Carians upholding middle-age grotesques, curtains on which nameless parasites climb, and miscellaneous decorations which typify the ruin of art—fragments of all ages being thrown together to produce the burnished fantasmagoria. This, which is not an imaginative description, but a reminiscence of a grand citizen villa, represents a large class of the habitations of the wealthy. In certain directions a purer taste is found; but who that has observed the awkward attempts of the English manufacturer at the invention of "novelties," will deny that a vast proportion of the designs thus produced are chimerical and barbarous?

Even when the form is tasteful, the idea is frequently absurd. Mr. Wornum points out some examples of art-manufacture, beautifully executed, yet in conception utterly vile—a flower intended to emit a jet of flame, a bell made of leaves, a basket on an animal's head to hold a liquid. Here the idea of beauty was not wanting; the objects were not eccentric or rude: what was wanting, was artistic education. A similar degree of ignorance prevails with many carpet-manufacturers, who deal with a floor as though it should appear as an uneven surface, as though every step should break some arching stem, or crush some full-leaved rose. Diaper patterns for carpets of the commoner sort are seldom employed, the design usually including a Brazilian multiplicity of red, yellow, and purple flowers, the bolder artists introducing occasional pieces of parquetterie and tessellation. To be bold, however—even in varying the forms of ugliness—has not been the hereditary sin of the English manufacturer. When did we first hear of the willow-pattern, and when shall we hear the last of its supremely repulsive formality?

Mr. Wornum is doing something as a teacher in ornamental art. The substance of his long course of lectures at Marlborough House has been condensed into a treatise, which should become a designer's manual—not of specimens to be copied, but of lessons to be understood. It contains an outline of the history of decorative styles, with some analysis of the architectural orders, so far as their ornamentation varied. Two classes of styles are presented—the symbolic and the æsthetic, the imitative and the ideal. These are traced, in their several modifications, as by genealogy, the links being found where possible, or, where only probable, suggested. Mr. Wornum very emphatically argues that no richness of material, no perfection of scientific processes—not even the highest skill—will place the manufacturer on a level with the ancient artificers, unless the inspiration of real art gives beauty to his forms, colours, and designs. Why were the variegated crystals of Egypt, the figured cups of Sidon, the shawls of Miletus, the Corinthian bronzes prized? What made Ghiberti great? and what Cellini? Other men have worked in bronze and gold. They, however, were aided by the use of natural objects, as copies, exact imitations being introduced in bunches and groups. But what could assist the Byzantine artists, who raised for the Arabian caliphs and generals the domed mosques and palaces of Damascus, Cairo, and Cordova? They dared not represent, in their most elaborate and infinitely complex designs, a single living thing, a vegetable, an animal, an angel, a chimera. Many species, even of the ancient symbolism, were excluded. Yet, from mere curves and interlacings, traceries, scrolls, labyrinths, the disguised forms of flowers, wonderful surface patterns were originated, which have never been rivalled. As the Egyptian decorator, by mere symmetrical arrangement, converted even his hieroglyph into conspicuous and admirable ornaments—an ingenuity exercised also by the Chinese—so the Saracens elaborated inscriptions into their designs, and the beautiful Arabic character became a typical decoration. And, as Mr. Wornum says, although flowers were not palpably introduced,

the great mass of the minor details of Saracenic designs are composed of floral forms more than conventionalized, the very inscriptions being sometimes grouped as flowers. All races have chosen these for use in decoration—not as is the English habit, to weave their outlines and colours confusedly into carpets and tapestries, to paint them on cups, and arrange them, in unmeaning festoons, on roofs and walls, but to convert them into ideas, as ancient nations converted the lotus, the lily, the tulip, the papyrus, palm-trees, stars, the flow of water, the zodiacal signs, and the almond and pomegranate of the Jews. That the Greeks were not mere copyists is proved by the existence of the ornament called the Honeysuckle, which was only one out of a thousand varieties from the same suggestion, though "half the classical buildings of modern times are covered with honeysuckles, bringing the whole art of Greece into disgrace for its monotony and formality."

As Quintilian, though he had never dreamed of shilling volumes, complained of the "innumerable authors" of his time, so Vitruvius, who had never seen a Londoner's gorgeous villa, was exasperated by the degraded stucco-work of his generation. "What the ancients accomplished by art, we attempt to effect by gaudy colouring. Expense is substituted for skill. Who, in former times, used vermillion, except for physic? We now cover our walls with it." What would Vitruvius, who abhorred vermillion, have said of whitewash? Pliny also denounced the man "who cares nothing for art, provided he has his walls well covered with purple, or dragon's blood from India."

A Gothic church, Mr. Wornum says, looks like a fortification against the weather, with its high-pitched roof, solid buttresses, and narrow doors and windows, recessed in the massive walls:—

In ornamental art generally, then, as in architecture, it is geometrical tracery which will stamp a design with a Gothic character: decorate it with natural flowers only, it will be still Gothic; it would be necessarily made much more characteristic by the introduction of some of the historic ornaments of the period,—as the Tudor flower, fleur-de-lis, crocket-leaf, trefoil or Early-English leaf, vine-scroll, or any other of the more familiar ornaments of the style. As, however, the Gothic is a style which has flourished exclusively in cold countries, its ornaments of a natural class to be characteristic should be from such plants as are native to Gothic latitudes; tropical plants would be inconsistent. Throughout we should prefer the wild plants of the north to the more exuberant flowers of the south. All exotics, in fact, that are not symbols, should be unconditionally excluded. The characteristic Norman ornaments are not admissible in the Gothic, with the exception of the tooth, and that is peculiarly rendered.

Classical ornaments, likewise, are of course excluded; even the scroll occurs only in the Gothic as a serpentine. Gothic ornaments independent of the tracery are nearly exclusively fruit, flowers, or leaves; and as a general rule, their execution is extremely rude.

One practical remark by Mr. Wornum is well worth quoting:—

The designer, like the poet, has his licence with regard to possibilities or probabilities. A mere natural improbability, where natural imitation is in no degree essential, is the privilege of the fancy; but mechanical disproportions and impossibilities, violations of the most palpable laws of gravity, cannot be otherwise than offensive. Nothing can bring them within the range of good taste, as they are essentially obnoxious to æsthetic sensibility, which is the truest test of propriety in art, the effect being analogous to a discord in music. We may be extremely grotesque or fanciful without being ridiculous.

There need be no limit to our chimeras, for nature is not their test; but if we combine monsters in our scrolls, or place animals upon the tendrils of plants, we should at least proportion them in size to the strength of the stem or tendril upon which they are placed. This is not observed in many of the Vatican arabesques, and it is occasionally disregarded, also, in the later works of Mantua; yet these are, in other respects, the standard types of the cinquecento arabesques, as developed in painting.

We commend this very useful volume to the attention of all elementary students of ornamental art.

AN EDUCATOR.

Contributions to the Cause of Education. By James Pillans, Esq., Professor of Humanity in the University of Edinburgh.

Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans.

WHEN some one was objecting to the dogmatic Doctor, that if everybody were taught to read and write we should have no servants, "Sir," replied Johnson, "while learning to read and write is a distinction, the few who have that distinction may be less inclined to work; but when everybody learns to read and write it is no longer a distinction." The Doctor then proceeds to illustrate his remark by observing that if every man wore a laced waistcoat the singularity of the dress would be lost in the universality of the custom, and the underling still retain his position. This is but another proof of the Doctor's dogmatism being stronger than his logic, and of the fatal facility with which he strove, by a rotund and pompous sentence, delivered, as he delivered his, *ex cathedra*, to throw dust in the eyes of his audience, and gull their reason. It is true it was a pious fraud, intended to conceal the obvious consequence and break down the barrier of foolish prejudice which then existed against general education, and which has only recently been removed. But we may now, after a struggle of a quarter of a century, view the case from a far higher elevation; we may pursue its real issues to the end; we may consider its acquisition as the acquisition of a new power, we might almost say a new faculty; and if education is not something more than the wearing of a lace waistcoat, it is nothing. My lord may wear a lace waistcoat, and my lord's valet and my lord's ploughboy, but as long as my lord receives the best education so long shall my lord be superior to his valet, who, with little learning, is still superior to the ploughboy. But education is a weapon which will render him who has the wit to use it best, whether prince or peasant, master, and then the weakest goes to the wall—the least intellectually capable will be the handicraftsman and the deliver.

Amongst the most earnest and liberal promoters of national education, Mr. Pillans, whose literary contributions to this cause are now collected in one volume, must be cordially recognized. It having been admitted that education was a good thing, it was next to be discovered what kind of education is best and how it ought to be administered. We might particularly

point to the "Principles of Elementary Teaching" and the "Causes and Cure of Imperfect Discipline" as instances of the liberal, and we might say profound (did not the truth appear so obvious) view which Mr. Pillans takes of the subject. We cannot enter here into a question of such magnitude and importance as the best method of imparting instruction to youth; but it does seem strange that so little care is taken to simplify terms and expressions and render an idea comprehensible to the intelligence of a lad. We are glad to find that much improvement has latterly taken place in the discipline of all classes of schools, and that books suitable to all ages have been written by eminent philosophers and adopted by teachers. Another grand epoch is the substitution of encouragement rather than coercion, of rewards instead of corporal chastisement, in the work of tuition. "There's no help for it," said Sydney Smith to a young lady who complained to him that she had done everything in her power to gain the friendship of a person she admired; "you cannot compel a person to love you by holding a loaded pistol to his head." Learning, like love, is not to be imparted by cudgelling.

We recommend the volume of Mr. Pillans to those who wish to have the opinions of a learned and sound advocate of one of the most pressing questions of the day. For the last five-and-forty years he has exhibited an interest, and a liberal interest, we may say, in the cause of education. The battle, however, is not yet over. Sectarian jealousies still obstruct its healthy development. It remains, however, for Mr. Pillans, his coadjutors and successors, to say how long party feeling and religious fears will be allowed to deprive the country of what all admit would be a national blessing, but which, as things exist, is a national disgrace.

Mr. Pillans's essays include some criticisms on the ancient writers, which are the least interesting parts of the volume. It is as a theoretical disciplinarian, a teacher of teachers in the government schools, a practised exponent of the modern educational system which he aided in founding, that he will be valued. As a critic of orators and poets he never attained any eminence; but among thoroughly sincere and vigorous Reformers, in the department of public and private education, it will always be said—Pillans was one.

OBITUARY OF 1855.

The Annual Biography and Obituary for 1855. By E. Walford, M.A. Hardwicke. THE design of this Annual is to afford brief biographical accounts of all the persons celebrated, notable, or well-connected, who died in 1855. As might have been expected, some of the records are superfluous, others needlessly amplified; but, upon the whole, the volume represents an excellent idea, satisfactorily carried out. Several of the biographical sketches are really well written, and of more than ephemeral value.

NATURAL RELIGION.

La Religion Naturelle. Par Jules Simon. Paris: 1856. We have too long delayed to acknowledge, and we can now, for the moment, do no more than acknowledge, the excellent work of M. Jules Simon, *La Religion Naturelle*. We have read this book with deep interest, and can assure our readers that it treats of those questions which are most important to humanity in a spirit of true philosophy, and in a manner at once profound and clear. We can sincerely recommend it to all, who, amidst the general conflict and decadence of positive religions, desire to find a rational foundation for their faith.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Thursday, August 19.
BANKRUPTS.—JOSEPH WILSON, High-street, Kingsland, painter—WILLIAM FIELD, Princes-street, Westminster, printer—JOHN DYTE, Strand, stationer—ANDREW LAURIE, St. John's-street-road, baker—JOSEPH BARNESLEY, Rowley Regis, publican, and New Town, Worcestershire, gas tube manufacturer—JOHN JOHNSON, Stafford, chemist—EVAN ROBERTS, Llanelly, coal miner—JAMES TRUSCOTT, Aberystwith, watchmaker—RICHARD ECCLES and JOHN NUTTALL, Tottington Lower-end, Lancashire, cotton spinners—WILLIAM JASPER CAPPER, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, commission agent.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—W. and G. TELFER, Glasgow, wine merchants—G. FERRIE, Glasgow, underwriter—D. STEWART, late of Lochce, quarry-master—T. MUIR, Glasgow, glass merchant.

Friday, August 22.
BANKRUPTS.—EDWARD COOK, Hollesdon, Norwich, miller—FREDERICK BURT MACDONALD, Bridgwater, corn dealer—JAMES HAWKINS, Woolwich, corn dealer—MARY ANN APPLEBY, Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucester—WALTER ROBERT JOHNSON, Adelaide-chambers, Gracechurch-street, merchant—CHARLES EDWARD DAVIS, Upper Thames-street, City, wholesale grocer—WILLIAM SHEPPARD JONES, Tredgar, Monmouthshire, grocer—ALFRED EYES, Jodd-place West, New-road, corn dealer—JAMES BLENKARN, Tetney, Lincolnshire, grocer—ALFRED SIDNEY SMITH, Walsall, Staffordshire, ironfounder—FREDERICK WIGNY, Brighton, printer—SARAH BARLOW, Macclesfield, licensed victualler—ROBERT ELLIOTT, Blyth, Northumberland, draper—FRANCIS LOWE and HENRY GARDNER, Wellington, Somersetshire, manufacturers—SAMUEL BLACKBURN and EDWIN BLACKBURN, Little Gomersal, Yorkshire, cloth merchants.
SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.—WILLIAM LOW, Edinburgh, accountant, now deceased.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.
MARTIN.—On the 20th inst., at 14, Berkeley-square, the wife of John Martin, Esq., M.P.: a daughter.
NORTLAND.—On the 14th inst., at Guernsey, the Viscountess Northland: a son.
MARRIAGES.
ALLEYNE—COLEBROOKE.—On the 19th inst., at Datchet, Bourville Alleyne, Esq., third son of Sir Reynold A. Alleyne, Bart., to Charlotte Agnes Emma, youngest daughter of Major-General Sir William Colebrooke, C.B., Royal Artillery.
LATHAM—JOHNSON.—On the 21st inst., at Westdean Church, by the Rev. Henry Legge, Rector of Lavant, George William Latham, Esq., of Bradwall Hall, in the county of Chester, to Elizabeth Sarah, eldest daughter of the Rev. Henry William Johnson, Luttman Johnson, of Binderton House, in the county of Sussex.

DEATHS.
KERR.—On the 14th inst., at Torquay, the Hon. Arthur Schomberg Kerr, youngest son of the late Lord Martin Kerr and Charlotte Countess of Antrim.
SHREWSBURY.—On Sunday, the 10th inst., at the Hotel Braganza, at Lisbon, Bertram Arthur, 17th Earl of Shrewsbury, aged 23.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, August 22, 1856.
THE bad weather which has prevailed during the week, has had a depressing effect on the Stock and Share markets. The arrival of two large Australian consignments of gold has been partly felt as a counterbalance, but the immense demand from the Continent still continues.

The Funds are rather firmer than at the commencement of the week; but there is only a small business doing. Yesterday there was a little more activity in the foreign stock market, and some inquiry after Spanish Deferred Stock and Russian Five per Cent.

The heavy railway shares are nearly the same; the Eastern Counties report has made those shares flatter, and there have been considerable sales in Great Western stock this morning. In the new undertakings there have been some fluctuations in Rigs, but they settled down to about 14 premium. The settlement in Eastern Bengal shares takes place to-day; about 14 premium is the price. Ceylons are at about 12 premium, very little doing in them. Great Western of Canada shares and bonds remain steady, but business is at a standstill. Grand Trunk of Canada still very much in ill favour.

At four o'clock Consols close, 95½; Turkish Six per Cent., 103½; Turkish Four per Cent., 104½; Russian, 111, 113; Spanish, 44, 45; Spanish Deferred, 24½, 25; Peruvian, 81, 83; Buenos Ayres, 81, 84; Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cent., 64, 66; Chilean, 104, 106.

Aberdeen, —, —; Caledonian, 57, 57½; Chester and Holyhead, 17, 17½; Eastern Counties, 94, 94½; Great Northern, 97½, 98½; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 117, 119; Great Western, 65½, 66; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 98½, 99; London and Blackwall, 64, 74 x. d.; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 106½, 107½; London and North-Western, 107½, 108; London and South Western, 106, 107½; Midland, 84, 84½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 84½, 85½; South Eastern (Dover), 75, 76; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 74, 84; Dutch Rhinish, 24, 24½ p.m.; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 37, 37½; Great Central of France, 7, 7½ p.m.; Great Luxembourg, 54, 54½; Great Western of Canada, 25, 25½; Namur and Liege, 9, 9½; Northern of France, 42, 42½; Paris and Lyons, 56½, 56½; Royal Danish, 104, 20½; Royal Swedish, 1, 11; Sambre and Meuse, 134, 134.

Portfolio.

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

QUIA MULTUM AMAVIT.

REPLY TO ———.

Ill-fated Lady! Orphan of slain Love!

Hope's epitaph seems musicked in thy verse;
And, cypress-crowned, thy weeping numbers move,
Mourners behind dead Passion's plum'd hearse.

So young—so fair—so exquisitely framed
Life's dearest, deepest happiness to prove—
So eager some fond heart to dower, unblamed,
With all the lavished treasures of thy love—

Alas! in vain. For thee may never more
Life's twin effusion feed love's trembling fire;
Nor two souls, mingling, through warm pulses pour
Swift immortality's fulfilled desire.

For, link by link, hath tangled circumstance
Wound cruel chains round thy defenceless youth;
And sadly hast thou found, as years advance,
Man's love prove falsehood—Woman's hatred truth

Yet is thy heart too delicately proud
To tell the story of thy love's decay.
Despair is mute. Hope's cry alone is loud.
Mere trembling tones our cureless wounds betray.

So best. Shut out from bliss on earth below,
Thy starry eyes turn tearfully to heaven;
And thy frail hand is pointed up to show
Where purer joys, for joys lost here, are given.

"There, friend," thou criest, "congenial souls at last
Shall meet, to be divided never more;
And, floating free, all cold obstruction past,
Mingle, in ceaseless love, their effluence pure.

"There shall this heart, on earth so scorned and broken,
Seek promised pity from the King of Heaven;
There shall, at last, the gracious words be spoken—
'Much hath she loved—much shall she be forgiven!'"

* These stanzas form part of a poem lately addressed, under circumstances of peculiar interest, to a Lady not less distinguished for her beauty than for the romantic vicissitudes of her life. We publish them, as bearing on a subject of deep and permanent importance, to which the course of recent discussion has given especial prominence.—Ed.

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, August 22, 1856.
IN consequence of the unfavourable state of the weather, and the very limited arrivals of Wheat into London since last week, prices have advanced 5s. to 6s. on good qualities, and 2s. to 4s. on inferior descriptions. Danube Wheat has been sold at 44s. to 48s., and one of Polish Odessa at 42s., cost, freight and insurance. On Wednesday a small fine cargo of Berdianski was bought at 68s., and a large one of upwards of 4000 qrs., and not equally fine in quality, at 64s. To-day a cargo has been sold at 66s. 9d., and this description is now held at 70s.; Galatz Maize fetched early in the week 31s. and 31s. 3d., and a cargo of Foxanian 31s. A large and rather inferior cargo of Galatz was sold at 30s. To-day two or three cargoes have realized.
Barley and Oats continue firm at former rates. Beans and Peas are also unaltered in price.
The attendance from the country has been numerous, and a very fair amount of business has been transacted in Wheat, at the advance we have mentioned.

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

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock	218½	218½	218½	218½	218½	218½
3 per Cent. Red.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
3 per Cent. Con. An.	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
Consols for Account	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½	95½
New 3 per Cent. An.	96	95½	95½	95½	95½	90½
New 2½ per Cent.	96	95½	95½	95½	95½	90½
Long Ans. 1860	3	3	3	3	3	3
India Stock	233	233	233	233	233	233
Ditto Bonds, £1000	14 p	14 p	14 p	14 p	14 p	14 p
Ditto, under £1000	11 p	11 p	11 p	11 p	11 p	11 p
Ex. Bills, £1000	12 p	10 p	10 p	11 p	13 p	14 p
Ditto, £500	13 p	13 p	13 p	14 p	14 p	11 p
Ditto, Small	13 p	13 p	13 p	14 p	14 p	11 p

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

Brazilian Bonds	101½	Portuguese 4 per Cents.	...
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents	83	Russian Bonds, 5 per	...
Chilian 6 per Cents	74	Cents	112½
Ohlian 3 per Cents	74	Russian 4½ per Cents	99
Dutch 2½ per Cents	65	Spanish Committee Cer.	44½
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certif.	98	of Coup. not fun.	...
Equador Bonds	...	Turkish 6 per Cents	103½
Mexican Account	82½	Turkish New, 4 ditto	103½
Peruvian 4½ per Cents	...	Venezuela, 4½ per Cents	31½
Portuguese 4 per Cents	...		

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

Lessee, Mr. ALFRED WIGAN.
Monday, and during the week, will be performed the
Petite Comedy of **THE GREEN-EYED MONSTER**, in
which Messrs. F. Robson, G. Murray, G. Vining, Danvers;
Miss Castleton, Miss Bromley, and Miss F. Ternan will
appear.

After which, the New Ristori-cal, Mythological, Poly-
glottical Tragedy, entitled **MEDEA**, Medea, Mr. F. Robson.
To conclude with **SHOCKING EVENTS**. Characters by
Messrs. Emery, G. Murray, Danvers; Misses Ternan and
Bromley.

Commence at Half-past Seven.

**MARTIN'S PICTURES LEAVE ENG-
LAND.**—Messrs. LEGGATT, HAYWARD, and LEG-
GATT inform their Friends that the Exhibition of these
grand productions, viz., **THE LAST JUDGMENT, THE
GREAT DAY OF HIS WRATH, and THE PLAINS OF
HEAVEN**, now on view at the AUCTION MART, near the
Bank of England, will close on SATURDAY, the 30th inst.,
immediately after which the Pictures will be shipped for
America.

79, Cornhill, August, 1856.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM,
4, Coventry-street, Leicester-square. Open (for gen-
tlemen only) from Ten till Ten, containing upwards of one
thousand models and preparations, illustrating every part
of the human frame in health and disease, the race of men
&c. Lectures delivered at Twelve, Two, and at Half-
past Seven, by Dr. G. Sexton, F.R.G.S.; and a new and
highly-interesting Series of Lectures is now in course of
delivery by Dr. Kahn, at Four P.M. precisely.—Admis-
sion is.

TEETH.—By her Majesty's Royal Letters
Patent.

**THE PATENT PNEUMATIC PALATE FOR THE CON-
STRUCTION OF ARTIFICIAL TEETH.**

Messrs. MOGGIDGE and DAVIS, Surgeon-Dentists to
the Royal Family, 13, OLD BURLINGTON-STREET,
BOND-STREET, PATENTERS of the self-sustaining prin-
ciple of fixing Artificial Teeth.—From One to a Complete
Set, upon their peculiar principle of self-adhesion, which
can be adapted to the most tender mouths, without any
operation whatever, and possess the desired advantages of
preserving their natural colour and protecting the adjoining
TEETH—of never decaying or wearing out, and so ar-
ranged as to render it impossible to distinguish ARTIFICIAL
from the NATURAL TEETH, and restoring to the coun-
tenance a younger and improved appearance.

The PNEUMATIC PALATE has excited the greatest ad-
miration of the most eminent PHYSICIANS and SUR-
GEONS of ENGLAND and the principal cities of the
CONTINENT, who constantly favour them with their dis-
tinguished recommendations, and who consider their system
to be greatly superior to any in use, as by it the greatest
possible firmness and security in the mouth is attained, and
the patient enabled to properly perform the important
operation of mastication, which is most essential to health.

It also renders the articulation clear and distinct, and
the unpleasant whistling, so long complained of, impossible.
—This to public speakers is invaluable.

An upper set, 10 Guineas; a lower set, 10 Guineas; a full
set of Artificial Teeth, 10 Guineas; a single tooth, 1 Guinea.
STOPPING, CLEANING, &c.
ATTENDANCE, 10 TILL 5 O'CLOCK.
ALL CONSULTATIONS FREE.

MESSRS. MOGGIDGE AND DAVIS,
SURGEON-DENTISTS TO THE ROYAL FAMILY,
No. 13, OLD BURLINGTON-STREET, BOND-STREET,
LONDON.

BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.

This preparation is one of the benefits which the
science of modern chemistry has conferred upon mankind,
for, during the first twenty years of the present century,
to speak of a cure for the Gout was considered a romance—but
now the efficacy and safety of this medicine is so fully de-
monstrated by unsolicited testimonials from persons in every
rank of life, that public opinion proclaims this as one of the
most important discoveries of the present age.

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 220, Strand, London,
and all Medicine Vendors.

Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

**A NEW and IMPORTANT DISCOVERY IN THE
SCIENCE OF MEDICINE.**

Patent Office Seal of Great Britain.
Diplôme de l'Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris.
Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna.
TRIESEMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, is prepared in the form of a
lozenge, devoid of taste or smell, and can be carried in the
waistcoat pocket. Sold in tin cases, divided into separate
doses, as administered by Valpean, Lallemand, Roux, Ricord,
&c., &c.

TRIESEMAR, No. 1., is a Remedy for Relax-
ation, Spermatorrhoea, and all the distressing conse-
quences arising from early abuse, indolent excesses,
or too long residence in hot climates. It has restored bodily
and sexual strength and vigour to thousands of debilitated
individuals, who are now enjoying health and the Functions
of Manhood; and whatever may be the CAUSE of DIS-
QUALIFICATIONS for MARRIAGE, they are EFFEC-
TUALLY SUBDUED by this Wonderful Discovery!

TRIESEMAR, No. II.
effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and
entirely eradicates all traces of Gonorrhoea, both in its
mild and aggravated forms, Gleet, Strictures, Irritation of
the Bladder, Non-retention of Urine, Pains of the Loins and
Kidneys, and those disorders where Copia and Cubes have
so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the
health of a vast portion of the population.

TRIESEMAR, No. III.
is the great Continental Remedy for Syphilis and Secondary
Symptoms. It searches out and purifies the diseased
humours from the blood, and cleanses the system from all de-
teriorating causes; it also constitutes a certain Cure for
Scoury, Scrofula, and all Cutaneous Eruptions, and is a
never-failing Remedy for that class of disorders which un-
fortunately the English Physician treats with Mercury, to
the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and
which all the Sarsaparilla in the world cannot restore.
Price 11s., or four cases in one for 38s., which saves 11s.;
and in 51. cases, saving 11. 12s. To be had wholesale
and retail in London, of Johnson, 68, Cornhill; Hannay
and Co., 63, Oxford-street; Sangor, 150, Oxford-street;
R. H. Ingham, druggist, 40, Market-street, Manchester; H. H.
Bradbury, bookseller, Deansgate, Bolton; J. Priestly, che-
mist, 52, Lord-street, Liverpool; Powell, bookseller, 16, West-
moreland-street, Dublin; Winnall bookseller, High-street,
Birmingham.

**SISAL CIGARS, SISAL CIGARS, at GOOD-
RICH'S** Cigar, Tobacco, and Snuff Stores (established
1780), 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square.—Box,
containing 14 fine Sisal Cigars, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six
stamps extra: 1b. boxes, containing 109, 12s. 6d. None are
genuine unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock
of the most approved Brands.

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No. 35, KING WILLIAM STREET, near LONDON
BRIDGE.

Established 1823.

BANKERS.—The Commercial Bank of London.
RESIDENT PROPRIETOR.—Mr. John Voco Moore.
The Company are one of the oldest firms in the City of
London, and have for nearly thirty-three years been distin-
guished by the excellence, cheapness, and purity of their
Teas and Coffees.

They supply families properly introduced to them, or who
can give them any respectable reference, upon the best
trade terms, in parcels of any size exceeding 1lb. weight.

Teas, when desired, are packed in 10lb., 14lb., and 20lb.
canisters, without extra charge; and 3d. value (including
Coffee) forwarded carriage paid.

Good to Strong Congou Tea.....2s. 8d. to 3s. 0d. per lb.
Fine to very fine Pekoe Souchong.....3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. "
Very Choice Souchong.....4s. 0d. "
Good Ceylon Coffee.....1s. 0d. "
Fine Costa Rica.....1s. 2d. "
The finest Mocha, old and very choice.....1s. 6d. "

For the convenience of their customers, the Company
supply Sugars and Colonial Produce at a small per centage
on import prices.

Monthly Price Circular free.

THE COMMISSION TEA COMPANY,
35, King William-street, near London-bridge.

DR. DE JONGH'S

LIGHT BROWN COD LIVER OIL.

Entirely free from nauseous flavour and after-taste, is ad-
ministered with speedy and marked success in cases of

**CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA,
GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES,
DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, IN-
FANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, and all
SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.**

Specially rewarded for its purity and efficacy by the Go-
vernments of BELGIUM and THE NETHERLANDS, and
expressly sanctioned by the ROYAL SANITARY POLICE OF
PRUSSIA.

Approved of and recommended for its purity and su-
periority over every other preparation by BERZELIUS, FOU-
QUIER, Drs. JONATHAN PEREIRA, HASSALL, LEBIEBY,
SHERIDAN MUSEPRATT, GRANVILLE, the *Lancet*, and
innumerable other British and foreign scientific authorities
and distinguished physicians.

Has almost entirely superseded all other kinds on the
Continent, in consequence of its proved superior power
and efficacy—alleviating suffering and effecting a cure
much more rapidly than any other kind.

Contains iodine, phosphate of lime, volatile fatty acids—
in short, all the most active and essential curative pro-
perties—in larger quantities than the Pale Oils manufactured
in Great Britain and Newfoundland, mainly deprived of
these by their mode of preparation.

**OPINION OF C. RADCLYFFE HALL, ESQ., M.D.,
F.R.C.P.E.,**

Physician to the Torquay Hospital for Consumption, Author
of "Essays on Pulmonary Tubercle," &c. &c. &c.

"I have no hesitation in saying that I generally prefer
your Cod Liver Oil for the following reasons:—I HAVE
FOUND IT TO AGREE BETTER WITH THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS,
ESPECIALLY IN THOSE PATIENTS WHO CONSIDER THEM-
SELVES TO BE BILIOUS: it seldom causes nausea or eructa-
tion; it is more palatable to most patients than the other
kinds of Cod Liver Oil: it is stronger, and consequently a
smaller dose is sufficient."

Sold Wholesale and Retail, in bottles capsuled and labelled
with DR. DE JONGH'S Stamp and Signature, WITHOUT
WHICH NONE ARE GENUINE, by ANSAR, HARTFORD, and
CO., sole British Consignees, 77, Strand, London; and by
many respectable Chemists and Druggists throughout the
United Kingdom.

Half-pints (10 ounces), 2s. 6d.; Pints (20 ounces), 4s. 9d.;
Quarts (40 ounces), 8s. IMPERIAL MEASURE.

FRAMPTON'S PILL OF HEALTH.—The

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

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

Sold by PROUT and HARSANT, 220, Strand, London,
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Price 1s. 1d. and 2s. 9d. per box.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS HAVE A WORLD-

**WIDE RENOWN IN ALLEVIATING LIVER
COMPLAINTS.**—Mr. Benjamin Grant, who has resided for
upwards of a quarter of a century in various provinces of
Bengal, as an indigo planter, suffered most severely from
complaints of the Liver. Urged, however, by many of his
friends, including some eminent medical men, he commenced
taking Holloway's Pills, and, after a vigorous perseverance
in their use, derived such relief from his sufferings that he
deems himself entirely freed from the distressing malady of
which he was the victim.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world; at
Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishments, 244, Strand, Lon-
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stantinople; A. Guidley, Smyrna; and B. Muir, Malta.

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TURE.—WILLIAM S. BURTON'S Stock on show of
Iron and Brass Bedsteads and Children's Cots, stands un-
rivalled either for extent, beauty of design, or moderateness
of prices. He also supplies Bedding and Bed-hangings of
guaranteed quality and workmanship.

Common Iron Bedsteads, from 16s.; Portable Folding Bed-
steads, from 12s. 6d.; Patent Iron Bedsteads, fitted with
dovetail joints and patent sacking, from 17s.; and Cots,
from 20s. each. Handsome ornamental Iron and Brass
Bedsteads, in great variety, from 31. 7s. 6d. to 167. 15s.

A Half-Tester Patent Iron Bedstead, three feet wide, with
Bedding, &c., complete:

Bedstead	£1 4 6
Chintz furniture	0 17 0
Palliasse, wool mattress, bolster, and pillow	1 13 0
A pair of cotton sheets, three blankets, and a coloured counterpane	1 5 0
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