

Speeded and followed, 302 Hand.

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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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1858.

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Review of the Week.

WE must look to France in order to understand the great act of legislation in our own Parliament this week. The Emperor NAPOLEON still continues the perfection of his defences, as if he put not too much trust in the bill which Lord PALMERSTON has brought into Parliament for his protection. M. BILLAULT, the Minister of the Interior, is removed from his post to make room for General ESPINASSE—the devoted and unscrupulous. Nor is this the only precautionary measure taken, within the last few days, by our very good Ally against fortune: the Police is to be entirely detached from the Home-office, and the whole force throughout the empire placed under the direction of the Prefect. In the event of M. PIETRI refusing to accept this organization—of which there appeared to be some likelihood—General NIEL, another faithful servant of the Empire, is expected to have the command. At the same time that these measures are taken, the Emperor, having satisfied himself of the devotion of his army, and of the personal spirit of his Colonels especially, expresses, through Count WALEWSKI, his great 'regret' that the 'inadvertent' publication in the *Moniteur* of certain military addresses of congratulation to him on his late escape from assassination should have caused anything like an unpleasant feeling in England; and Count WALEWSKI is furthermore charged to repeat in very choice language the certainty his master feels that the English Government will do as he wishes it to do, and carry an Alien Bill without more fuss. And we see how ready Lord PALMERSTON is to meet the Emperor's wishes, under the flimsy pretext of doing away with an anomaly of the English law, which makes it felony to commit a certain offence in Ireland, while the same offence is only punishable as a misdemeanour in England. In truth, it is time we had done with our old boasts about defending our rights against all the world, and protecting our countrymen against Continental tyranny, and all that fine-sounding talk: a Minister steps in and fleches the rights, and we don't care a straw about the other defence. How are those poor fellows, the English engineers of the Cagliari, after being kept in an abominable Neapolitan prison for upwards of eight months, and put at length upon their trial, which is expected to last for a month? In what a state are they to meet the accusations that have been so long taxing the

ingenuity of Neapolitan Crown-lawyers to get up! Broken down by the bad treatment to which they were subjected at first, and with the hopeless tedium of their confinement, PARK has become subject to fits, and WATTS has again relapsed into insanity! This is the upshot of our bold Minister's *Civis Romanus sum*. But he is not alone in his glory—or his shame; Parliament goes with him, at least on the beginning of the downward journey.

A net majority of two hundred expressed the feeling of the House of Commons on the question of the introduction of Lord PALMERSTON'S Conspiracy to Murder Bill. The nature of this measure is to make an offence which has hitherto been punished as a misdemeanour a felony, punishable with penal servitude for life, or for any term not exceeding five years; or with imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding three years. All persons within the United Kingdom, whether British subjects or foreign, will be amenable to this law, whether the person conspired against be a subject of HER MAJESTY or not. The view taken by Lord JOHN RUSSELL was a just one; he conceived that, apart from the objectionableness of the spirit of the measure, it would not answer the purposes for which it was framed, and pointed out, as one of the natural consequences of the severity of the law against a crime extremely difficult to prove, a disinclination on the part of magistrates to enforce its penalties. But there are, moreover, objections which do not appear on the face of the bill; what is to assure us that upon mere suspicion, or pretended suspicion, any person notorious for his antagonism to the Emperor of the French may not be seized, with or without a warrant, and, on 'suspicion of conspiring,' handed over to the tender mercies of the new Minister of Interior, General ESPINASSE? But though leave has been granted to Lord PALMERSTON to bring in this bill, it has yet to find its way through the House, and both the Opposition and independent members have reserved the expression of their intentions with regard to its treatment in the later stages of its passage.

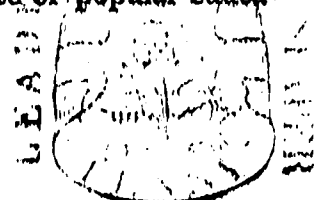
Upon the whole, the vote of thanks proposed by Lord PALMERSTON to the Governor-General of India and the chiefs civil and military by whom he had been served during the mutiny, passed with less opposition than might have been expected. Certainly the position was one of extreme difficulty. To have omitted Lord CANNING'S name from the list of those whom the House was called upon to thank for the services rendered by them during the late trials, would have appeared like a censure;

even to have proposed a separate vote would have been to place him in an extremely painful position. The appearance still remained of an attempt to snatch a vote of thanks for the Governor-General under cover of that which was certain to be given with acclamation to the other persons; and the representations of Lord JOHN RUSSELL and Mr. WALPOLE reduced Lord PALMERSTON to the necessity of accepting a vote with the understanding that the House pledged itself to nothing with regard to Lord CANNING'S general policy. In the House of Lords, the result of the vote, which was introduced by Lord PANMURE, was more decisive, notwithstanding the more determined stand made by Lord DERBY against the coupling of Lord CANNING'S name with those of the military and naval commanders.

On Thursday night Earl GREY presented the East India Company's petition against the impending Government measure for relieving them of their lawful authority to govern—or as some will have it, misgovern—India. His Lordship was highly eulogistic of the Company, but failed to make out a very strong case in their behalf; and it was felt that the Duke of ARGYLL, in answering him, had rather the best of the argument.

In India itself, that the work of pacification is steadily progressing, the contents of the last Bombay mail bring ample assurance. OUTRAM maintains himself at Alumbagh, the country folks proving their reviving loyalty in the tangible way of bringing in supplies. JUNG BAHADOOR had attacked the rebels at Gorukpore, and scattered them. SEATON had joined CAMPBELL. Thus Sir COLIN is slowly, but surely, amassing such a force in Oude as will put resistance on a large scale out of the question.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL has carried the second reading of his Oaths Bill, and at last there begins to appear some chance of this vexed question being settled. The bill proposes one form of oath for Christians (retaining the words "on the true faith of a Christian"), and another form for Jews. Mr. WALPOLE expressed his approval of the form of oath proposed, and Sir FREDERICK THESIGER declined to oppose the bill at that stage, but in committee will move for the omission of the clause referring to Jews, which will fairly raise that part of the question and give it fair play. That the bill will pass there is little doubt; and having passed the Commons, it is understood that no serious opposition will be given to it in the Lords. With regard to Sir JOHN PAKINGTON'S Address to Her Majesty to inquire into the present state of popular educa-



tion in England, the prospect does not seem to be so promising; and although the motion was carried by a considerable majority, it is plain that the old dreary fight is about to be waged over again; and Lord JOHN might well say that he was "not surprised at an opposition, which was but a renewal of that which had been offered to every proposal for the furtherance of education."

The arrival of the Princess FREDERICK-WILLIAM OF PRUSSIA at Berlin brings the moment of bidding her farewell. Happily we can do so in perfect hopefulness that her happiness is secured by the marriage which she has contracted; and our last sight of her, for a time, will be a pleasant memory. Let us remember her affectionately pelted with flowers by the good folks whose Queen she may one day be, and, when struck in the face with a bouquet only too heartily thrown, laughing with all the gay-heartedness of—the PRINCESS ROYAL.

The state of money and trade again attract notice. Trade continues to be very languid, although discount at the Bank of England has gone down to three per cent. It ought to be plentiful at that price, and ought to be readily taken up for investment! But the bankruptcies that followed the late speculative mania continue to be reported; and commercial men hesitate to rush again into a debauchery of speculation, while the corpses of commerce lie scarcely cold around them.

A most extraordinary affair has taken place near Bristol, a clergyman named SMITH and his wife being committed on the charge of attempted highway robbery and murder. Some years back it appears that the present Mrs. SMITH was a servant in the house of SWAN and EDGAR, of Regent-street, and while there she 'kept company with' JOHN LEACH, who was a porter in the employ of the firm. She afterwards married her present husband, and LEACH lost sight of her for some time, when relations were renewed between them for a brief space at a watering-place, whither she had invited him to come to see her. A very short time ago LEACH received a letter which he believed to be in her handwriting, informing him that her husband had died and left her a thousand pounds; and that if he were free and inclined to marry her, she should desire nothing better. Several letters followed to the same purport, and at length LEACH was induced to go down into the country to meet her. They met, she dressed in widow's weeds; she led him from the station; and they were proceeding by her direction across a dark common, when she suddenly exclaimed, "We are lost!" and immediately afterwards LEACH was assailed with blows from a bludgeon dealt him by a man, whom he believes to be the husband of Mrs. SMITH. There are many minor circumstances which seem to establish the fact that a conspiracy to murder LEACH had been entered into by the husband and wife; but at present the affair is all mystery and conjecture. The husband and wife are committed for trial. It is more like a tale for some English Dumas to write, than for an English 'Reverend' and his wife to do.

Matters matrimonial occupy rather a large space in the news. The operation of the new Divorce Act is daily becoming more noticeable, and the benefits of its provisions evidently better understood. Cases like that of Mrs. MARINO HOWETT, before the Lambeth police-court on Wednesday, will no doubt be frequently heard. Mrs. HOWETT was married in 1830. In 1850 her husband became embarrassed and had to go to prison; she went to live with her father. When her husband, during the year 1850, was released from prison, he came to her father's, but the latter refused to see him, or admit him; she therefore requested her husband to write to her and she would answer his letter, letting him know her intentions. But the husband never wrote to her, and she had not seen him from that time to the present, though she knew that he was living with another woman. She applied under the Act for protection for property left her since

the desertion of her husband. The property consisted of a small legacy, and she had expectations of receiving something at the death of her father, ninety years of age. The magistrate granted her the necessary order.

PUBLIC MEETINGS.

MEMORIAL TO SIR HENRY LAWRENCE.

A PUBLIC meeting was held last Saturday at Willis's Rooms to inaugurate a subscription for the permanent endowment of the schools founded by the late Sir Henry Lawrence in India for the support and education of the children of British soldiers. In a printed document issued by the committee, it is stated that the Lawrence Asylum was established by Sir Henry in 1846, and that for the last seven years he contributed annually the sum of 1000*l.* towards its support. It is built for the reception of four hundred boys and three hundred girls, and is situated at Sanawur, on the lower slopes of the Himalayas, at a short distance from Kussowlee, which is the first hill station on the road from Umballah to Simla. The name of 'the Lawrence Asylum' was given it in October, 1847, by the late Lord Hardinge, who in a minute written in the visitors' book expressed his admiration of the institution, and his wish thus to commemorate the benevolence of its founder and benefactor. A similar school for the army in Rajpootana and Western India was founded by Sir Henry at Mount Abo, when Chief Commissioner in 1856, and towards this he contributed 200*l.* a year. Both institutions are now deprived of their chief stay, and are left to the precarious assistance of subscribers, many of whom, it is stated, have perished in the recent outbreak, while many more have suffered misfortunes which must necessarily contract their benevolence for the future; and simultaneously with this failure in the ordinary sources of income, the applications for admission, owing to the large increase in the European army of India, will henceforth be more than ever pressing and numerous. The object of the institutions at Kussowlee and Abo is "to provide for the orphan and other children of soldiers serving or having served in India an asylum from the debilitating effects of a tropical climate, and the demoralizing influence of barrack life, wherein they may obtain the benefits of a bracing climate, a healthy moral atmosphere, and a plain, useful, and above all, religious education, adapted to fit them for employment suited to their position in life, and with the Divine blessing to make them consistent Christians, and intelligent and useful members of society." The following bequest appears in Sir Henry's will:—"The Lawrence Asylum, the Aboo Lawrence School, and the projected Ootacamund Schools, I specially recommend to the fostering care of the East India Company's Government of India, which I have conscientiously served for more than two-and-thirty years."

The chair at the meeting on Saturday was taken by Lord Pannure, in addition to whom the speakers were—Lord Hardinge, Sir F. Currie, Major-General Powney, Lord Stanley, Sir W. F. Williams, and the Earl of Shaftesbury. The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—"That this meeting desires to mark the high sense which it entertains of the noble character and distinguished career of Sir Henry Montgomery Lawrence, as a soldier, a statesman, and a Christian philanthropist; and is of opinion that the most appropriate means of perpetuating his memory is by the permanent endowment of the educational institutions founded by him in Bengal and Bombay, and known as the Lawrence Asylums of Kussowlee and Mount Aboo." "That subscriptions be solicited to the proposed memorial; and, in particular, that the army in England be invited, in token of their admiration of the gallant exploits of their comrades in India, to take part in maintaining, through the Lawrence Asylums, a shelter for the orphans of privates and non-commissioned officers, so many of whom have fallen since the outbreak of the recent mutiny." "That the military schools founded at Kussowlee and Mount Aboo by the late Sir Henry Lawrence have a just claim to the support of all classes of the community, as centres of sound Christian education for the children of the extensive European army which must henceforth be maintained in India; and also as nurseries for rearing an indigenous population of British parentage, capable of filling the vast openings for European energy and skill which India now presents."

The Earl of Shaftesbury, in the course of his speech, adverted to the marked courtesy of Sir Henry Lawrence's demeanour to the native population, whom he would never permit to be called 'niggers,' and said he had reason to believe that more mischief had been done in India by the haughty-bearing-and-insulting language towards the natives of many of our English functionaries in India than by almost anything else. There was here a cry of "No, no!"—but the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, who occupied a prominent position on the platform, nodded assent.

Several subscriptions were announced at the close of the meeting, among which were the following:—Mrs. Hayes (a sister of Sir Henry Lawrence), 1000*l.*; his Highness the Maharajah Dhuleep Singh, 250*l.*; Viscount Gough, 100*l.*; Earl Stafford, 50*l.*; Viscount Hardinge, 40*l.*; Sir William Gomm, 50*l.*; and Sir George Pollock, 20*l.*

THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

A conference of the delegates from the Chartists of various metropolitan and provincial districts assembled for the first time on Monday in the small room of St. Martin's Hall. Mr. Alderman Livesey (Rochdale) was elected as the permanent chairman of the conference. The great discussion of the evening was on a motion of Mr. Ernest Jones's, affirming that the conference decided on uniting with the middle classes in a Reform agitation, but at the same time reserved its right to pursue the agitation for the Charter. After some discussion and opposition, which at one time was rather noisy, the motion was carried, with only two dissentients, amidst loud applause. The conference then adjourned to the following day.

On the conference reassembling on Tuesday, it was resolved that the executive should consist of a single individual, and Mr. Ernest Jones was elected to the office, only two hands being held up against him. Mr. Jones then proposed a resolution in favour of manhood suffrage, and urging the working classes to lose no opportunity of claiming this as well as the points put forth by the middle classes, and to support no movement that does not embrace it. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The conference sat again on Wednesday. The subject of debate was the time and means for reopening the Chartist campaign, and for holding public meetings in all towns and villages where possible, the appointment of speakers, and the organization of the first series of political tours. It was resolved that the campaign should be deferred till the adjournment of the conference; that 100*l.* be raised for the agitation of reform; and that each locality select its own lecturers and arrange according to the wants of the district. The powers of the executive were limited by a resolution that all important questions be submitted to the various localities, and that, should cause for a dismissal exist at any time, a new election should take place. It was proposed to give the executive 3*l.* a week; but Mr. Jones positively refused to receive any remuneration, and the motion was negatived.

A deputation from the London Parliamentary Reform Association was introduced on Thursday, when Mr. Samuel Morley, one of the deputation, urged on the meeting the necessity of adopting a conciliatory policy towards the middle classes, and of not opposing an instalment of reform because the complete Charter was not offered. Mr. Ernest Jones moved—"That this conference of Reformers, belonging to the middle and working classes, resolves that a movement be organized for registering manhood suffrage, repeal of property qualification of Members of Parliament, and the Ballot, a greater equalization of constituencies, and a shortening of the duration of Parliament to at least five years; and that the middle and working classes unite for the above purpose."—This motion, with the addition of a rider, proposed by Mr. Holyoake, and affirming that all opposition ought to be in a conciliatory spirit, was carried, after some resistance.

The Parliamentary Reform Committee, in answering the deputation in favour of manhood suffrage, says:—"They propose to give votes to all occupiers in parliamentary boroughs, whether they occupy premises in part or whole, and whether the poor-rate on account of such premises is paid by the occupier or the landlord. The franchise is not to be dependent on the payment of the rate, but simply on occupation. The abolition of numerous small and corrupt boroughs, and the transfer of their right to return members to large and independent constituencies, which shall possess the extended franchise, is also an essential portion of the plan; and the voter is to be protected, against intimidation and corrupting influences, by means of the Ballot."

HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN.

The first festival in aid of the funds of this institution—the only one of its kind in the metropolis—was celebrated on Tuesday evening at the Freemasons' Tavern. The site of the institution (which was opened in 1852) is a large, old-fashioned mansion in Great Ormond-street, with a garden at the back. The poor of the metropolis contribute in pence 50*l.* annually. Mr. Dickens occupied the chair at the dinner, and made a speech in which delightful gleams of humour illuminated a human tenderness more delightful still. A subscription was opened at the close of the evening, and nearly 3000*l.* were collected, including a donation of 500*l.* from a lady who declined giving her name.

THE WIVES AND FAMILIES OF SOLDIERS' ASSOCIATION.

The first public meeting of the newly formed Association for Improving the Condition of the Wives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors was held at Willis's Rooms on Wednesday. The Duke of Cambridge presided, and the platform exhibited a large attendance of military and political notabilities. In addressing the meeting, the Duke dwelt on the impolicy of hasty marriages on the part of the soldiers, and the misery entailed on their wives and families when the regiments leave England on foreign service. The Earl of Shaftesbury, Sir John Pakington, M.P., Major-General Sir W. F. Williams, Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., Lord Ebury, and the Chaplain-General, most of whom spoke to similar effect as his Royal Highness, the chairman.

Several resolutions, in accordance with the objects of the meeting, were unanimously passed.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

Monday, February 8th.

THE 'MONITEUR' AND THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, in answer to a question from Lord LYNCHURST, Earl GRANVILLE stated that a despatch had been received from Count Walewski, conveying an expression of the deep regret of the French Emperor that any apparently official recognition should have been given in the *Moniteur* to language likely to be at all offensive to the English people.

REPLY TO THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

The LORD CHANCELLOR brought up the reply of her Majesty, thanking the House for their address on the occasion of the marriage of the Princess Royal.—A similar reply was brought up in the Lower House.

INDIA.—THE VOTE OF THANKS.

LORD PALMERSTON rose to propose a vote of thanks to the army, navy, and civil service in India, and passed a high eulogy on the brilliant services performed by the Governor-General and all the other functionaries, more especially alluding to Lord Harris, Lord Elphinstone, Sir John Lawrence, Mr. Frere, Sir Colin Campbell, Sir James Outram, Sir Archdale Wilson, General Inglis, and Captain Peel, and adverting to the tribute of respect paid by all men to the lost heroes, Havelock and others, who had left behind them bright examples of the character of Christian soldiers.—The Earl of DERBY regretted to be obliged to introduce an element of dissension, but felt compelled to object to the introduction of the names of Lord Canning and Lord Harris into the vote of thanks. On the naval and military officers, however, he pronounced a glowing eulogy.—The Duke of ARGYLL vindicated the conduct of Lord Canning, and traced the aspersions which had been thrown on it to the indignation excited in the minds of Anglo-Indian journalists by the restrictions which he had placed on the press.—The Duke of CAMBRIDGE spoke a few words in cordial support of the vote.—Viscount FALKLAND eulogized the way in which Mr. Bartle Frere had administered the Government of Scinde; and the motion then passed *nem. con.*

RELIGIOUS BILLS.

On the motion for the second reading of the RELIGIOUS WORSHIP ACT AMENDMENT BILL, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY briefly entered into explanations respecting that measure, and the reasons which induced him to move that it should be withdrawn. Another bill on the same subject had been introduced, and his own bill had not met with the approval of the clergy, though it was liked by the laity. He should reserve to himself the right of opposing the new bill.

On the motion of the Archbishop of CANTERBURY, the CHURCH OF ENGLAND SPECIAL SERVICES BILL was read a second time, after a discussion in which the Bishops of LONDON, EXETER, and ST. DAVID'S supported the measure, and the Earl of DERBY and Viscount DUNGANNON pointed out what they considered defects.

Their Lordships adjourned at half-past nine.

THE CHAPEL OF THE BRITISH EMBASSY IN PARIS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. WYSE asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether the 2000*l.* advanced from the fund for civil contingencies, on account of the purchase of a chapel in Paris, had been repaid; what course her Majesty's Government had taken with reference to the decision of the House of Commons declining to confirm the contract made by the British Ambassador; and whether it was true that certain British residents at Paris had offered to purchase the chapel, and that her Majesty's Government had declined to resign the purchase condemned by the vote of a large majority of that House last session.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said that no offer made to the Ambassador at Paris could exonerate the British Government from the liabilities they had incurred; but an offer had been made on the subject to the French Government, and which they only had the power to grant. The matter was under the consideration of the French Government, and, though there were difficulties in the way, he had no doubt they would hereafter be arranged in a satisfactory manner.

TRANSMISSION OF TROOPS.

Captain VIVIAN asked the Under-Secretary for War whether it was intended to despatch cavalry reinforcements from this country to India, and, if so, whether they would be sent by the Isthmus of Suez or round by the Cape, and whether they would take their horses with them.—Sir JOHN RAMSDEN said it was not intended at present to send out more regiments to India, neither was it intended to send out horses, as he believed the supply of horses now on their way from Egypt, India, and the Persian Gulf, would be found amply sufficient.

GENERAL ASHBURNHAM.

LORD PALMERSTON said it was well known that General Ashburnham had been sent to take the command of the force destined against Canton; but that force having been diverted, at the request of Lord Canning, to India, and there being no immediate prospect of any active operations in China, General Ashburnham proceeded to India, by direction of the Commander-in-Chief; but, upon arriving at Calcutta, he found that there was no opportunity of obtaining active employment in India, and, after waiting three or

four weeks, he had thought it best to return home and place himself at the disposal of the Commander-in-Chief.—General PEEL, with the permission of the House, read an explanation to this effect placed in his hands by General Ashburnham.

VOTE OF THANKS.

LORD PALMERSTON (after an objection by Mr. DISRAELI that the terms of the notice given did not include the Governor-General—an objection which the SPEAKER overruled) moved the thanks of the House to Lord Canning, Governor-General of India; to Lord Harris, Governor of Madras; to Lord Elphinstone, Governor of Bombay; to Sir John M. L. Lawrence, Chief Commissioner of the Punjab; and to Mr. H. B. Frere, General Commissioner of Scinde, for their energy and ability in employing the resources at their command to suppress the mutiny in India; to Sir Colin Campbell, Sir James Outram, Sir Archdale Wilson, and Major-General Inglis, for the eminent skill, courage, and perseverance displayed by them, and to the other gallant officers of Her Majesty's Army, Navy, and Marines, and of the East India Company; and that the House do highly approve and acknowledge the brilliant services of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Queen's and Company's European forces, and of the great body of those native corps who had remained faithful to their standards. The Premier added to the motion an acknowledgment of the courage, devotion, and exemplary conduct of persons not in the military profession.

Mr. DISRAELI made objections with respect to Lord Canning similar to those of Lord Derby in the House of Lords, and, upon the first vote, including Lord Canning, Lord Harris, Lord Elphinstone, Sir John Lawrence, and Mr. Frere, he moved the previous question.—Mr. LABOUCHERE pointed out that the vote did not express any general approval of Lord Canning's policy, but merely referred to the manner in which the military operations had been carried out.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON thought that the Governor-General had exhibited great vacillation and indecision.—Mr. MANGLES took a precisely opposite view, and was followed on the same side by Colonel SYKES and Mr. WALPOLE, the latter of whom requested Mr. Disraeli to withdraw his motion.—Admiral WALCOTT highly eulogized the army and navy in India.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the amendment, and approved the course adopted by Lord Canning to check the growth of animosity between Europeans and natives.—Mr. BENTINCK supported the amendment, which was opposed by Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT.—Sir CHARLES NAPIER suggested that the name of Sir William Peel should be included in the second vote of thanks. He had distinguished himself in Syria and in the Crimea.—Mr. WILLOUGHBY, Sir DE LACY EVANS, Lord HARRY VANE, Mr. DRUMMOND, Mr. HENLEY, and Mr. TOWNSEND, supported the vote as it stood; while Mr. KINNAIRD, Lord CLAUDE HAMILTON, and Mr. VANSITTART, expressed objections.—Mr. DISRAELI then intimated that, if the statement made that the vote of thanks would not affect a motion upon the general policy of Lord Canning were correct, he would leave the motion in the hands of the House.—Lord PALMERSTON said he should have made such a statement if he had thought it had been necessary. The House would be open to discuss the general policy of the government of Lord Canning in every way.—After some observations from Sir F. SMITH, in eulogy of the magnificent services of General Inglis, the amendment was withdrawn, and the several votes of thanks were agreed to *nem. con.*

THE LAW OF CONSPIRACY AND MURDER.

LORD PALMERSTON moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law relating to conspiracy for the commission of murder. Referring to the recent attempt at assassination in Paris, he denied that the Government had any intention to remove aliens on mere suspicion; but, finding that there was strong reason for conceiving that a conspiracy to commit murder had been concocted in this country, Ministers had taken the state of the law into consideration. He did not think that the publication in the *Moniteur* of the addresses from the French colonels—however impolitic or wrong that step might have been—ought to deter us from altering the law, if it were defective. In truth, there was nothing peculiar about the publication of the addresses. It was in accordance with a custom that was sixty years old. There were passages in those addresses at which the English nation might justly take offence; but the French Government had transmitted to Lord Clarendon the expression of the Emperor's regret at the publication of the documents in question, which had only accidentally found their way into the official paper. Conspiracy to commit murder is in England only a misdemeanour, but in Ireland it is a capital offence. He thought it would be an improvement to make the law of the United Kingdom in this respect uniform; and he therefore proposed to render the offence in question a felony punishable by penal servitude, for life or not less than five years, at the discretion of the court, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for three years. The bill would have reference to British subjects and foreigners resident here, and whether the object of the conspiracy were English or foreign.

Mr. A. W. KINGLAKE moved, by way of amendment, a resolution to the effect that, while the House sympathized with the French nation on the atrocious offence in question, it deemed it inexpedient to legislate in com-

pliance with the demands of the French Government.—Mr. HADFIELD seconded the amendment.—Mr. BOWYER, in supporting the bill, said that a more inoffensive and proper communication was never made by one ally to another.—Mr. W. J. FOX opposed any alteration in the law, and Mr. GILPIN and Lord ELCHO expressed dissent from the proposed measure.—Sir JOHN WALSH defended the bill.

Mr. ROEBUCK considered the motion as involving two questions—whether the law required any alteration, and whether that was the time and the right mode of making it. The proposed alteration of the law would have neither prevented the crime in question nor facilitated its discovery. But, supposing the alteration to be required, was this the right time, after the Emperor of the French had insulted the people of England, and by his satellites had threatened them? How came the addresses into the *Moniteur*? By the order of the Emperor. It was he, then, who through the *Moniteur* had insulted the people of England. This was not the time at which the House of Commons ought to consent to such an alteration of the law, supposing the alteration to be a good one; for, if the great people of England altered their law upon a threat, it would be a humiliation and degradation.

On the motion of Mr. WARREN, the debate was adjourned.

BANK CHARTER ACT COMMITTEE.

This committee was appointed, after a long discussion. The members of it are the same as those appointed last session.

The other business was then disposed of, and the House adjourned shortly after one o'clock.

Tuesday, February 9th.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, Lord ST. LEONARDS laid on the table a bill for the further amendment of the law of property, which was read a first time; and, after some routine business had been transacted, the House adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT.

Mr. THOMAS BARING presented the petition from the East India Company against any change in the constitution of the Indian Government during the continuance of the present unhappy disturbances, and without a full previous inquiry into the operation of the present system. Mr. Baring also gave notice that, unless any more competent member took the task on himself, he should move, as an amendment on the Premier's motion for bringing in a bill for the better government of India, a resolution declaring the inexpediency of legislating at present with a view to any change.

BARON ROTHSCHILD.

At the request of Lord PALMERSTON, Mr. DUNCOMBE (in order that the debate adjourned from the preceding night might be proceeded with) postponed his motion with respect to the Jewish Disabilities question.

THE LAW OF CONSPIRACY.—THE ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The debate was resumed by Mr. DUNCOMBE, who made some statements with respect to the landing at Boulogne of Louis Napoleon during the reign of Louis Philippe. It had been said that the present Emperor shot a man. That was not true. The pistol of one of his followers accidentally went off, and wounded another of the expedition, who, however, recovered. The only two persons killed were followers of Louis Napoleon, and, of these, one was thrown into the sea after being wounded. Mr. Duncombe regretted that a bill was proposed to be brought in at the dictation of the Emperor; and he condemned the fire-eating language of the French colonels.—Mr. WARREN thought the proposed measure was uncalled for, would prove ineffectual, and would be derogatory to the national spirit and a libel on the law of England.—Sir GEORGE GREY insisted on the inefficiency of the law as it stands, and thought that, after the apology sent by the French Emperor for the publication in the *Moniteur* of the addresses from the army, we might safely pass the bill without any impeachment of our national honour.—Mr. BOVILL opposed the motion, and asked why the law as it now exists was not put in force for the prevention of the attempted assassination.—Mr. HORSE also opposed the bill, which was supported by Mr. COLLIER, who thought that the law required improvement.—The bill was further defended by Mr. WHITBREAD, Mr. BENTINCK, and Mr. NAPIER, and opposed by Mr. HUNT, Mr. DENT, and Mr. MONCKTON MILNES.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL looked on the bill as a novel amendment of the law. The crime in question is extremely difficult to prove, and juries would hesitate to convict if the punishment were made more severe. The proposed change was contrary to the whole spirit of modern legislation; and it was not likely to defeat the designs of political conspirators, because those men are always ready to risk their lives for the attainment of their objects. Detection, and not punishment, was what we should aim at effecting. Then, the bill had been introduced at the bidding of the French Government, and it was evidently desired that a stop should be put to certain meetings in London; but that could only be effected by sending the refugees out of England. Short of doing this, the existing law was amply sufficient. The answer to Count de Persigny should have been, "We are not a nation which sanctions assassination. We will punish any man who is known to preach such a doctrine. Show us any club in which conspiracies are concocted, and we will have the mem-

bers brought to justice." The French Government will be dissatisfied with the bill before the House. It will be said that we have been insincere—that 'the den of assassins' still remains uncleared out; and, as a consequence, further demands will be made. He thought the Government should have said to the French Emperor, "We cannot make any change in the law of England, but, if any case for prosecution can be pointed out, we will take that course which has been pursued for the last half-century." He should be ashamed and humiliated in voting for the bill.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said it had been shown over and over again that the law is insufficient as it stands; but it would have been improper, as suggested by some members, to introduce the measure into the bills for the consolidation of the statute law which are about to be brought forward by the Government under the authority of the Statute Law Commissioners. It was much to be regretted that Mr. Roebuck had introduced into his speech on the previous Friday night such insulting remarks on the personal character of the French Emperor.

Mr. DISRAELI reminded the House that, when an attempt was made by Guiscard to assassinate Mr. Harley, a Privy Councillor, a bill was introduced and passed unanimously, making such an offence, or even an assault on a person in Mr. Harley's position, a felony. And are we to have less consideration for our most powerful and faithful ally? It was true that the despatch of Count Walewski contained expressions which amounted to the height of impertinence, and that the publication in the *Moniteur* of the military addresses was an act of signal indiscretion. But the Emperor had frankly and gracefully expressed his regret; and this should dissipate all feeling of annoyance. It should be recollected also that a Cabinet Minister in this country had designated the Emperor of the French a tyrant and usurper; but the Emperor, being a forgiving and forbearing man, had waived the offence on proper apologies being offered. He (Mr. Disraeli) believed that the great body of the English nation wish well to the French; but he doubted whether the French reciprocate that feeling. Still, it was the duty of the Government to respond to the Emperor's appeal for protection from the machinations of his enemies in England. However, it was very doubtful whether this measure would accomplish the object; but he would vote for leave to bring in the bill, reserving to himself the right of ulterior criticism.

Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT wished to know, among other things, what is the real state of the law; whether it is true or not that the existing law is sufficient to reach aliens conspiring here against aliens abroad; whether it is the practice of the English Government, when it receives information from our police, to give notice to that of France; and what would be the effect of converting a misdemeanour into a felony upon the powers of the police.

Lord PALMERSTON observed that the measure rested upon two grounds—first, that it was an improvement of our law; secondly, that it was calculated to prevent the recurrence of a crime abroad highly injurious to the interests of this country, as well as derogatory to its honour.

Mr. KINGLAKE having withdrawn his amendment, the House divided upon the original motion, which was carried by 299 against 99, and leave was given to introduce the bill.

SAVINGS-BANKS.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, it was agreed that the Acts relating to savings-banks and their operations should be referred to a select committee.

The House shortly afterwards adjourned at a quarter to two o'clock.

Wednesday, February 10th.

MAIL CONTRACTS.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. WILSON, in reply to Mr. MACARTNEY, said that, in the contract of July, 1856, with the European and Australian Mail Company, no alteration had been made. Also, that the time of the existing contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which expires in 1862, had been extended for two years, on condition that the company made certain suggested improvements to the satisfaction of the Board of Admiralty.

THE OATHS BILL.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL having moved the second reading of this bill, Sir FREDERICK THESIGER opposed it.—Mr. HASSARD, Mr. AYRTON, Mr. BAGWELL, Mr. McMAHON, and Mr. MAGUIRE, urged objections on the Roman Catholic ground of the Papal supremacy.—Mr. NAPIER thought that the question as to the admission of Jews was raised in a very fair manner.—Mr. WALPOLE vindicated the character, object, and terms of the oath; while Mr. ROEBUCK thought it required refashioning with respect to Roman Catholics, because the Pope does in fact exercise spiritual authority over those who belong to his faith.—Sir GEORGE GREY denied that the Pope has any power here which can be enforced; and Mr. Serjeant KINGLAKE took the same view.—Mr. NEWDEGATE and Mr. SPOONER opposed the bill.—Mr. BLAND gave to it a general support.—Mr. BOWEN denied that any oath at all is necessary; but, if there is to be any, he thought it should be one which all persons can agree to.—Ulti-

mately, the bill was read a second time, and the committee appointed for that day fortnight.

The House adjourned at a quarter past four o'clock.

Thursday, February 11th.

THE REFORM BILL.

In the HOUSE OF LORDS, in answer to some observations by the Earl of CARNARVON, who wanted to know why some information was not given to the House about the proposed Reform Bill, Earl GRANVILLE said he could not state the precise time when the bill was to be introduced. That must depend upon the general prospects of the session, and the Government must be allowed to exercise their discretion on the subject.—The Earl of DERBY said that, if the bill was not brought forward at an early period, the Government would be open to the suspicion either that they did not intend to pass it, or that they did not mean to give Parliament due time to consider it.

THE PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Earl GREY presented the petition which the East India Company had drawn up in opposition to the proposed change in the government of our Asiatic Empire. His Lordship supported this document with arguments similar to those employed in it, and contended that the fact of the populace of India not having joined the rising showed that the Company had not misgoverned the country. The interposition of a body of men such as the Board of Directors between the Government and the Indian Executive had been productive of great good, and had prevented many acts of injustice. The mutiny, he conceived, had been provoked by the policy of aggression which we had pursued; but the East India Company had always opposed that policy. He could not, however, agree with the prayer of the petitioners for further inquiry. Such an investigation would probably degenerate into a commission for making charges against the Company.

The Duke of ARGYLL admitted that the petition was dignified and temperate; but it had long been admitted on all sides that some change in the Indian Government is necessary. Even the Company admitted that such is the case, but stipulated for previous inquiry. Now he (the Duke of Argyll) thought that such an inquiry would be most impolitic and injurious. A change, however, was absolutely necessary, and it should be recollected that the really valuable patronage in India would remain in the hands of the Executive at Calcutta, while the home service had been thrown open, since 1853, to the educated classes of the country at large. It had been said that this is not the time for making any change; but he had yet to learn that recent events had shaken our rule in India.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH thought that our empire in India should be re-established before we confide its administration to the Crown. At the present time, the bill would not receive proper attention.—Lord ABINGER attributed the rising to the annexation of Oude; and moved for correspondence on that subject, but was reminded by Lord GRANVILLE that he could not do so, as there was no question before the House.—Earl DERBY accused the Government of discourtesy in not informing the House of the nature of the measure to be introduced. Any legislation on the subject until the revolt was suppressed would be suicidal.

Their Lordships adjourned at half-past eight.

CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES.

In the HOUSE OF COMMONS, Mr. DIVETT inquired whether memorials had been received by the Government from different classes of Excise officers for an improvement in their position and salaries, and what course the Government intended to pursue in relation to the same.—Mr. WILSON stated that the Treasury had received several memorials, very numerous signed. They were from all classes of officers serving in the Excise department, and he need not inform the House that a matter affecting 3000 public servants must command the grave attention of the Government. During last autumn, an inquiry was instituted, and the result had been that instructions had been given to frame the estimates for the present year upon an increased rate of salaries. He regretted, however, to say, that the officers of Excise had entered into "an unseemly agitation to effect their object."

MINISTER OF JUSTICE—PUBLIC PROSECUTOR.

In reply to Mr. WILLIAM EWART, Lord PALMERSTON said the question of the establishment of a Minister of Justice was one that had received the attention of the Government. The only model on which such an appointment could be made was the Minister of Justice in France, whose function and powers were wholly incompatible with the constitution in this country. With regard to the office of Public Prosecutor, no steps had yet been taken to carry out the recommendation of the committee.

Sir JOHN RAMSDEN laid the Army Estimates on the table.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

Mr. HEADLAM moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the distinction between Joint Stock Banks and other banking companies, with reference to the liabilities of their partners, by enabling such banks to limit the liability of the shareholders. He proposed to provide for the most complete publicity as to the amount of the original capital, and as to how much had been paid up; and he designed to put Joint Stock Banks in the same

position as other Joint Stock Companies.—The motion was seconded by Mr. SLANEY.—The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, though dissenting from some of Mr. Headlam's views, and inclined to think that depositors rely very much on the unlimited liability of the shareholders, assented to the motion for the introduction of the bill.—After a brief discussion, leave was given.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON moved "That an humble address be presented to her Majesty, praying that she will be graciously pleased to issue a commission to inquire into the present system of popular education in England, and whether the present system is or is not sufficient for its object, and to consider and report what changes, if any, are required for the extension of sound and cheap elementary instruction to all classes of the people." He alluded in general terms to the prevalence of ignorance in the country, to the inadequate provision for education, and to the necessity which appeared to him to exist for making a change in the system of education carried out in connexion with the Committee of Council—a system which is expensive without being efficient.—The motion was seconded by Lord STANLEY.—Mr. HARDY thought that the department of education had ample means of inquiry, and could effect it in a cheaper and more satisfactory way than a commission.—Mr. HADFIELD and Mr. HOPE opposed the motion, and protested against State assistance in any shape for the purposes of education.—Mr. AKROYD and Mr. W. J. FOX were in favour of inquiry.—Mr. ADDERLEY thought it would be unwise to interfere with the existing system, which had worked well.—Mr. COWPER entertained a similar view; but, admitting that further information on some points would be desirable, he said he should be willing to support Sir John Pakington's motion if it were confined to an inquiry into the present state of education in England. He objected, however, to any inquiry into the efficiency or inefficiency of the present system, or whether any, and what, changes are desirable.—Mr. HENLEY opposed the motion, and thought it would be very arbitrary to arm a commission with power to intrude into private schools. There was much in the controversy, moreover, which should put the friends of religion on their guard.—Lord JOHN RUSSELL warmly supported the motion, and said that the opposition to it was only a renewal of that which had been offered to every proposal for the furtherance of education.—Mr. BRISCOE protested against the motion being mutilated.—Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, in reply, thought it would be better to abandon the motion altogether than to prevent, by a compromise, the inquiry being *bona fide*. He would not object, however, to omitting the words, "and whether the present is or is not sufficient for its object."—Mr. COWPER thought that alteration would meet his view.—On the House dividing, there appeared—For the motion, 110; against, 49; majority, 61.

On the motion of the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, the Select Committee on Savings Banks was nominated.

LADY HAVELOCK'S AND SIR HENRY HAVELOCK'S ANNUITIES BILL was read a third time, and passed.

The House adjourned at nine o'clock.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

AN EFFECTIVE HOME FLEET.—The Coastguard squadron, heretofore consisting of mere hulks, such as the Southampton, Mæander, Melampus, Amphitrite, Conway, &c., are now being replaced by effective auxiliary screw propeller line-of-battle ships. But not only are the Coastguard ships to be kept in a state for immediate sea service; effective screw ships will be substituted for the sailing three-deckers which now bear the flags of the Admirals Superintendent at Portsmouth and Devonport. The Victory and Impregnable, which are more like harbour depôts than anything else, will remain as flag ships, seeing that a certain staff must always be kept up, which staff must be for the time domiciled in a stationary ship; but the St. Vincent will be very well exchanged for the Duke of Wellington, and the Royal William at Devonport for the Royal Sovereign, or some other screw three-decker. The depôt ships for the steam reserve at the different ports are also being exchanged for others of a larger class—the Exmouth, 91, for the Ajax, 60, and the Hannibal, 91, for the Blenheim, 60.—*United Service Gazette*.

SUPPOSED LOSS OF AN AUSTRALIAN SHIP.—Captain Clark, of the Auchinagh, which arrived at Melbourne on the 12th of December, has reported that, when in latitude 50 deg. 40 min. S., and longitude 38 deg. E., he sighted four large icebergs; and that on the 15th of November, in latitude 49 deg. 16 min., and longitude 45 deg. E., he passed about one-half of the hull of a large ship, apparently not long in the water. Other relics were afterwards seen, and the painful probability appears to be that they belonged to some Australian ship which had been wrecked.

SHIPWRECK.—The following melancholy notification was found in a corked bottle by Mr. Smith, of the Warren, Minehead, Somersetshire, on the 6th instant:—"On board the schooner Lavina, of Boston, from Quebec for London, long. 84.2, lat. 57.—Mast gone by the board, pumps choked, and the schooner going down; crew, ten in all, taken to the boats. God in mercy preserve us all!—JAMES WALKER, Second Mate.—Jan. 14, 1867."

THE INDIAN REVOLT.

SIR COLIN CAMPBELL arrived at Furruckabad on the 3rd of January, and was in communication with Colonel Seaton's column. The rebels had made an attack on the English forces under the Commander-in-Chief on the 2nd; but, after a severe struggle, they were repulsed, with the loss of all their guns, seven or eight in number. In the evening, they abandoned Furruckabad, leaving behind all their heavy artillery. The Ghoorkas, under Jung Bahadur, took Gorruckpore on the 6th of January. The enemy, though strongly entrenched, made but a feeble resistance. Seven guns were taken, and two hundred men killed. The loss was very trifling on the side of the Ghoorkas.

All goes on well at the Alumbagh. General Outram's forces number four thousand men, and the peasantry are bringing supplies into the camp. Brigadier Walpole occupied Etawah on the 29th of December. He proposed to proceed to Mynpoorie, and thence to join Sir Colin Campbell. The direct roads between Delhi and Calcutta are now open. The Chittagong mutineers have fled before an attack of the Sylhet Battalion near the frontier of Tipperah. They were pursued and overtaken, and many were killed.

A bill has been introduced into the Legislative Council at Calcutta for uniting the Meerut and Delhi divisions to the Punjab. The Lieutenant-Governorship is to be given to Sir John Lawrence.

The Calcutta export markets, after undergoing some further depression, are again looking up.

LORD CANNING'S POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE REBELS.

A Parliamentary paper was published last Saturday, containing a copy of a letter of Viscount Canning (in Council), dated December 11th, 1857 (No. 144), in defence of his celebrated circular enjoining moderation and discrimination in the punishment of the revolted Sepoys. The alleged necessity for this course is based on the assertion that the powers given to special commissioners had been abused to such an extent that capital punishment was often inflicted for very trivial offences and on most imperfect evidence, and that in some districts the fact of a man being a Sepoy was enough to secure his execution. Villages also had been devastated, and the inhabitants had flown in terror; and this had happened at the commencement of the seed time for the autumnal harvest. On the promulgation of the circular, the villagers returned to their occupations. The Parliamentary paper also includes several 'enclosures.' One of these is the petition of a Mr. Williams and others, praying for the establishment of martial law through the Presidency of Bengal; and this is accompanied by the reply of the Secretary to the Indian Government, declining to accede to the request. In a minute of the Governor-General, we read:—

"It is unquestionably necessary, in the first attempt to restore order in a district in which the civil authority has been entirely overthrown, to administer the law with such promptitude and severity as will strike terror into the minds of the evil-disposed among the people, and will induce them by the fear of death to abstain from plunder, to restore stolen property, and to return to peaceful occupations. But this object once in a great degree attained, the punishment of crimes should be regulated with discrimination.

"The continued administration of the law in its utmost severity, after the requisite impression has been made upon the rebellious and disorderly, and after order has been partially restored, would have the effect of exasperating the people, and would probably induce them to band together in large numbers for the protection of their lives, and with a view to retaliation—a result much to be deprecated. It would greatly add to the difficulties of settling the country hereafter, if a spirit of animosity against their rulers were engendered in the minds of the people, and if their feelings were embittered by the remembrance of needless bloodshed. The civil officers in every district should endeavour, without condoning any heinous offences or making any promises of pardon for such offences, to encourage all persons to return to their usual occupations, and, punishing only such of the principal offenders as can be apprehended, to postpone as far as possible all minute inquiry into political offences until such time as the Government are in a position to deal with them in strength after thorough investigation. It may be necessary, however, even after a district is partially restored to order, to make examples from time to time of such persons, if any, who may be guilty of serious outrages against person or property, or who by stopping the dāk, or injuring the electric telegraph, or otherwise, may endeavour to promote the designs of those who are waging war against the State."

In other documents, the Governor-General (in Council) speaks of excessive severity having been exercised in the punishment of persons supposed to

be inculcated in the mutiny, causing exasperation in large communities not otherwise hostile to the Government.

"We have felt," says his Lordship, "that neither the Government of India nor any Government can wisely punish in anger; that punishment so dealt may terrify and crush for a season, but that with time and returning calm the acts of authority are reviewed, and that the Government which has punished blindly and revengefully will have lost its chief title to the respect of its subjects. We have felt that the course which the Government of India may pursue at this crisis will mainly influence the feelings with which, in time to come, the supremacy of England will be viewed, and the character of their rulers estimated by many millions of the Queen's subjects; we have therefore avoided to weaken by any impatience of deliberate justice the claim which England has established to the respect and attachment of the well-affected natives of India. That numbers of these, of all classes, religions, and castes, have supported the Government with true loyalty is known to your Honourable Court. This loyalty it has been our study to confirm and encourage."

SPECIAL LETTERS FROM INDIA.

(From a Military Correspondent.)

Nagpore, December, 1857.

THE extensive distress and ruin among the most cultivated and influential classes, whose ideas descend and penetrate through every rank of Indian society, the rage, mortification, and consternation, produced by these repeated annexations, can neither be denied nor doubted by any one who has seen anything of life in India. Lord Dalhousie and his supporters have said, and will say again, that they never expected that the extension of British rule would be acceptable to the parasites of a Native Court, who fatten on its profusion and its corruption; and the claims of the native military and official aristocracy to a solid and permanent establishment under our revolutionary arrangements are usually dismissed, if they are ever taken into consideration at all, with a rhetorical and obsequious tirade, of which the political economy is as shortsighted and unsound as the language is flippant and unfeeling. A life tenure of their emoluments to sinecurists is generally considered as a remarkably liberal settlement; while the titles to landed estates and to hereditary charges on the revenue are strictly and unrelentingly sifted. All prospects of employment in posts of high distinction and emolument are closed. All places of authority are filled by English officers, many of whom (especially within the last ten years from the increasing numbers required) are ignorant, inexperienced, and eminently unconciliatory in their manners. Our Government takes all that it can, resumes landed estates and allowances of money, whenever it can find a plausible excuse, even from the occasional arbitrary acts of the native princes, to do so; but grants nothing, gives nothing; so that the constant and certain tendency of our rule hitherto has been to level all social inequalities, till none are left between the dominant English and the peasantry, but a purely official class of upstart ministerial officers, trained in our courts, badly paid and corrupt, who in the eyes of the natives represent the character and spirit of our Government, and in the eyes of our Government represent the character and spirit of the natives in general. For there are comparatively few of the English officials in India, who have any intercourse with any class of the natives except their own subordinates and the suitors in their courts and offices, and they form their opinion of the native character from what they hear and see.

A native sovereign, with his locally recruited army and personal attendants, his religious, national, and family ceremonies and processions, and progresses through the country, is a bountiful source of hereditary employment, of pride, amusement, and excitement to all ranks and classes. All this ceases on an annexation, all public pomp, state, and general amusement cease, the sting and vivifying charm of life is gone, everything is doomed to settle down to a dead, dull, and uniform level. Too little thought has been given to this consequence of our interference; we have sneered and mocked at the notion of natives feeling loyalty and affection for their ancient chieftains, though in every page of history, and in every event of the present day, we may see that these sentiments have a most powerful influence, more powerful, perhaps, among Oriental nations than they ever were among those of Europe. And, in a certain phase of civilization, in a certain stage of social development, these sentiments are powers, which a wise Government should know how to evoke and how to wield. We have done nothing to encourage feelings of loyalty and devotion for our Queen or for our Government;—we have grossly outraged those feelings by our treatment of friendly princes and their families, and we now see the results in the rebellion and attempted war of extermination of 1857.

Though despotic, the native Governments of India are truly patriarchal; they discourage, more or less, the accumulation of private property—at least among the personal followers of the sovereign—whose traditional policy it is to have even the most powerful of his nobles

dependent on him, and to retain complete control over their fortunes. For these reasons the native monarch, from immemorial custom, is heir-general to all his own relations, ministers, and courtiers; but, on the other hand, he never fails to provide for the families of his deceased servants, with a liberality proportionate to the amount of the realization from their estates or hoarded wealth, while all the great civil offices and military commands are filled from these favoured classes who form, in fact, the native aristocracy. The native monarchs, doubtless, adopted this plan from jealousy of their nobles becoming too powerful, and for the same reason they frequently preferred to provide for their relations and courtiers by sinecure offices, annual money allowances, and occasional presents, to granting them jagheers or landed estates. We cannot, of course, continue this barbarous irregular patriarchal system, but hitherto we have not sufficiently, in fact not at all, recognized the obligations imposed on us by its existence from time immemorial. In consequence of this system, an aristocracy has grown up, which we find in possession of all the power, wealth, and privileges of the annexed country, dependent on the will and favour of an absolute monarch, it is true, but protected by ancient custom, and by that universal public opinion, against which even an absolute monarch can seldom offend with impunity.

Private accumulations have been discouraged, and generally appropriated at each succession, but the right to a perpetual provision for the family, and to the recognition of their dignity and rank, has ever been held sacred. Our rule works a complete revolution in their position and prospects, effectually closing to them their former career in the public service, and allowing to the stipendiary and sinecurist merely his actual emoluments for life, or, as 'a special case,' for two or more lives, so that ruin and degradation are but postponed for a generation or two. Now, it appears to me, that the very fact of the obstacles offered to the accumulation of private property, serves to render the right to a perpetually hereditary stipend or sinecure much more powerful and indefeasible than it can ever be under a constitutional Government. And yet, in England, we have always given ample, frequently excessive, compensation on the abolition of sinecure offices and hereditary pensions. In India we have, as yet, offered no compensation to the higher classes, the most reflecting and most influential of the population, for the loss of rank, power, and wealth, for the utter ruin and desolation, in many cases, which the introduction of our system of Government brings upon them. Had we recognized the vested rights of all hereditary sinecurists and stipendiaries to a permanent provision under our rule, had we commuted their stipends and charges on the revenue, according to some equitable scale, into landed estates held by a well-secured title, we should have introduced an element of harmony and conservatism into our provinces, instead of degrading and exasperating the most hopeful and advanced classes of the nation, and converting them into beggars and conspirators.

The Sepoys, therefore, for the last fifteen years, have heard loud execrations in every place of public resort against the grasping and greedy policy of their foreign rulers; they were taunted with being themselves the cause of the ruin of the country, alternately flattered and reproached; they were told that their bayonets had alone enabled the Company to blot out the names of the most illustrious native monarchies, and to extinguish the last remains of Indian glory. The Sepoys were told that but for their overwhelming numbers and discipline the military power of the Mahrattas of Gwalior would never have been destroyed, that they had now broken the strength of the Sikhs, and that in a short time the Company would not have an opponent on the continent of India, that not a Nabob or Rajah would be left to be deposed and plundered, and that then the British Government would either discharge them all, or send them across the sea to conquer the countries of Burmah, Persia, Arabia, and Russia. And the Sepoys were reminded that, after all their fidelity and warlike exploits, not a man from their ranks, not a man of their caste or race, was admitted to any exalted rank, wealth, or dignity; that they were certainly paid regularly, but that in many points their little extra emoluments and allowances on active and foreign service had been cut down, and that while a few of them might expect to rise by seniority to the rank of jemadar or subadar, with about a quarter of the pay of an ensign just arrived from England, they could never hope to attain, or to see any man of their race attain, to the rank and authority even of the youngest English ensign. They were reminded that even the miserable pensions allowed to them when worn out with long service had been reduced of late years; that the native princes gave as good pay as the Company, that a man was never discharged for old age from their service, but was allowed to draw his pay, and be excused from all duty, and that the sons of old servants were always enrolled on their father's death, even though too young to do any actual service, even though infants in arms. They were asked if, for such beggarly rewards as those offered by the Company, for such contemptuous treatment of their bravest and best comrades, they were for ever going to aid in the enslavement and degradation of the whole Hindoo race. They were told that they were them-

seives mere slaves of the Feringhees, and that at last the Feringhees would destroy their caste and turn them into Feringhees body and soul, so that they might be no longer able to make excuses against going on board ship to fight against the Russians and the Burmese. With the exception of a few 'general service' or volunteer battalions none of the Bengal Infantry were engaged to embark on board ship or to serve out of India. No Brahmin or Rajpoot can preserve the strict rules of his caste on board of a ship.

For years had taunts and sarcasms of this description been bandied about in every bazaar, for years had these matters been seriously discussed by the Sepoys themselves. They were left entirely to their own devices, and had a public opinion of their own, and aspirations, fears, jealousies, aims, and a national pride, totally unsuspected and totally un conjectured by their English officers, very few of whom had ever in their lives sought acquaintance with a native, or met with one whom they were either able or willing to converse with on terms of equality or familiarity. Year by year the general execrations increased, until at last their own country, the birthplace of nearly one-half of the Bengal Sepoys, Oude, was annexed; the King, their chief, the representative in their eyes of all the ancient renown of their native province, the faithful and devoted friend of the English Government, even he was condemned to be a mere pensioner, and departed as a suppliant for justice from the palace of his ancestors, while his elephants, his horses, even the contents of his wardrobe, were sold by auction at Cawnpore as state property.

But immediately following this climax of annexation, touching the very hearths and homes of the Sepoys, came an order of Government directing that for the future all recruits for the Bengal army should be engaged to serve in foreign parts, and to embark in ships whenever it should be necessary. It was true then! All India had been conquered, and now the Sepoys were to be sent to foreign countries. The order indeed was made only to apply to recruits, and not to Sepoys already in the service; but who could believe that they would long be spared? The war with Russia was just concluded; then came the Persian war and the expected war with China. The greased cartridges followed most opportunely; and there could not be a doubt that the intention of Government was to qualify them all for shipboard and foreign service by treacherous ceremonial defilement, by loss of caste. They were ripe for revolt, they were ready to believe anything; a few active ambitious Mahomedans now saw the opportunity, took care to fan the flame, and to spread a hundred insinuating rumours of a general rising; the emissaries of the Lucknow nobles and officials did their best when the first mutinies took place, but I doubt if there ever was a regularly organized conspiracy. The struggle must have taken place within a very few years; it could not have been deferred much longer. The Sepoys were the first in the field, because they were the only organized collected body of armed men; because they knew that no one would begin without them, and also because the last insult and actually exciting cause of the outbreak, the supposed greased cartridges, forced them into the field. This has been no praetorian mutiny; the Sepoys were led to expect that every native chief, and every man of the warlike castes, would join at their signal, and expel the cold, haughty, and grasping Europeans forever from India. And throughout India, though all were taken by surprise—for the actual outbreak was not the result of a carefully arranged and premeditated conspiracy—there has been an almost universal sympathy for the rebels, and even those natives who well knew the hopelessness of the attempt, and the ruin which a local and temporary success would bring upon themselves, rejoiced at a blow at last having been struck at the pride of the British Government. In India, as in all other lands, the rich and prosperous are Conservatives, and there are many enlightened and loyal subjects in all classes but the very lowest; but no one who has observed the signs of the times can doubt in what direction the hopes of the people at large pointed.

In my next letter I propose to examine the results, the loss and gain to us of, this rebellion; the lessons to be drawn from it; and the remedies for the state of things which keeps us still as strangers and foreigners in the midst of a population which has been ready to fall down and worship us for the last hundred years, but who does not like being kicked and spurned—remedies which would make India a source of strength and wealth to us instead of weakness and expense, and which would inaugurate that human fellowship between the pupil and the tutor races which alone can make India an integral part of the British Empire.

E. V.

THE ORIENT.

CHINA.

THE bombardment of Canton commenced at daylight on the 28th of December, and was continued during the whole of the day and night. The assault, which was in three divisions—two English and one French—was made at six o'clock on the morning of the 29th. The heights within the town were in our possession by nine in the morning. Gough's Fort was taken at two

o'clock, p.m., and blown up. The advance within the city was but feebly contested, and the damage to the town was very small. Captain Bate, of her Majesty's ship Actæon, was killed. The number of English employed on the occasion was 4600; of French, 900.

Prussia, it seems, will be forced into joining France and England in the operations against the Chinese. Prussia is bound by treaty to defend ships under the Oldenburg flag; and a vessel belonging to that State, which had been wrecked on the Chinese coast, having been plundered and the crew ill-used, the Oldenburg Government has called on Prussia to demand reparation from the Celestials.

CIRCASSIA.

It is stated in the continental papers that, after a succession of actions, which lasted from the 7th to the 14th of December, Schamyl has been obliged to defer to the desire of the whole population of the Great Tchetchna, and give in his submission to Russia.

JAPAN.

Prince Tzi-Kuzen, the nephew of the Japanese Emperor, is about to visit Europe. He was to embark about the end of December at Simoda, with a numerous suite, on board the Dutch vessel the Samarang, chartered for the purpose by the Japan Government. He will visit France, England, Russia, and Holland, and return by way of America. Among the persons composing his suite are two Japan engineers, whose mission will be to examine into the system of railways. An electric telegraph (six miles long) from the Emperor's summer palace to Jeddo, his capital, is now in successful operation.

PERSIA.

The Hon. Mr. Murray, our Minister at Teheran, is seriously ill from chronic dysentery. His physicians have recommended him to quit the country as soon as he can bear the fatigue of travelling. He has transmitted to Mr. Alderman Finnis the sum of 500*l.*, contributed to the Indian Mutiny Relief Fund by the Shah, and 250*l.* for the same charitable purpose from the Persian Prime Minister.

NAVAL LETTERS FROM CHINA.

THE following extracts of private letters from our fleet in China will, we think, be found interesting, although they are but a prelude to the latest news from that quarter of the world:—

H.M.S. —, *Canton River*, Nov. 25, 1857.

We had an alarm last night. The Chinamen tried to float a fire-junk down on top of two gunboats, but made a mess of it. It burnt beautifully. We have had a great disappointment to-day; we were to have commenced the attack on Canton at the end of this week, but the Admiral has just sent to say that Lord Elgin has put it off for three weeks, as there is a chance of their coming to terms; but I must say this is only humbugging us. We have been many months blockading this infernal river (other ships longer), and nothing come of it yet. The Mandarins are trying, I think, to get us to hold on until the hot weather sets in again.

H.M.S. —, *Canton River*, Dec. 12, 1857.

The mail goes home in a day or two, and as we are about to move up to Canton, I may not have an opportunity to write next mail. The Plenipotentiaries have been holding no end of conferences at Macao; the upshot is that the French fleet have joined ours in the blockade of the river, and will join with us in the attack, with one thousand men. We get no news of the intended operations; nothing but shaves. However, we are ready for work, and don't care how soon it begins. Two battalions of the marines moved up to our most advanced point on the river yesterday, and also the Calcutta's boats, and good number of the gunboats, so it looks like the last volume of the History of Canton. Macao Fort, our most advanced guard, is about three miles from Canton city, which latter can be plainly seen from a pagoda in the fort. You must not confound Macao city with this fort, as the city is at the entrance of the river, and the fort eighty miles up. However, I suppose you will see all the authentic chit-chat in the papers, so shall drop the subject.

December 13.—A flag of truce was sent in to Canton yesterday to call upon the non-combatants to withdraw, as the bombardment will commence on Thursday next (this is Sunday). The Admiral comes up the river to-morrow for a full due, and we shall follow him immediately. The French attack the eastern end of the town, and the English the west. I am to command either the Field Gun or Reserve Rifle Company of this ship. Our equipment is as complete as can be expected for fishes out of water. Your humble servant mounts knapsacks, &c., the same as a soldier. I hope to give you full particulars of the fall of the Celestial city in my next.

STATE OF TRADE.

TRADE at Manchester continued, during the week ending last Saturday, to show hopeful features. The general transactions of Birmingham were not brisk, but there were signs of returning life, and a great spring trade is expected. The lace trade of Nottingham was very quiet, and the hosiery trade was unprecedentedly dull. De-

pression was still felt at Sheffield, but the workmen employed at Messrs. Beatson and Co.'s Midland Iron-works, who recently struck in resistance of a threatened reduction of ten per cent. in the rate of wages, have given up the contest, on condition of receiving full wages for the fortnight ending the 30th ult., which was agreed to. At Wolverhampton there has been a continuance of the steady improvement in the home demand for iron; but the foreign trade, as yet, exhibits no signs of recovery. The same may be said of the hardware manufactures. The strike of the puddlers and millmen is virtually at an end, the men having shown a disposition to submit. Messrs. C. L. Browning and Jackson, proprietors of ironworks at Millfields and Deepfields, failed during the week, with liabilities supposed to amount to about 30,000*l.*, and assets equal to a dividend of nine or ten shillings in the pound. The demand for wools at Bradford has been very firm; but the other trades of the place continue to exhibit languor. Leeds, Halifax, and Leicester again show improvement in the leading branches of business.

A letter from the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England to the First Lord of the Treasury and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, respecting the enlargement of their issues beyond the limit fixed by the Bank Act of 1844 (in continuation of correspondence presented to Parliament on the 3rd of December, 1857), has been published. We here read:—"The purposes to which the excess of issue should be applicable having been prescribed in your letter of the 12th of November to be to enable the bank 'in that emergency to meet the demands for discounts and advances upon approved securities,' it may be necessary to state what portion of the said 2,000,000*l.* was actually made use of and employed as directed in discounts and advances to the public. The greatest amount issued to the public on any one day was 928,000*l.*, and the minimum 15,000*l.*, or a daily average of 488,830*l.* for eighteen days, the period during which any portion of the 2,000,000*l.* was out of the hands of the Bank. The remainder was throughout unemployed, and was retained in the Banking Department till the whole 2,000,000*l.* of notes were returned to the Issue Department on the 24th of December, and the securities withdrawn therefrom. The total reserve on the previous day was 7,971,000*l.* It may be observed that, as respects the position of the Bank of England accounts, an earlier period might have been selected for the return of the notes, as, in case of their becoming again necessary, recourse might be had to the Issue Department as before; but the Court deemed it preferable that this partial measure should be deferred till they could with prudence reduce the rate of discount below ten per cent., by which the powers granted by the Act would at the same time be brought to a termination."

In the general business of the port of London during the week ending last Saturday, there has been little improvement. The number of ships reported inward was 183, including 28 with corn, flour, rice, &c., 13 with sugar, and 1 from China, with 12,841 packages of tea and 1386 bales of silk. The number cleared outward was 107, including 12 in ballast. Those on the berth, loading for the Australian colonies, amount to 47.

AMERICA.

KANSAS appears to be progressing towards the solution of its difficulties. The Free State men have elected all their officers by small majorities, and they have large working majorities in each house.

The military operations against Utah will be pushed forward with great vigour in the spring. General Scott, Commander-in-Chief, will, it is expected, be despatched to California, in order to arrange there an expedition which will attack the Mormons in the rear. In the meanwhile, Colonel Johnston will be reinforced. The bills for increasing the army have been introduced into Congress, but are opposed by the Republicans, who fear that the enhanced military power will be used for the coercion of Kansas.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations have made a report (Mr. Douglass dissenting) on Central American affairs and the Neutrality Laws, in which they denounce the species of brigandage called 'filibustering,' and state that the Neutrality Law of 1818 is sufficient to meet the case of General Walker, as far as arrest on the high seas is concerned. They are of opinion that the arrest of Walker on Nicaraguan territory was without warrant of law; but that, as it was done with an excellent intention, verbal censure of the act is all that can be required. They finally report a bill amending the Neutrality Law as far as regards the bringing of offenders to trial.

From California we hear of the destruction by fire of the town of Downieville, entailing a loss of about half a million dollars.

The news of the death of General Havelock has created great sympathy at New York, and, as a mark of respect for that noble officer, the flags were displayed on the 24th ult. half-mast high.

A despatch from Mobile reports the arrival there of Walker the Filibuster, and his arrest, but subsequent discharge, by the authorities. Another telegram from the same city says:—"An enthusiastic meeting was held here on Monday night. Walker, in a speech, dis-

closed the secret of the Government opposition to his Nicaragua scheme which was a rejection of their proposition that he should go to Mexico and incite a war there, with a view to the United States acquiring that territory. Resolutions were passed denouncing the Government, and demanding the trial of Commodore Paulding."

Lord Napier gave one of the most brilliant fêtes ever witnessed in Washington in honour of the marriage of the Princess Royal.

The city of Mexico has been bombarded by the opponents of Comonfort, and a desperate conflict continued for several days, resulting in the loss of more than a hundred lives and the wounding of a large number more. A truce of a day was agreed to. The last report is that the coalition was marching on the city, and that civil war was raging.

The ship North America has come into collision, between Tuskar and Holyhead, with the American barque Leander, which went down in about five minutes. Nine men and the captain's wife were drowned; the rest were saved. The steamboat Fanny Fern has blown up near Cincinnati, and several lives have been lost.

THE PROGRESS OF THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

The progress of the Princess Royal and her husband through Belgium and Prussia has been marked by as many stately observances and as much affectionate regard for the fair young girl who has left her home and country for new scenes and duties as signalized her departure from England. At Aix-la-Chapelle, the streets were gaily decorated, and the young couple were heartily received. Cologne was bright with illuminations (the arrival took place after dark), and the cathedral was brought out into magnificent relief. The correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* says:—

"The grand and wondrous cathedral, which until that moment had been hidden in the midst of darkness, suddenly burst into view, radiant with the most gorgeous light. On every side it had been illuminated with a rich red glow, which brought out even the minutest tracery of the architecture into strong relief. The effect was almost supernatural. The whole building stood out against the background of night, like some fairy temple that had been called from empty space at the bidding of an enchanter; and this lasted, not for a minute, but for a good quarter of an hour. During all that time, the pans of red fire which had been placed upon the parapets, and on various parts of the outside of the building, continued to blaze, and to reflect their lurid glow upon pillar, upon pinnacle, and upon sculptured figure. As you gazed upon the glorious building, thus tinted with fairy colours, you might have supposed yourself in the golden East of fable and tradition. You might have fancied that the palace of some gorgeous dream had suddenly started into form before your eyes. Such a magnificent illumination was never, probably, seen in any other city of Europe. While red fire was thus burning without, I learnt that the electric light was shedding a pale and ghostly glow within; and that the Prince and Princess were there in order to see this marvellous building, under the influence of a double illumination so imposing. But the doors I soon found were pitilessly closed to all who sought admission, and accordingly I am in ignorance as to what took place in the vast old temple at this particular moment. The one great illumination of the town completely eclipsed all the others. Yet of these, however humble they might appear, it was impossible not to take note. Nearly every house in the principal streets of Cologne wore, more or less, a holiday garb. Some had flags drooping from their casements, and coloured lamps shining in their windows; others contented themselves with displaying ranges of lighted candles in the place of lamps. Everywhere there was universal light. In the streets the crowd was sufficiently numerous to render locomotion through the narrow, crooked, and puzzling by-ways exceedingly tiresome work. The people who had gathered round the station to greet the arrival of the Prince and Princess, hastened away to see the cathedral as soon as they had gone. Thus every street in the neighbourhood of this building was soon filled. The soldiers had some difficulty in keeping order, and did not diminish that difficulty by checking everybody in the roughest manner who endeavoured to pass certain ill-understood limits."

The Prince and Princess afterwards attended a grand concert given in the Gürzenich Saal, or Guild-hall, a building of immense size, with fine sculptured timber in the roof and on the walls. It was not until nine o'clock that the Royal visitors arrived, and some of the audience had been there from five. The concert was given by the celebrated Cologne Choral Union, and the special feature was an original composition in honour of the event. The English National Anthem was here introduced, and was received with great enthusiasm, the whole company standing. The audience was very brilliant, and the ladies glittered with jewellery.

At Magdeburg, and Potsdam, there were grand receptions, and the trades' companies formed processions through the streets. Some remarks were made at the former town on the fact of the Royal couple

driving by in a close carriage; but this, it was explained, resulted from the Princess being rather unwell, owing to her long journey.

The entry into Berlin on Monday was a very brilliant affair. The weather was clear, bright, cold, and exhilarating; the citizens were out in their best array and in the highest possible spirits; and every accessory that could add splendour to the scene had been showered forth with copious liberality. The correspondent of the *Times* reports:—

"The authorities gave us (the English) permission to erect the English flag outside the gates of the town (a locality courteously described in the official programme as 'the commencement of the Thiergarten'), and assemble round that attractive point to give the Princess a hearty British cheer as she entered the town. This item of the proceedings, as set forth in an official programme, the Prince of Prussia was pleased to approve, and accordingly we assembled to-day, about one hundred and thirty men strong, besides the gentler sex, under cover of a noble Union Jack, a red ensign, a pilot flag, and a fourth that exceeds my flagging powers to describe."

"When her Royal Highness drove past in the procession, and accidentally made a short halt in front of our post, we gave her an unmistakable British cheer that went to her heart, if we may judge by the pleased and kind expression of her eyes. She looked infinitely better than on Saturday at Potsdam, where she was probably fatigued and over excited. As well as we could see, the Princess was to-day dressed in white, and she certainly wore a very comfortable ermine mantle, that did one's heart good to contemplate as she sat at the open window of the State carriage, bowing to all, and smiling where here and there some incident provoked it. We flatter ourselves that she smiled at the very British manifestation which she met with outside the gates at our hands and throats, but in another instance she laughed outright, and has won the hearts of many by so doing. As it is stated to me, the people at one portion of the distance to be traversed outside of the town threw flowers into the carriage as she passed before them, for which she bowed her smiling acknowledgments; but, just as she was at one time bowing, a tolerably substantial nosegay flew in at the window and struck her in the face. The well-meaning donor stood aghast at the *contretemps*, till the hearty good-nature of the Princess manifested itself in unconstrained laughter at the concussion, in which Prince Frederick William joined."

"The sight of that most noble of promenades, Unter den Linden, to-day, was most imposing; from one point where I stood I calculated, with the assistance of a military friend well versed in these matters, that above 180,000 persons were standing in quiet expectation of the Princess's arrival, surrounded by the most tasteful and ample decorations, and in the presence of some of the most beautiful monumental sculpture that any capital of Europe can boast."

"There were separate decorations of this festal Mall at every point where a cross street intersected. Thus, at the intersection of the Schadow-strasse, the above-mentioned flagstaffs were not only decorated, as before, with garlands and banners, but in this case were converted into obelisks, on different stages of which the busts of the various members of the Royal family were placed in due order and relation. At the intersection of the Friedrich-strasse, the erections took a still more monumental form, and allegorical statues of the size of life were mounted there in niches many feet from the ground, and, like the busts on the obelisks, were surrounded by evergreens, by emblazournies, flags, and various legends. At various other points were decorations less elaborate than these, while the accidental presence of certain barges in the canal over which the Schloss-bridge leads had given rise to as pretty a demonstration as any to be found throughout the whole festal line. The vessels were hauled up close to the bridge, and had not only flagged and sported very appropriate banners in addition, but they had slung their tackle from mast to mast outside the bridge, across the road, and on these lines had hung transparencies that even by daylight were good looking, and in the evening were highly effective. One of these bore as a legend, 'A hearty welcome to the noble newly-married couple;' the other, 'All happiness and good wishes from the Prussian Navigation.' The whole distance of the line of procession from the monument of Frederick the Great down to the Schloss was marked out with a double line of flagstaffs, decorated as before described, and along the sides of this portion were to be found at every available point stands erected with seats for spectators, containing from a few hundred to 2000 persons each, and ornamented with great skill, taste, and liberality; many of these erections were so tastefully designed and so prettily fitted up that it inspired regret to think their occupation would be so ephemeral. Nor were there many houses in the whole length of the festal line that did not sport some species of decoration, the very least of which consisted of two or more flags waving from the roof or upper windows; in many cases rich carpets were exhibited at the windows in the Italian style, and in rarer instances expensive and elaborate decorations of the entire façades had been got up."

The strewing of flowers by young girls, the processions of the trades' companies, the displays of military and civic power, and the thousand-and-one little minutiae of such an occasion, contributed to adorn with a flush and superabundance of life and gallantry the progress of the Princess and her husband to the Schloss, which they reached at a quarter past two o'clock.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

That narrow and unchristian feeling is to be condemned which regards with jealousy the progress of foreign nations, and cares for no portion of the human race but that to which itself belongs.

DR. ARNOLD.

FRANCE.

A TRANSLATION of a despatch from Count Walewski to the French Ambassador at London, on the subject of the late attempted assassination, has been laid on the table of the English House of Commons, and published in our newspapers. It is dated January 20, and, after alluding to previous acts of the same kind, all of which, it is remarked, were concocted in England, it asserts that the French Government is 'penetrated with the sincerity of the sentiments of reprobation' of the recent attempt which have been expressed in this country. France, it is affirmed, honours the principle of protection to refugees maintained by England; she observes the same principle herself, and is far from complaining of the shelter granted in our territories to refugees who remain 'faithful to their opinions, even to their passions.' But there are certain persons who engage in conspiracies for assassination. "Ought, then, the right of asylum to protect such a state of things? Is hospitality due to assassins? Should English legislation serve to favour their designs and their manœuvres, and can it continue to protect persons who place themselves by flagrant acts outside the pale of the common law, and expose themselves to the ban of humanity? In submitting these questions to the Government of her Britannic Majesty, the Government of the Emperor not only discharges a duty towards itself, it responds to the sentiment of the country, which demands such a proceeding under the pressure of most legitimate anxieties (*qui l'y invite sous l'empire des plus légitimes préoccupations*), and which, in a circumstance where joint responsibility (*solidarité*) between all nations and all Governments is so evident, believes that it has the right to count upon the co-operation of England. The recurrence and the perversity of these guilty enterprises subject France to a danger against which we are all bound to provide. The Government of her Britannic Majesty can assist us in averting it by giving us a guarantee of security, which no State can refuse to a neighbouring State, and which we are authorized in expecting from an ally. Full of confidence, moreover, in the exalted reason of the English Cabinet, we abstain from all indication as regards the measures which it may be suitable to take to satisfy this wish. We rely in this matter entirely on them (the English Cabinet) for the care of appreciating the decisions which they shall judge the most proper to lead to this end, and we flatter ourselves (*nous nous complaisons*) with the firm belief that we shall not have appealed in vain to their conscience and their loyalty. You will be so good as to read this despatch to Lord Clarendon, and give him a copy of it."

It is said that Ferukh Khan, the Persian Ambassador, acting on a special authority from his Government, has signed a treaty with a Paris merchant for the exclusive spinning by machinery during twenty-five years of all the silk produced in Persia. The conditions of the treaty, it is added, will enable the French merchants to save a portion of the 200,000,000 francs they pay annually for foreign silk.

M. Billault, Minister of the Interior, has resigned his office, and the resignation has been accepted by the Emperor. General L'Espinasse, the Emperor's aide-de-camp, has succeeded to the vacant post. M. Corneau, Prefect of the Landes, is appointed General Secretary to the Minister, in place of M. Manceaux. General de L'Espinasse has issued a circular to the Prefects which may be considered as a manifesto of the new policy which is to be inaugurated in consequence of the attempt on the life of the Emperor. The General writes:—"France, tranquil, prosperous, and glorious under a Government of restoration, has abandoned herself for six years to, perhaps, an excessive confidence in the subsiding of anarchical passions which the energy of the Sovereign and the solemn will of the country seemed to have entirely annihilated. The generosity of the Emperor, multiplying pardons and amnesties, itself gave a pledge for this natural, but incomplete, return to quiet and union. An execrable attempt has opened all eyes, and has revealed to us the savage resentment and the culpable hopes which still glimmer among the ashes of the revolutionary party. Of that party, Monsieur le Préfet, we must neither overrate nor underestimate the strength. Its odious attempt has alarmed the country; we must give it the pledge of safety it requires. Discretionary or superfluous measures are not the point in question. What we want is a watchful, incessant surveillance, ready to prevent, prompt and firm to suppress, always calm, as power and justice should be; in fact, our populations, who have been justly alarmed, must be

reassured that the good need have no fear, and that the wicked must tremble. This is the most important part of my task, and this is why the Emperor selected me." The fall of M. Billault is thought to be a concession to English feeling in connexion with the publication of the military addresses in the *Moniteur*, that paper being under M. Billault's department. It is even stated that Lord Palmerston urged the point on the Emperor.

ITALY.

The result of six out of the ten new Piedmontese elections is known. They are all in favour of the anti-Jesuitical party.

TURKEY.

A serious disturbance (says a contemporary) has been occasioned at the Turkish port of Trebizond, on the Black Sea, by the refusal of the Russian Consul to allow a party of Circassian slave merchants, who had touched at Trebizond with a cargo of women and children from their own country, to continue their journey to Constantinople, where the slaves were to have been sold. It is said that the Circassians, with their armed followers, attacked the Russian Consul's house, and threatened to kill him. The other European residents, headed by the French and English Consuls, armed themselves to the number of three hundred, and surrounded the Russian Consulate to protect it against this violence. After some delay, the Pacha of Trebizond interfered, and order was re-established.

AUSTRIA.

"Since the 8th of last month," says the Vienna correspondent of the *Times*, "the Austro-Danubian Company has been busily employed in blasting rocks at the Iron Gates, and in twenty days no fewer than two hundred and seventy-five mines were sprung. Such improvements have already been made that the small steamers Tachtalia and Islas will be able to pass the rapids whenever the water is not unusually low. If a foot more can be blasted before the water rises, larger vessels will also be able to pass the rapids without danger. A new channel has been discovered, and it is believed that it may be advantageously used after some few rocks have been blasted. After the explosion of one of the mines, several hundred cannon balls, three heavy anchors, and several Roman coins of silver and copper were discovered."

HAMBURG.

A prospectus has appeared at Hamburg of another loan to be raised by the Swedish Government, bearing interest at four and a half per cent., and of the amount of 8,190,500 dollars, to be employed in the construction of railways. The loan is negotiated by four German houses, and considerable purchases have been made at 94½.

RUSSIA.

A remarkable banquet was celebrated at Moscow on the 9th of January. It was to commemorate the Emperor's policy of abolishing serfdom; and one hundred and eighty gentlemen sat down to table. Several speeches were made, of which the most noteworthy was that of M. Pauloff, who said:—"Gentlemen,—A new spirit animates us; a new era has commenced. Heaven has allowed us to live long enough to witness the second regeneration of Russia. Gentlemen, we may congratulate ourselves, for this movement is one of great importance. We breathe more like Christians; our hearts beat more nobly, and we may look at the light of Heaven with a clearer eye. We have met to-day to express our deep and sincere sympathy for a holy and praiseworthy work, and we meet without any nervousness to mar our rejoicing. Yes, gentlemen, I repeat it, a new spirit animates us—a new era has commenced. One of our social conditions is on the eve of a change. If we consider it in a past light, we may perhaps admit that it was necessary that it should have been allowed to be as it was from the want of a better administrative organization and of the concentration in the hands of the Government of the means which have since given so great a development to the power of Russia. But what was momentarily gained to the State was lost to mankind. The advantage cost an enormous price. Order without—anarchy within—and the condition of the individual cast its shadow over society at large. The Emperor has struck at the roots of this evil. The glory and prosperity of Russia cannot rest upon institutions based on injustice and falsehood."

A violent shock of earthquake has been felt at Irkutsk, in Siberia. The shock was so great that it extended to the frontiers of China. This is the third earthquake within five years which has been experienced in that part of Asia.

SPAIN.

A new revolutionary plot is said to have been discovered at Madrid. Incendiary proclamations, arms, and ammunition, have been seized by the Spanish authorities in a house in the vicinity of the palace; and the plot appears to have had ramifications in the Balearic Isles and at Barcelona.

GERMANY.

It is said that ramifications of the Pierri conspiracy have been discovered in Wiesbaden.

BELGIUM.

Some curious facts have lately transpired in connexion with the attempted assassination of the Emperor of the

French. A short time ago, a foreigner named Joseph Georgi kept a coffee-shop in Tichborne-street, Leicester-square, London, in partnership with his brother. Among the frequenters of the place, who were chiefly foreigners, was a French refugee named Bernard, who stated that he had invented a new scheme for gas-lighting, which statement was corroborated by a particular gaseous smell that was always apparent about his clothes and person. After a time, Georgi informed his customers that he was going to Brussels to open a coffee-house there, and Bernard, on learning this, requested that Georgi would take over with him a part of the apparatus of his new gas-lighting scheme, as he was about to take out patents for his invention, both in France and Belgium. Georgi complied with his request, and succeeded in conveying the materials of the apparatus safely over to Brussels, after paying the necessary duty at the Custom-house. Bernard shortly afterwards arrived in the Belgian capital, and told Georgi that an Englishman named Allsop, a partner with him in his gas-lighting scheme, wanted somebody to take charge of a horse which was about to be sent by rail to Paris. A waiter at the Brussels coffee-house immediately offered to execute this commission, and his services were accepted. He was accordingly despatched on his journey, the gas-lighting apparatus being packed up by Bernard in a carpet-bag and given to him to take to Paris together with the horse. The waiter reached his place of destination, discharged his mission, having left both horse and bag with Allsop at an hotel in the Rue de Rivoli, and returned to Brussels. Meantime, the attempt on the life of the Emperor was made, and, immediately after its failure, one of the first things thought of by the police was as to how the murderous projectiles could have been smuggled into France. An examination of the Custom-house registers was ordered, and the strange-looking articles, which had previously been passed as gas apparatus by the officers of customs on the Belgian frontier, were at once suspected to form part of the hand grenades which exploded so fatally on the 14th of February. Georgi, and the waiter who took the carpet-bag and horse to France, were shortly afterwards arrested at Brussels and placed in solitary confinement. Bernard escaped and has not since been heard of.

THE POLITICAL TRIAL AT NAPLES.

The trial of the persons implicated in the insurrection of last June continues, and is marked by the usual Neapolitan features of judicial violence and unfairness. Baron Nicotera, one of the prisoners, asserted on the 29th ult. that one of the depositions was false, and that it had never been read to him. He also handed in a paper, which he said contained a report of the abuses to which the prisoners had been subjected, and a full exculpation of the captain and crew of the *Cagliari*. He demanded that it should be read, adding, "I wish to defend others; I care not for myself." The Procureur-Général, having perused the paper, said it could not be read; and this was confirmed by the President. The Judges, however, subsequently retired to consider the point, and then stated that a summary of it had been drawn up, which would be read. This summary, however, was expressed in the most vague and general terms. Nicotera objected to the document, and wished to speak on the subject; but he was not allowed. The correspondent of the *Times* says that, according to information which he has received, the following statement was made in Nicotera's original document:—

"The firing lasted an hour, and twenty-seven of the rebels fell, among whom was their leader Carlo Pisalcane; twenty-nine were arrested, and the arrests were accomplished with the assistance of a company of the 11th battalion of the Rifles." Nicotera is declared to have stated that they had given themselves up, and were quietly in the hands of the Guardia Urbana, when the soldiers from a wall fired upon them and massacred them in cold blood. It is added that it was done by order of an officer who did not please the King on the 15th of May, 1848, and expressed himself determined to win the Royal favour. I cannot assert that this is true, but such is the report here. The day's proceedings concluded with the examination of a Sardinian mariner, who repudiated the charge of ever having been a thief. He declared that, after having surrendered, they had been plundered and beaten, and twenty-seven massacred in cold blood—whether, as reported, by the soldiers or by others at their instigation, I cannot positively assert."

On a subsequent day, the Court refused to allow a diary of events, which was believed to contain a complete establishment of the innocence of the crew of the *Cagliari*, to be read. Several of the Italian prisoners asserted that their followers, on the day of the insurrection, were massacred in cold blood by the troops; that they themselves have been treated with the utmost brutality; that they have been denied the comfort of a blanket; and that they are dying with cold.

Watt, the Englishman, whose head has been affected by his ill-usage, at first refused to appear at the trial; and, fearing violence, the authorities did

not endeavour to force him to the court. On a subsequent day, he was present, and answered the questions put to him in a very wandering manner. An interesting account of the rooms in which he and his fellow-prisoners are confined is given by the writer already quoted, who visited the place. He states:—

"The utmost readiness was shown to admit me, and after an awful 'getting up stairs' in the face of the mountain against which the prison is built, we arrived in the apartment assigned to the crew of the *Cagliari*. It consists of two good-sized airy rooms—the outer one occupied by the sailors, the inner one by the Captain Sitzia, Daneri, the engineers Park and Watt, and the two mates. In bodily health, they all appeared well, and complained of nothing but of the length and injustice of their imprisonment. They spoke with the air of persons who were thoroughly innocent of the charge brought against them, and one said that they were induced to go ashore by a ruse. They were to bring with them merely a shirt, for they would be only detained one day. On landing, they were immediately handcuffed. 'We live well,' said Park, 'for we are well supplied by our friends, and the cook of the *Cagliari* prepares our dinner. With the prison allowance of four grains, or three-halfpence a day, which is intended to provide for everything, we hire these beds.' They appeared to be comfortable, and were tolerably clean; the room itself I thought dirty. The captain showed a chart which he had drawn, showing, in opposition to that published by the Government, that his steamer was in the right course for Naples, and the engineers and all present declared that he was making for it when he was captured."

"A number of ragged articles of dress were shown, which the rats had half eaten while left in the care of the Neapolitan authorities, who assured the Sardinian Minister that every care should be taken of them. A list, too, of eighty-five missing articles, together with money, had been presented to the Sardinian Consul, for recently the Government has affected to restore everything it had detained. We left the prisoners in good heart and health, though of Watt I must observe that he appeared moody and not so clear in his intellect as the others; both he and Park have suffered from their long confinement. On leaving them, we passed through the outer room and visited another chamber where sixteen men are confined—one Austrian, some Romans, and Sardinians. I looked round to see something in the shape of a bed, and there was not a single mattress of the coarsest kind in the place. The Government allowance was a wisp of straw, or a handful of chaff it might almost be called, and this appeared to have been swept up against the side of the wall. I should have taken the beds as the sweepings of a dirty room. The Custode had from kindness given a dirty worn-out blanket to two prisoners who had been ill, and one had the blanket which had belonged to him on board, and which had been restored to him; for the others, they slept on the straw or chaff which was on the ground, without covering below or above. I would not litter a pig so badly."

SANITARY MATTERS.

THE Report of the Commissioners on the Sanitary State of the Army discloses some strange and startling facts. "The following," says a summary in the *Times*, "is the comparative mortality of the Army at home and of the male civil population of England and Wales between the same ages as the soldier, as stated by the Registrar-General:—Of effective men of all ages of the Army at home the annual mortality in the thousand is 17.5, while in the general population it is for men of the Army ages, in the town and country population, 9.2; in the country alone, 7.7. Even in Manchester, 'one of the unhealthiest towns,' it is only 12.4. In other words, soldiers die nearly twice as fast as the general population, and very much more than twice as fast as the inhabitants of the rural districts. The deaths are also nearly half as much again as in one of the unhealthiest manufacturing towns in the kingdom. But there is a singular fact also to be noticed. All sections of the Army are not equally unhealthy. The annual mortality in the Household Cavalry is 11 in the thousand; in the Dragoon Guards and Dragoons 13.8; in the Infantry of the Line 18.7; in the Foot Guards 20.4. But, as has been said, the soldier's is a picked life. More than this, 'a portion of the force is every year invalided and pensioned on account of disease contracted in the service,' and of men so pensioned a large percentage die during the first year. The health of the Army, as given in the returns, is, therefore, more favourable in appearance than in reality;—so that the returns which prove that the mortality is twice as great inside the walls of barracks as outside do indeed give too favourable an estimate of the soldier's condition. We are next carried into a comparison of the soldier's health with that of men following various occupations, wholesome or injurious. The mortality among the Line is 2 9-10 times as great, and among the Guards 3 1-8 times as great, as among agricultural labourers who are members of benefit societies; in the same divisions of the Army it is respectively 2 1-10 and 2 1-8 times as great as

among those engaged in out-door trades in towns. As it has been attempted to explain the mortality by the amount of night duty performed by sentries, a comparison with night printers is made, and it is found that military mortality is still vastly in excess. The police night duty is much more severe than that of soldiers, and yet the mortality in the Line is twice and the mortality in the Guards 2-10 that in the police. In comparison even with miners who work underground, and by shifts through day and night, our troops are a most unhealthy body.

"The prevalence of pulmonary complaints in the Army is described as most distressing. 'It appears that while in civil life at the soldiers' ages the deaths by pulmonary diseases are 6.3 per 1000, they amount in the Cavalry to 7.3, in the Infantry of the Line to 10.2, and in the Guards to 13.8; and that of the entire number of deaths from all causes in the Army diseases of the lungs constitute the following proportion—namely, in the Cavalry, 53.9 per cent.; in the Infantry of the Line, 57.277 per cent.; in the Guards, 67.683.' These revelations seem almost incredible, and they point to but one conclusion—that the barracks, and especially the barracks of the Foot Guards, must be frightfully unhealthy. The ravages caused by pulmonary diseases, says the Report, 'are to be traced in a great degree to the vitiated atmosphere generated by overcrowding and deficient ventilation, and the absence of proper sewerage in barracks.'"

Of the health of London during the week ending last Saturday, we read in the Registrar-General's Weekly Return:—"The total number of deaths in London, which in the previous week was 1363, was in the week that ended February 6th, 1314. In the ten years 1848-57, the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1211. Nine nonagenarians died last week, all of whom were women except two: one was 91 years of age, one 92, four were 95, one 96, one 97, and one 98. Last week, the births of 910 boys and 932 girls, in all 1842 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1848-57, the average number was 1598.

ACCIDENTS AND SUDDEN DEATHS.

An explosion has taken place in a manufactory for fireworks at Sheffield. The building was greatly shattered, and the parts which remained whole were set on fire. Three persons were burnt to death, and one seriously injured. The origin of the explosion is unknown.

An inquest has been held on the body of Henry Bird, aged thirty-seven, lately a pantaloan at the Standard Theatre. A few nights after 'boxing night,' he fell through a trap-door, and the men below neglected to catch him. On the 26th ult., on returning from the theatre, he complained of severe pain in the abdomen, and he therefore relinquished his engagement. On the 29th, he was seized with a fit, and he remained insensible till his death, which took place last Saturday. The white paint which he put on his face had a detrimental effect. The post mortem examination showed congestion of the brain; and that organ was found to be very large and flattened on the surface. The jury returned an open verdict.

An inquest has been held at Guy's Hospital on the body of Jonathan Trutt. He was a fireman to the engine attached to the six o'clock down train on the Brighton Railway, on Monday morning, and was fearfully scalded by an explosion of the boiler, which took place at the Caterham junction. He died the same day. The locomotive foreman stated that the explosion was caused by the stay heads of the boiler having given way, and let the water into the fire-box. The jury returned a verdict of 'Accidental death,' at the same time expressing a hope that the engines would in future be carefully examined previous to their running.

OUR CIVILIZATION.

A STRANGE STORY.

THE Rev. Samuel Smith, M.A., master of the Collegiate School, Clifton, is the husband of a lady, who, in her unmarried days, had been courted by a Mr. Leach, contractor, of Croydon, Surrey. On the match being broken off, the lady married her present husband, and Mr. Leach was united to another lady. Mr. Smith's marriage proved unhappy, and Mr. Leach soon became a widower. About two months back, he received a letter from Mrs. Smith, informing him that she was a widow, and inviting him to renew, if he felt so disposed, the intimacy which formerly existed between them. Mr. Leach had some doubts as to the accuracy of the statement; but, after some correspondence had passed between the two, in which Mrs. Smith reiterated that she was really a widow, the gentleman consented to meet her on the platform of the Bristol station of the Midland Railway. He accordingly did so, about seven o'clock on the evening of Wednesday week. Mrs. Smith appeared in deep mourning, and wearing a widow's cap. She said her husband had been dead about six weeks, and that she was staying at the house of one of his relations at Wapley. While they were talking, Mr. Leach fancied he observed Mr. Smith on the platform; but the lady again asserted that he really was dead. They then went by the train to Yate, and, at the station there, Mr.

Smith was again seen. Nevertheless, Mr. Leach and Mrs. Smith started together across the common for their place of destination. The stationmaster, after vainly endeavouring to dissuade them from going that way in so dark a night, lighted them to the edge of the common, put them in the right path, and left them. Mrs. Smith then became the guide, but Mr. Leach, finding she did not make any satisfactory progress, suggested that they should go back and take the high road. Mrs. Smith, however, said that she was feeling for the hedge, and that as soon as she had found it they would be all right. Shortly afterwards, Mr. Leach heard footsteps, as of a person tracking them, and he was turning round, when Mrs. Smith called out, "I have lost my way." A man's voice immediately rejoined, "And I have lost mine;" and at the same moment Mr. Leach received a desperate blow across the forehead from some heavy instrument, followed by a second across the back of the head. Blood flowed copiously; a struggle followed, and Mr. Leach brought down his assailant, who proved to be Mr. Smith. Some of the workmen at the railway hearing the conflict, assistance was soon on the spot, and the two gentlemen were separated. Mr. Smith, observing, "Oh, he's a villain, and I'll have no more to do with him," walked off with his wife, and Mr. Leach was taken to the Railway Hotel, where his wounds were dressed. These were so extensive as to require sewing up.

On the following day, Mr. and Mrs. Smith were arrested at Clifton on a charge of highway robbery and attempted murder. On their track from the common, a widow's cap and a six-barrel revolver pistol, loaded and capped, were picked up; and at Mr. Smith's place of residence, a parcel containing some clothes belonging to Mr. Leach was found by the police. The prisoners were brought before the Clifton magistrate yesterday week; but, as Mr. Leach was unable then to attend, the inquiry was adjourned to the following Thursday. In the meanwhile, bail was accepted.

On Thursday morning, Mr. and Mrs. Smith surrendered to their bail, and were brought before the magistrates at Lawford's Gate, Bristol. Mr. Leach was well enough to attend; but his head was bound up. From his evidence it appeared that he had been in the employ of Swan and Edgar, the silk-mercers of London, with whom Mrs. Smith, who was then unmarried, lived as domestic servant. Leach was originally her suitor, but was supplanted by Mr. Smith. Both the accused were committed for trial, and bail was refused.

ATTEMPTED MURDER AND SUICIDE.—A horrible tragedy has occurred at the Clarendon Hotel, Birmingham. A man, between thirty and forty years of age, and a woman of about twenty, arrived about a fortnight ago at the hotel, having previously hired a sitting-room and bedroom. It was supposed by Mr. Harrison, the proprietor of the house, that the man was a commercial traveller and that the woman was his wife. On Friday week, a report of fire-arms was heard, followed by another, and accompanied by shrieks and cries of "Murder!" The servants rushed up-stairs, and saw the woman, partially dressed, standing outside the bedroom door, with blood streaming from a wound in her neck. She exclaimed, "He has killed me!" and several times repeated the word "jealousy." The man was lying on the bed, grasping a pistol in his hand. A second pistol lay on the floor. Medical aid was called in, but the man was insensible and died in a few minutes. The woman was seriously wounded in the head; but the ball was extracted at the hospital. According to her account, she was in the act of getting out of bed, when the man told her to lift up a handkerchief lying on the counterpane. She did so, and saw two pistols. In reply to her question as to what was meant by them, he replied, "Oh, nothing; but there's one for you, and one for me," adding that she need not be afraid, and that she might go to sleep again. She returned to bed, when he snatched up one of the pistols and shot her; and, as she rushed wounded from the room, he discharged the second pistol at himself. The woman was not married to him; but he appears to have had cause for his jealousy.

EXECUTION.—Christian Sattler, the man who murdered the detective officer Thain, was hung in front of Newgate on Monday morning. At the time of the commission of the act, he professed himself a Deist; but during his imprisonment he adopted the principles of Christianity, at the earnest exhortation of the gaol chaplain. He exhibited considerable religious fervour for some days before the fatal Monday, and he died with great firmness. On reaching the scaffold, he bowed twice, to the right and to the left; and requested that he might be allowed to die with his face uncovered. This was so far granted that the drop was suffered to fall without the cap being pulled down; but, immediately afterwards, Calcraft covered the features of the dying man. There was an unusually small attendance of spectators to see the execution.

THE LATE BURGLARY NEAR BARNSELY.—Five men have been arrested and committed for trial on a charge of being concerned in the recent burglary at the farmhouse of Mr. Clarkson, an aged gentleman living near Barnsley, Yorkshire. Seven men were employed in the robbery.

CRUELTY TO A SERVANT GIRL.—Mrs. Augusta Laigh, a lodging-house keeper, residing in Park-place, Liverpool-road, has been examined at the Clerkenwell police-

court on a charge of cruelly ill-using her servant-girl, whom she had had from the Islington workhouse. The poor girl had on several occasions been brutally struck with a poker and a chopper; and the injuries received were so serious that she has been for several weeks past in the hospital, and is still very feeble. During this time, Mrs. Laigh has been out on bail; and the recognizances have been renewed on her being committed for trial.

KILLING A WIFE.—Francis Henry Law was on Tuesday finally examined at Westminster on the charge, already related in these columns, of causing the death of his wife. He was committed for trial.

A FIERCE CONTEST.—A quarrel of a very desperate and sanguinary nature, which had nearly terminated fatally, arose a few days ago at Reading, between two men named Robert Clark and Thomas Sellwood, in the service of Mr. Wheble, a gentleman living in that city. Frequent scuffings took place between the men, the first of whom was Mr. Wheble's coachman, while the other assisted him in the stable. One day Sellwood complained bitterly of the indignities which Clark had repeatedly heaped upon him, and offered to fight the latter, upon which Clark seized a prong from a corner of the saddle-room and made a thrust with it at Sellwood's breast. Sellwood however ran away, but returned to the saddle-room some time afterwards, and sat down to his dinner, when Clark, who was still there, made some sarcastic remarks about his 'stuffing.' Sellwood nevertheless continued his meal, and lit a fire, which the other man said he would put out. Sellwood stood in front of the chimney-piece to prevent his doing so, and a violent quarrel and fight soon afterwards arose between the two men, in the course of which they both fell to the ground, when Clark inflicted two dangerous wounds on his adversary's breast and temple, and a third near his left ear. An alarm being raised, the men were parted by the gardener, when Sellwood sprang to his feet, and stabbed Clark in the breast, close to his heart, with a prong. Sellwood was afterwards removed to the hospital, and is progressing towards recovery. Clark was examined before the Reading magistrates, and committed for trial.

GATHERINGS FROM THE LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

An action, arising out of the injuries received by a boy, last October, from a tiger which had broken loose in Ratcliff Highway, has been tried in the Court of Queen's Bench. The lad was for a long time in the hospital; but the most serious part of the business was the terrible effect which the accident had had upon the boy's nervous system. He is afraid of going about the house at night, and, when asleep, frequently calls out to his father and mother, in tones of the utmost terror, "Save me, save me! The tiger is coming!" On returning home from the hospital, he was put into the same bed with his younger brother; but it was soon found necessary to remove him, as he bit the other boy under the impression that he was some savage animal. He was then removed into his mother's bed, but acted in the same way towards her, exclaiming "The tiger! the tiger!" The defendant (a person named Jamrach, who owned the tiger) paid 10*l.* into court; but the jury, in giving a verdict for the plaintiff, assessed the damages at 60*l.*

The appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council from the decree of the Court of Arches, pronounced on the 23rd of April, 1857, reversing a sentence of deprivation against Archdeacon Denison passed by the Diocesan Court of Bath and Wells, was heard last Saturday. Owing to proceedings instigated by the Rev. Mr. Ditcher, the Diocesan Court, presided over by the Archbishop of Canterbury, assisted by Dr. Lushington, required the Archdeacon to recant certain doctrines which were held to be heretical, and, on his refusing to do so, a sentence of deprivation was pronounced. This sentence was reversed by the Court of Arches, on the ground that Mr. Ditcher was barred by the 20th section of the Church Discipline Act, in accordance with which the proceedings had not been commenced within the requisite time after the commission of the alleged offence. The only question now raised was whether the construction put by the Court of Arches on the section was correct. The Lord Justice Knight Bruce, in giving judgment, said it was their Lordships' intention to report to her Majesty that, in their opinion, the present appeal should be dismissed, but without costs. In so doing, their Lordships refrained from expressing any opinion on the matter of doctrine.

Some applications have been made during the week to the metropolitan magistrates for passports to the Continent under the new system. At the Southwark police-court, Mr. Coombe told a gentleman that he could not grant him the required permit, because he did not know him personally.

In the Court of Bankruptcy last Saturday, Mr. Commissioner Evans was occupied for some time in hearing two petitions under the bankruptcy of Mr. Edward Baldwin, formerly the proprietor of the *Morning Herald*, *Standard*, and *St. James's Chronicle* newspapers. It appeared that a mortgage was made in February, 1853, to a Mr. Foss, for 7000*l.*, with the usual clauses for redemption. Baldwin was in default; the petitioner did not promptly enforce his rights; and the question was whether the assignees were entitled to the 16,000*l.* for

the copyright of the papers, or whether the mortgagees could recover the amount advanced on mortgage. The case was one entirely depending on the question of reputed ownership at the time of the bankruptcy, it being contended for the petitioner that all the creditors had been made aware of the state of affairs before the bankruptcy, and had endeavoured to prevent it, but failed. An adjournment was ordered.

Nearly two hundred Irish 'navvies' applied on Monday to the Southwark magistrate for advice. They said they were out of employ and in want of food, and that they had been refused relief at the workhouse. Mr. Combe advised them to go peaceably, and not in a body, to the relieving officer, and express their willingness to be passed to Ireland. He had no doubt they would be properly treated.

An interpleader issue, directed to try the right to certain goods seized by the Sheriff of Middlesex on a judgment obtained by the defendant against the plaintiff, was tried in the Court of Exchequer on Monday. The plaintiff, a Mr. Hare, is a solicitor, who had advanced 250*l.* on the goods in question. A certain Lieutenant Hare had lived in Hertford-street, May Fair, with a French lady, named Duffaud, and in May, 1854, he assigned by deed the lease of the premises and the furniture absolutely to the lady. Subsequently her name was put on the rate-book. In 1857, Mr. Buller, the family solicitor, advanced 250*l.* on the household furniture, of which he took possession, and instructed some auctioneers to sell it. It then turned out that a Mr. Angell had advanced Lieutenant Hare 300*l.*, on the security of this same furniture; and, obtaining a judgment, he put the sheriff in possession. The defence was that the transfer to Mr. Buller was a colourable transaction. The advance of money from Mr. Angell was a month before that from Mr. Buller; but no imputation was cast on the latter gentleman. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant (Mr. Angell); and the Lord Chief Baron commented severely on the conduct of the lieutenant and the lady.—In the course of the trial, one of the witnesses, a poulterer, said that he knew nothing of Madame Duffaud, but that he had heard of a "Baron De Foe, who he believed had written Robinson Crusoe!"

A servant girl, living in York-street, Lambeth, got into conversation, a few evenings ago, with a young man whom she accompanied to a coffee-house, where they had some liquor. She soon became insensible, and on the following morning found herself in bed in a strange place. At that moment, the young man was observed to be taking money from the pockets of her dress, and immediately afterwards he disappeared. She then got up, and found that the scoundrel had fled; but he was subsequently apprehended, and, on being brought up at the Southwark police-office, was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—The two Houses of Parliament met last Saturday for the purpose of proceeding to Buckingham Palace and there presenting to the Queen the address of congratulation on the marriage of the Princess Royal. The Queen received the two estates in succession at about three o'clock, and returned to each of them an answer in the terms common to such occasions.—The Queen held a Court on Tuesday afternoon at Buckingham Palace for the reception on the throne of the addresses of congratulation on the marriage of the Princess Royal.—The Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady Anna Maria Dawson and Sir George Couper, received on the same day, at her residence, Clarence House, St. James's, an address of congratulation on the marriage of her granddaughter from the corporation of the City of London.—The Prince Consort received on Thursday a deputation from the Society of Arts, congratulating him on the marriage of the Princess Royal.

REGATE ELECTION.—This election took place last Saturday, when Sir Henry Rawlinson was returned. The numbers were—Rawlinson, 212; Doulton, 116; Monson, 95. The mob was very disorderly, and some of Sir Henry Rawlinson's supporters were pelted.

MONUMENT TO GENERAL HAVELOCK.—Government has agreed to grant a site for a monument to the late General Sir Henry Havelock. The monument will be erected on the opposite side of the Nelson column to that of Sir Charles Napier's statue.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—A meeting of the Royal Geographical Society was held on Monday evening at the Society's rooms, for the purpose of bidding farewell to Dr. Livingstone, and expressing the good wishes of the Society for his success in the exploring expedition he is about to undertake. A public dinner will be given to the Doctor this day.

THE ALHAMBRA PALACE.—Under this designation, Mr. E. T. Smith, the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre, has opened the Panopticon, Leicester-square, for a series of religious services. In the morning, when there are only a sermon and prayers, the admission is free; in the evening, when the sermon and prayers are followed by an oratorio, a charge is made at the doors. Last Sunday, the Rev. J. H. Rutherford preached; the oratorio was Handel's *Messiah*. The combination is certainly a strange one.

CONVOCAATION.—The members of both Houses composing the Convocation of the Province of Canterbury

assembled at Westminster on Wednesday. In the Upper House, there was some discussion as to the proposed changes in the Prayer Book and the shortening of Church services, to which their Lordships expressed themselves opposed. In the Lower House, a report on missions at home and abroad was presented by a committee. Its upshot was to recommend increased activity on the part of the Church in order to combat the spread of vice and infidelity. The Upper House did not meet on Thursday. In the Lower House, an address of congratulation to the Queen on the marriage of the Princess Royal was agreed to. A proposal was made by Canon Wordsworth to add to this address some observations about the sanctity of Christian marriage; but, as the motion was generally objected to, it was withdrawn.

MURDER.—A farmer named Reilly has been shot dead by two men, at present unknown, in the presence of his wife, son, and servant boy, while on his return with them from Kilbeggan market. The man was fired at last December.

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Saturday, February 13.

LAST NIGHT'S PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The only business transacted was the introduction by Lord BROUGHAM of a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt except in certain cases, and to assimilate the law of bankruptcy and insolvency.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

In answer to Mr. HARDY, Sir GEORGE GREY said he hoped in the course of the session to introduce a bill for the better regulation of beer-houses and licensing public-houses.

ENCUMBERED ESTATES, IRELAND.

In answer to Mr. BAGWELL, the ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR IRELAND said a bill would be introduced to perpetuate the system of dealing with Encumbered Estates in Ireland, and it would be extended to Unencumbered Estates.

THE REFUGEE QUESTION.

In answer to Mr. WARREN, Sir G. GREY said that no direct or formal request had been made by the French Government for the prosecution of any person in this country for conspiracy to commit an offence of this kind, but last year a copy of the proceedings taken in France against the parties named was submitted to her Majesty's Government unaccompanied by any request for proceedings to be taken. If there had been evidence against the party sufficient to have arrested him in this country, it would have been done. A warrant had been issued against a British subject under the 9th Geo. IV., as an accessory before the fact to a murder alleged to have been committed in France.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

In answer to Mr. ROEBUCK, Mr. LABOUCHERE said that the Government, in pursuance of the recommendation of a Committee which sat last year, were about to take possession of the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company, granting them the privilege of exclusive trading.

THE LEGACY OF NAPOLEON I. TO CANTILLON.

Mr. STIRLING asked the First Lord of the Treasury if it were true, or if he would obtain information from authentic sources as to the fact—that the legacy of 10,000 francs, bequeathed to the sub-officer Cantillon, who attempted to assassinate the late Duke of Wellington, by the late Napoleon Bonaparte, in a codicil of his will, approving and justifying the attempt, had, since Dec. 2, 1851, been paid, with interest up to the date of payment, by the Emperor of the French.—Lord PALMERSTON denied that the facts were such as were alleged by the hon. gentleman. Between 1828 and 1826 the executors of Napoleon paid part of the legacy to Cantillon; but the commissioners appointed by the present Emperor to discharge the bequests under his uncle's will refused to pay the widow of Cantillon the balance of the legacy which remained, on the ground that the testator must have been suffering from an aberration of intellect when he made the bequest.

CHINA.

In answer to Lord JOHN RUSSELL, Lord PALMERSTON said that the Government had received the terms proposed by Lord Elgin to Yeh, and the substance of Yeh's answer, but there had not been time before the last mail left to translate the whole of it.

REFORM OF THE CORPORATION OF LONDON BILL.

This bill was read a second time, and referred to a Select Committee.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA BILL.

Lord PALMERSTON moved for leave to bring in a bill to transfer from the East India Company to the Crown the government of her Majesty's East India dominions. He stated that an anomalous state of affairs had grown up in India, by which a commercial company had gradually acquired important political functions, but not without attracting the attention of the Legislature. As early as 1784 had legislation on this subject taken place; and again, in 1858, a great change had been made in the powers of the East India Company, which since then had only been the phantom

of its former self. After describing the present system of the double government by the Board of Control and the Board of Directors, and pointing out some of the practical inconveniences which came from it, he proceeded to say that in order to the simplification of this cumbrous machine, her Majesty's Ministers should have a complete control over administrative proceedings, for which they were responsible to Parliament. He proposed to effect this by the present Act which was only directed to the system of the home government of India. With the functionaries in Hindostan, of every sort he had no intention of interfering. So far as they were concerned the only change would be the signature of the despatches they received. In conducting the government of India, and in negotiating with native Princes, the name of the Sovereign would prove far more effectual than that of a trading corporation. He proposed to abolish the present Court of Directors, and to substitute a President and Council for the administration of India. The President would be a member of the Government of the day, responsible to Parliament in the fullest sense of the word. The Council would consist of eight members, appointed by the Crown for a period of eight years, but two of them would retire by rotation every second year. These Councillors must have been Directors of the Company, or resident for a certain period in India. They were to have 1000*l.* per annum salary, but not to be eligible for seats in the House of Commons. The President would have the attributes of a Secretary of State, and be assisted by an Under-Secretary sitting in the House of Commons. In the Council, the opinion of the President was to be paramount and final, except with regard to questions affecting revenue, to which he must obtain the concurrence of at least four of the members. On the question of patronage, he said that no privilege of that description could fall into the hands of the new President, or his colleagues, or the Executive Government. With regard to the army there would be fewer native troops and the English troops in India would be paid out of the revenue of that country. This was an outline of the measure—apart from certain details which did not affect the general principle.—Mr. BARING moved an amendment that it was not expedient at present to legislate for the government of India.—Sir E. PERRY supported, and Mr. M. MILNES opposed the bill.

After a lengthened debate, in which several members took part, the principal speakers being the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER and Mr. MANGLES, the further discussion, on the motion of Mr. ROEBUCK, was adjourned to Monday next.

The House soon after adjourned.

THE CONTINENT.

The lithographed correspondence of M. Bullier, which is sent into the French departments every evening, contained a few days ago a paragraph remarking that England, which would never yield to Napoleon I., has made a concession to Napoleon III. which neither Charles X. nor Louis Philippe would have obtained. "It is after a circular from our Foreign Minister, and in presence of the threatening addresses of our army, that Lord Palmerston has at length consented to modify the right of asylum which neither his predecessors nor himself would ever before change in compliance with complaints from the Continent."

Count de Reyneval, late Ambassador of France at Rome, and subsequently appointed to St. Petersburg, has died suddenly.

The Dutch Minister has laid before the Chamber of Deputies a bill for the emancipation of the slaves in the Dutch colonies.

MADAME VIARDOT.—This admirable dramatic artist and highly esteemed lady is on her return to Paris from a triumphant engagement at the Grand Opera at Warsaw, where she was literally overwhelmed with honours. She reached Berlin in time to perform her great part of *Nides* in Meyerbeer's *Prophete* at the Festival Performance in honour of the Royal bride. We are glad to hear that Madame Viardot may be looked for in England in April. We may be permitted to hope that her commanding genius and consummate art will not be wanting to the inauguration of the new temple of the lyric drama in Covent Garden.

CONSISTENCY AND CONSISTENCY.—The *Globe* has twitted our accomplished contemporary, the *Saturday Review*, with a shocking inconsistency in its treatment of the Alien Bill. Your Ministerial Pangloss is keenly alive to the virtue of that consistency which is singularly like servility. Our own readers, we have the right to say, will bear us witness that the discussion of the Refugee question, whenever it has been forced upon us by foreign Governments, has been conducted by the *Leader* with a moderation that has never needed a sedative, and a persistency that has never mistaken violence for strength.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF THE CONVICT REDPATH.—In the Court of Bankruptcy yesterday, proof of claims of the Great Northern Company against the estate of Leopold Redpath were admitted to the extent of 60,208*l.*, the amount sworn to as that of the bankrupt's frauds and forgeries. The Company will, by this decision, receive 80,000*l.* out of the assets in the assignee's hands.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. Several communications unavoidably stand over. No notice can be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer; not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

The Leader.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1858.

Public Affairs.

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

THE DEBATE AND THE VOTE.

THE fate of Lord PALMERSTON'S Conspiracy Bill has yet to be determined. Last Tuesday's vote, although a national humiliation, was not a Ministerial triumph. It proved, simply, that the House of Commons is content to dally with a great principle, while it was far from proving that Lord PALMERSTON would be enabled to carry his bill, which, in spirit, is something like a Fugitive Slave Law. The debate was in distinct contradiction to the vote. Mr. DISRAELI condemned the proposal in the House, and supported it in the lobby. We should be little astonished if, upon the motion for the second reading, the measure were rejected, or, in committee, amended and mutilated until it become a dead letter. It will then have to pass through the Hereditary Chamber, where the Law lords will undertake its analysis and revision. But, in the meantime, we must call upon the Liberal party to redouble their efforts in order to oppose the principle on which the Government desires to legislate. Very few members belonging to this section spoke on Monday or Tuesday; upon the next opportunity we hope their voices will be heard, and that they will utter their own protests and those of their constituents. The occasion is important, the time for action is rapidly passing; we may be sure that every possible effort will be made to hurry on the final decision of Parliament. Lord PALMERSTON, it is well known, feels little confidence in his own success, and was somewhat startled by the majority of two hundred which gave him 'leave to bring in.' But, we repeat, that was not the deliberate verdict of the Commons upon the merits of the question at issue.

In the list of the Government majority we find some names which may well excite surprise. From the list of the minority, other names are absent which should surely have swelled the protest against an unwise and disgraceful capitulation. The House of Commons is very 'English' when it resists the Ballot; it is very Continental when it guards the person of a dear ally. Still, the discussion was, in many respects, creditable to a British Parliament. It brought forward Lord JOHN RUSSELL, who took a high part and tone, contrasting strikingly with the abject and ostentatious unction of Mr. DISRAELI'S panegyric upon Louis NAPOLEON. Lord JOHN RUSSELL opposed the principle of the bill; Mr. DISRAELI affected critical statesmanship, and, although dissatisfied, would not harshly or hastily condemn a proposal which he had not had time to consider. Generally, however, the weight of opinion—whatever the result when

votes were counted—was hostile to the Cabinet scheme to change the law of Great Britain in deference to a foreign dictator. Two sophisms were employed to rebut this charge levelled against Lord PALMERSTON, not by Lord JOHN RUSSELL alone, but by Mr. MONCKTON MILNES and others of his habitual supporters. It was said that the Emperor had apologized for publishing the addresses of the army, and a despatch to that effect was read to the House. "I suspect it is dated since Friday," said Mr. ROEBUCK. It was written on Saturday, after Mr. ROEBUCK'S attack upon Louis NAPOLEON had been telegraphed to the Tuileries. This altogether destroys the meaning and value of the Imperial apology. It was evidently not spontaneous. But then it was urged that the French Government having demanded one thing, and the English Government having conceded another, we could not be said to act under dictation. Now, Lord PALMERSTON himself declared that Count WALEWSKI had made no suggestion at all, except that 'something should be done.' And something is to be done, at Count WALEWSKI'S dictation. What becomes, then, of the ministerial argument? We are not going to insinuate that Mr. DISRAELI could have written the 'immortal state paper' which should have silenced the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, although he intimated plainly enough that, had the Right Honourable Member for Bucks been in Downing-street, a CANNING would have risen in judgment—which may be doubted—but it would have been no more than decent if Lord CLARENDON, when M. LEDRU ROLLIN was thus publicly libelled, had informed Count WALEWSKI that this gentleman had offered to take his trial before a British jury. M. LEDRU ROLLIN has been visited by spies in the Imperial pay, who have solicited him to join in plots of assassination, but he has expelled them from his house, although upon the next occasion, should Lord PALMERSTON'S bill become law, he might give into custody the agent of the French secret police, cite him before a court, and hand him over to penal servitude. Probably, the wretch might make a clean breast of it, and contribute towards a history of the processes by which France has been governed since 1852. We have touched, we think, upon the only merit of the proposed Act. If adopted, it may check the activity of Louis NAPOLEON'S paid informers in London.

Mr. DUNCOMBE was in a hurry to be generous, and brought upon himself a cloud of witnesses to prove that the French Emperor was a homicide at Boulogne, and that M. DE PERSIGNY was an accomplice in the crime of manslaughter. But this is not the only painful reminiscence stirred up by the indiscretion of the first Minister. The story of CANTILLON is now a fireside anecdote in all parts of the kingdom. Mr. STIRLING, with adroit simplicity, supposes he can scrutinize this report to the bottom by putting a question to the Treasury Bench, as if the fact had been officially communicated by Count WALEWSKI to the Foreign Office. Without pretending to limit the faculty of self-assurance enjoyed by the French Emperor, we can hardly imagine him instructing M. DE PERSIGNY to lay before the British Government a statement of the arrears paid up to CANTILLON for attempting to murder the Duke of WELLINGTON. Mr. STIRLING, however, was correct in affirming that the statement had been for some years in circulation. It was first made in the *Leader*, in April, 1855, when the history of CANTILLON'S attempt was explained, and when a corre-

spondent at Brussels informed us that among the four millions of francs paid to discharge the legacies of the First NAPOLEON, ten thousand were paid to CANTILLON, who kept a grocer's shop near the Rue Royale. He was personally known to our correspondent. We described at the time how Louis NAPOLEON received the insignia of the Garter worn by WELLINGTON at the same time that CANTILLON received his hire. Does Mr. STIRLING think that this transaction will be explained to the British Government, on demand, by Count WALEWSKI or his master? The *Times* of January, 1853, might enlighten him on a question of this character. Our contemporary, condescending to violence which we have never imitated, charged Louis NAPOLEON with the gratuitous massacre of twelve hundred persons. The *Moniteur* declared that no statistics were in existence to prove this assertion, and the *Times* retorted, "We never said that Louis NAPOLEON had made an official return of the murders he has perpetrated." Nor will he offer a diplomatic explanation of the price of blood paid to the trusty and well-beloved CANTILLON.

LONDON CORPORATION REFORM.

THE gratification expressed by Lord JOHN RUSSELL as to the provisions of Sir GEORGE GREY'S new Corporation Reform Bill will be found to represent a general feeling on this subject; for the present measure, as explained by Sir GEORGE GREY, appears to meet as nearly as any measure emanating from that quarter can, the views of those who are friendly to the Corporation. Many of the more objectionable clauses of the previous measure have been abandoned, and others have been in spirit provided for in private bills. The previous measure was founded upon recommendations of a Commission of Inquiry, but had not been limited to the embodiment of those recommendations. The object of the Commissioners was simply to produce a measure as much as possible like the Municipal Corporation Act, at the same time modified to meet the peculiar circumstances of the City of London: but the framers of the rejected bill went beyond even that sweeping plan.

In the present Bill it is proposed to make the governing body, as in other municipal boroughs, a Common Council, consisting of a Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Councillors. It is proposed to divide the City into 16 wards of nearly equal area, each ward to elect one Alderman and six Common Councillors, giving 112 Common Councillors instead of the present 232, elected by 26 wards of very unequal extent. With the proposed adjustment of the area of the wards there will be a considerable extension of the constituencies of the Common Council. An occupation of the annual value of 10*l.* would give a qualification; the present restriction, by which an elector must be a 'freeman,' being abolished. The Common Council is to be elected annually. One point in the former measure which was particularly objectionable, was the limitation of the term of office for Alderman to six years; in the present Bill it is proposed to elect them for life, but with a provision enabling the Court of Common Council to remove an Alderman from office under circumstances calling for such an exercise of power. The Aldermen will retain their present magisterial functions; but power is proposed to be given to the Corporation to appoint stipendiary magistrates.

The greatest difference introduced with regard to the election of officers is in the case of the Lord Mayor. Hitherto he has been chosen from among the Aldermen, and from

those again who have filled the office of Sheriff; it is proposed that any person possessing the qualification of a Common Councilman shall be eligible, and he will be elected by the Common Council. Indeed, it is proposed that all the officers of the Corporation shall be so elected, with the exception of the Recorder; who—as in other municipal corporations—will be appointed by the Crown. The Court of Aldermen would be abolished as a separate body, and the Lord Mayor and Aldermen would no longer form part of the Central Criminal Court. Several minor provisions are proposed, referring to the present privileges of the Corporation to exclusive rights of trading; but no interference is to be made with the Coal dues, or, in fact, with the other City dues.

Sir GEORGE GREY's new bill is chiefly to be admired in those things in which it departs from his former conceptions. We can scarcely approve of it so strongly on its own merits. It appears to us to be designed without adequately estimating the importance of the subject, or perhaps it estimates that importance in a perverse spirit. The object of the bill evidently is to swamp the Corporation, as far as that is possible. In former measures, this was done out and out. The Corporation of London was to be reduced to the level of the provincial corporations, although there really is nothing in common between the organization centring on Cornhill and those local bodies. If Sir GEORGE's former plans could have been executed, we should have had one of the most absurd anomalies that could be conceived in the world: in the middle of this great metropolis we should have had a Corporation like that of York or Yarmouth—a sort of country Town Council in the midst of the British capital, surrounded by the other great metropolitan territories with a totally different organization. After a lapse of years it would have been discovered that that new London Corporation was entirely misplaced; it would then have been kicked out; and the City would have been reduced to a parish machinery.

This is not reform, but destruction. It is, in fact, doing as much as possible to prevent any kind of municipal organization for this vast metropolis, and the reasons for prevention are only too naked. Ministers, and even members, are fearful of enlarging and strengthening the municipal organization of the metropolis, lest they should establish a body which would rival themselves in power and influence. It is this jealousy that denies justice to London. When they have pretended to supply such an organization, they have, in fact, refused it. They gave to it the present Metropolitan Worthless Bore, with an old debt, undefined duties, no powers, and the privilege of making proposals to be snubbed by the Chief Commissioner of Public Works; and that was literally put forward as some approach to a municipality for the metropolis, or the embryo of it! At the very commencement the purpose was detected; the object was to bring discredit upon the scheme of a great metropolitan Parliament.

All sound legislation would go in the opposite direction. The object should be, while relieving London of those abuses that have crept into its institutions and practices, to maintain the skeleton of the institutions, to adapt the machinery to the requirements and opinions of the present day, and thus to improve the City Corporation while preserving it as the nucleus of the much larger municipality which is so much needed.

We have considered Sir GEORGE GREY's plan; we find it to merit approval particularly by what it does *not* do. A much larger measure for the object which we have defined

could be brought forward. The City has a plan of its own, which remains to be considered.

THE STATE OF OPINION IN FRANCE.

THE nomination of a soldier without proved capacity of any kind, and known only by his readiness to act as deputy in a task which great usurpers have undertaken themselves—the violent dispersion of a popular assembly—to so important a post as Minister of the Interior 'and of General Safety,' has naturally attracted considerable attention in Paris. This attention, indeed, has not been unmixed with alarm. For it was evident from the first that the placing of an absolute nullity—a man-instrument as it were—at a critical moment, in a post of such eminence, could mean but one thing—namely, that the Emperor for the future intended to be his own Minister of the Interior.

Alarm has not existed in its strongest degree amongst the persons who are likely to feel most directly the severity of the regime in its new phase, which many too sanguine persons believe may be its last. It is to be observed more particularly among the habitual supporters of the Empire, and among people usually indifferent to all political variations except the greatest. If you ask the former what they fear, they readily tell you what they do not fear. They do not fear a revolution, or barricades, or this, or that—but—the future appears less serene to them than heretofore. The fact is, they do fear a revolution; and it is an observation we have made which is not without its value, that during the existence of a government based on violence, whilst all seems calm and prosperous and happy, or at least resigned, there are always two small sections who talk familiarly of *émeutes* which everybody else has forgotten—the fanatics who are ready to sacrifice their lives to recover their dignity as men, and the accomplices of usurpation. In both cases such conversation soon becomes offensive to a man of the world. But we must remember that on the existence of these two sources of action frequently depends the future complexion of history.

Whilst, then, the partisans of the French Government are a little more anxious than usual, and more inclined to strong measures—the cruelty and violence of fear are proverbial—we have also to notice, as we have said, the spread of the same kind of anxiety among the general public. Until very recently the prophecies of the disaffected and the panics of power were both treated with something like derision—just as was good Queen CHARLOTTE when she used her habitual phrase that 'if the mob knew what she knew, there would certainly be a revolution in England.' Now, very ordinary people, at moments of leisure, are willing to speculate on the cloud, no bigger than a man's hand, which they have at length been forced to notice. This belief in danger is in itself a danger. The knowledge that the Emperor himself was no longer willing to trust the safety of his dynasty to subordinates, but that he was resolved to govern personally under the ill-favoured mask of General L'ESPINASSE, appears to have had a worse effect than any other measure.

Many previous acts, which had their origin in mere anger, were attributed to a kind of mental derangement; and the most wild and extravagant projects were said to be openly talked of at the Tuileries. The establishment of the Council of Regency was regarded by some as a kind of semi-abdication. It seems certain that, if instead of seeking out somebody to fight in order to appease the insanity which, when present in a less degree, is called cholera, the Emperor buzzies himself in the details of administration, and becomes the chief policeman of his dominions, he will have less leisure and desire to deal with great political questions. The peace of Europe may thus receive an unexpected guarantee. There can be no doubt about the abstract wisdom of this conduct. A revolution may consolidate itself at home by spending its superfluous energies abroad; an usurpation, though it may represent the wishes of the mob, has too much work at home safely to undertake a war. DIONYSIUS cannot listen in the Syracusan Ear and be a great conqueror at the same time. Yet it seems certain that martial ideas were in the ascendant last week. The apology made for them might have been a *ruse*; it may be a humiliation. We must not pretend to have dived into all Imperial arcanæ. A watchful nation will not be thrown off its guard.

It is a trite observation that a government which fears the truth is self-judged; and no apologist of

the Empire has ever been able to get over the objection founded on its suppression of all free discussion by means of the press. In most countries, and at most periods, however, when such suppression has existed, its main object has been, besides preventing animadversion on the personal conduct of the governors, to prevent the propagation of theoretical truth. Ideas are the natural enemies of absolutism, and enjoyed the anger of NAPOLEON THE GREAT on that account. But the new Empire has found out a new secret, or rather has adopted the well-known maxims of the Jesuits. Not content with suppressing what is true, it deliberately uses the press to circulate what is false; and, as if it feared not to be believed on its word, it has invented the plan of misrepresentation by means of the English press.

We do not allude now to the practice of publishing French articles in English journals, and transferring them wholesale to the *Moniteur* as the voice of English public opinion. There is nothing surprising or uncommon in a foreign government purchasing the support of an organ in this country. But especially of late it has become the practice of the *Moniteur* and all the other French journals to translate articles—from the *Times* for example—and not only to leave out sentences which limit or completely modify the intention of the writer, but to work up or add others, and so make him say things that he never thought of. Even in reporting the debates of our Parliament the same system is pursued; and when the speech of Lord DERBY was faithfully abridged by mistake at the beginning of this week, it was deliberately re-written next day 'to correct the false impression that had been produced.' Even the language used by Lord PALMERSTON in introducing his bill was altered by all the Parisian evening papers last Thursday, and was very imperfectly given by the official organ of the Empire.

We are assured that the new Minister of the Interior, who may be called General ESPINASSE for form's sake, intends to push this system to the extreme. He has the greatest confidence in what in France is called 'the education of public opinion.' As much as possible he will avoid acting with severity against persons. The number of enemies to be imprisoned, transported, or exiled to the provinces or abroad, will not probably be very great; and the crime for which such punishment will be inflicted will be chiefly the spreading of 'false news'—that is, truth disagreeable to authority. It is perhaps absolutely impossible to increase the nullity of the press—otherwise that would be attempted. At any rate, the absence of anything like disunion will be rigidly enforced. Thus protected against exposure, with spies stationed at every avenue by which the truth might circulate, the system of hypocrisy and forgery we have pointed out may be indulged in without check or limit.

It is evident, however, that a great nation like France, long accustomed to think, can with difficulty be kept thus in silence and darkness, without suffering disquietude and being liable to sudden panic or despair. Already the desire for war, not merely among the soldiery, has manifested itself; and may easily be mistaken for hatred against England. It is rather the vague desire of action which commonly visits men in the midst of forced immobility. If many liberals even are really disgusted with us, this is not matter of surprise. We learn that in certain Parisian circles the greatest indignation has been expressed against what is called the abuse of free speech in England. English orators and writers, in the plenitude of their freedom, will persist in talking of the 'love and veneration of France for its Emperor,' gratuitously omitting to notice the fact, that France is gagged and bound, and can make no sign. We can understand the complaint. It will probably increase in intensity; for, Lord PALMERSTON aiding, France will probably soon be told by General ESPINASSE that the loyalty of England to the Emperor surpasses even its own.

THE MUSTER-ROLL OF INDIAN HEROISM.

THE press has been a second time warned by Mr. HENRY DRUMMOND. That Member of Parliament believes—for we should be sorry to doubt his sincerity—that the 'anonymous writers in English newspapers' are inspired by arrogance and malice in their criticisms upon public men. "I have spoken of these English papers before, and I will speak of them again, but not anonymously, you shall hear of them by the names of the writers." So Mr. DRUMMOND means to purloin the confidence

of some friend or another, who may possibly be very ill-informed, and give the result to the world. Will he allow us to say that he cannot carry out his threat, that he is likely to fall into gross blunders, and that if he should attempt to punish the critics of Lord CANNING's policy by naming them in Parliament he will create a good deal of merriment, and nothing more? Neither he, nor any other member of the House of Commons, could point to the individual writers who have condemned the Governor-General of India. Mr. DRUMMOND is quite at liberty, however, to dig a pitfall for himself. He has an ingenious way of scrambling through a difficulty which is rather amusing to a thin House. But we notice his threat in order to contradict the assertion which preceded it. It is not true that the public men who have served the empire in India have been ungratefully or malignantly assailed. The press has been far more generous than Parliament itself. Sir JOHN LAWRENCE, Sir HENRY LAWRENCE, Sir COLIN CAMPBELL, Sir HENRY HAVELOCK, Sir JAMES OUTRAM, Sir JOHN INGLIS, VAN CORTLANDT, GREATHED, NEILL, NICHOLSON, WILSON, FRERE, COLVIN, EYRE, CHAMBERLAIN, GRANT—to whom can we point and say the public has been unjust to his achievements? The press anticipated the gratitude of Parliament, and far surpassed it. What tribute was paid to VAN CORTLANDT or to Lieutenant BURTON on Monday evening? We verily believe that, if the public journals had not insisted upon the recognition of the services rendered by the forces in India, the Government would have taken them as matters of course. Gentlemen like Mr. DRUMMOND are apt to run ahead with their vituperations, and it is necessary to remind them that the British-Indian army owes more to the press than to the collective generosity of the Legislature.

One man appears to have been slandered—Mr. J. P. GRANT;—we have always stated the case against him subject to correction. We now cordially acknowledge that Mr. GRANT was blamed unfairly for acts which he never committed. He seems to have acted with temper and discretion, at a difficult post. But Mr. DRUMMOND had nothing to say of Mr. GRANT. He was too busy with his generalities. Nor did he add to his defence of Lord CANNING a word of compliment to Mr. FRERE, the admirable Commissioner of Scinde.

To some men, whose names belong to the muster-roll of Indian heroism, justice has scarcely been done. Captain Sir WILLIAM PEELE is among them. It was he who, at Cawnpore, excited the admiration of Sir COLIN CAMPBELL by his management of heavy guns. Twenty-four pounders were handled on that field as if they had been light howitzers. They advanced with the first line of skirmishers, and cleared the front with splendid effect. But Captain PEELE has performed more than this isolated service. He organized the Indian Naval Brigade; he was among the foremost at the relief of Lucknow. Then, Colonel BAIRD SMITH, the principal engineer at Delhi, deserves more thanks than he has obtained, with JACOBS, whose artillery made such deadly havoc before the last assault. Again, who are the three unrewarded lieutenants who have returned to England from the rescue of Lucknow, inviolate, one with a broken leg, another with a ball in the back of his head, still unextracted, and a third paralyzed by fatigue and exposure? Nor would it be honest to omit from the heroic muster VENABLES, the indigo planter, who, with his ryots, defended Azimghur for six weeks; GUBBINS, a civilian, who held Benares in his own grasp until succour arrived; BOXLE, the civil engineer, who acted so nobly at Agra; MONEY who, 'by a splendid act of insubordination,' saved the treasury at Gya; or TAYLOR, the cool and cautious hero of Arrah. These are names worthy to be held in remembrance.

We will add Brigadier WALPOLE and Colonel SEATON, whose services have been brilliant; of CHAMBERLAIN and GRANT we have formerly spoken, but a month has enhanced the lustre of their names. The roll lengthens and brightens with the achievements of Colonel JONES, of the 31st Foot; Colonel JONES, of the 60th; and Colonel SMITH, of the 32nd, men to be honoured and rewarded; of Lieutenants RAYNER and FORREST; of General WOODBURN; of Brigadiers STEWART and BURNES. These are British citizens whose renown will shine for ages in the light of history, and, though there should be no Mr. DRUMMOND to school the press into fair play, they would have reason to be grateful that the vast body of journals in this country have been eager to obtain justice for the brave and faithful soldiers of the commonwealth.

THE SANITARY CONDITION OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

THE truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth—how rarely we get at it! how rarest of all in the reports of Parliamentary Commissions, whose special business is supposed to be its perfect elucidation! Parliamentary inquiries almost always have reference to subjects about which there is a growing opinion 'out of doors' that there is 'a screw loose'; but as the public does not generally demand to know 'the worst,' it seldom is enlightened to that extent by Parliamentary Commissioners. Whether the admirable Report of the Commissioners appointed last May to inquire into the sanitary condition of the British army tells us the worst, is uncertain; but what is certain is, that the revelations made in it are little short of astounding. They tell us that the British soldier, his country's pride, about whose moral and spiritual welfare we have been talking and shedding ink so lavishly of late years; whom we have been used to look upon—a little angrily, just about the time when the estimates are voted—as a well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed, light-worked fellow, whose condition was out of all comparison better than that of the men of the class from which he is generally drawn; whom we took to be a jolly, beer-drinking, reckless fellow, a bit of a *mauvais sujet*, about whose condition there was nothing particularly regrettable, except that he hadn't quite enough to do to keep him out of mischief; the revelations of this Report tell us that, picked and culled as he is from out the whole population of the country for his special fitness for the service which he is wanted to perform, and for the perfect performance of which we give him, as we suppose, every aid and advantage, he is, for all his original perfectness of limb and body, and soundness of stamina, a man simply given over to death—not the 'soldier's death' of the novel and the ballad, but death by more or less lingering disease, death for the most part from pulmonary consumption!

It is one of the greatest merits of the present Report, that no attempt has been made to illustrate or to give colouring or particular prominence to any of the facts which it brings to light; each fact being simply stated, and allowed to carry its own proper weight: nothing, then, can be better than to follow the Report itself for a strong proof of the extraordinary fact we have stated; for nothing can go beyond the tremendous conclusion set forth by the naked simplicity of these few figures: the average yearly deaths among a thousand agricultural labourers, town labourers, printers, policemen, and miners, are represented by the numbers 6, 8, 9, 10; among the same number of Household Cavalry, 11; Dragoon Guards and Dragoons, 13; infantry of the line, 17; and for the Foot Guards—the crack regiments, manned by the very pick and choice of the recruiting-sergeant's game-bag—20! Nor is this result altered if, instead of comparing the soldier's life with that of civilians whose avocations are notoriously inimical to health and long life, we compare it with that of the whole male population: the British soldier's life is exposed, by civil contingencies alone, to twice the risk of his fellow countrymen; and, says the Report, "it appears that if the Army at home were as healthy as the population from which it is drawn, soldiers would die at one half the rate at which they die now."

The fact stated and proved, we turn to the causes to which the tremendous excess of mortality is ascribed. They have been stated to be principally five in number—night duty, intemperance and debauched habits, want of exercise and suitable employment, unsuitable diet, and crowding and insufficient ventilation. The Commissioners reject the conclusion that night duty is the cause of the prevalence of pulmonary disease in the Army, since the duty is not heavy, and is much less than that performed by policemen, whose health is far greater. This rejection is questioned by a writer in the *Times*, signing himself an 'Old Guardsman,' who says—"If I had been called upon to give evidence, I should have said that there was no such fruitful cause of disease, and especially of pulmonary disease, as the night duty." He describes the routine of a night sentry's duty, and exhibits him saturated with rain—in-going-and-coming—from his post—to the guard-house, where he has four hours' rest before again going on duty, and during which time he has thrown himself, wet as he is, on to his guard-room bed, and slept in his clothes till they are dry or partially dry, to go out into the cold night and be again wetted, and to stand in his box, perfectly inactive, for two hours. It is in this inactivity, in the utter *lædium* of the sentry's duty, that we are

inclined to look for the causes of his fatal tendency to pulmonary disease, rather than to the accidental and altogether exceptional circumstance of his getting wet and sleeping in his wet clothes—a thing which sailors do with impunity for days together in bad weather. But the sailor's immunity from chest diseases we take to be traceable directly to the fact that he is not inactive while on duty; that even when reposing and 'lolling about,' he has full play with all his limbs, and that, therefore, the action of his lungs is healthful and unimpeded. There are, no doubt, other circumstances in favour of the sailor, but we think the circumstance which we have pointed out almost sufficient to indicate the cause of the difference of their relative health.

But the facts of this enormous mortality in our home troops are so large and clearly defined, that no difficulty will long stand in the way of a discovery of its causes; for we cannot apprehend delay in searching, while facts like these are staring us in the face. It appears, says the Report, that while in civil life at the soldiers' ages deaths by pulmonary disease are 6.3 per 1000, they amount in the cavalry to 7.3, in the infantry of the line to 10.2, and in the Guards to 13.8; and that of the entire number of deaths from all causes in the army, diseases of the lungs constitute the following proportion, namely:—in the cavalry, 53.9 per cent.; in the infantry of the line, 57.277 per cent.; in the Guards, 67.683. Certainly, as Lord PALMERSTON said on Thursday night, "the matter is far too important and interesting to the country to be allowed to remain without due attention."

THE IMMACULATE CROWN IN INDIA.

THERE is something indescribably mean and false in the Whig attempt to fasten upon the East India Company the responsibility of every disaster or mistake that has occurred in India for the last quarter of a century. If this were a question of comparison, the Court of Directors might retort effectively enough. The Crown has had its Canadian rebellion, its Irish famine, its panics at home, its wars abroad, its era of agrarian outrage, its insurrections in the provinces; but the East India Company does not rake up these reminiscences, and prophesy similar mismanagement for India. In fact, it has not been driven to any discreditable insolence or sophistry in support of its position—that, if an administrative revolution is to be forced upon the British Indian Empire, this is not the moment for such a change. We shall see what the criticisms of the Whigs upon the Company's petitions are worth. They maintain that India was conquered by the Royal navy, not by CLIVE and his successors. They affirm that the responsibility of the Afghan war did not lie with the Crown, although within the last week they have found it necessary to withdraw that statement. They point to the mutinous Bengal army as a 'damned spot' in the Company's system, whereas the Crown has appointed the Commander-in-Chief and his Staff for the last twenty-five years, and claimed the responsibility of all important military innovations. General ANSON, it will be remembered, was sent out by the Horse Guards.

Two or three assertions on this subject are not to be argued, but flatly contradicted. The mass of the people in India are *not* poorer than when they came under the Company's rule; thousands of landed proprietors have *not* been driven by fiscal exaction into open revolt. It is a new thing to hear official apologists contending that the Indian rebellion was, in some sense, justifiable. We now learn that the insurrection has been forced upon the proprietors of the soil in the richest provinces. Lord PALMERSTON, possibly, could not adduce this argument in the House of Commons; it is only for Cabinets to be indiscreet through their organs.

The Indian reformers want to abolish the East India Company in order that nothing may stand between the authority of Parliament and the undivided responsibility of the Minister. But did Parliament ever check Mr. VERNON SMITH, or even call him to account? Will Parliament ever do more than it might have done, for the last twenty-five years, had it sincerely or intelligently cared for India? If the Legislature had fulfilled one set of duties, the Court of Directors could not have neglected the other.

POLITICAL NOTES.

LORD CLARENDON stated, not long ago, in his cool, off-hand way, that, according to Neapolitan notions of humanity, the English engineers imprisoned by

King FERDINAND had been treated very well. So well that the blood of the *Times* correspondent at Naples 'boils' to think of it. So well, that one of the unhappy men has been reduced to temporary lunacy. Better, indeed, than their Italian companions in misery, whose agonies have brought them to the brink of death. The proceedings at Salerno are humiliating to this country. *Civis Romanus* pays enormous taxes to keep up armaments and ambassadors, and when he falls into the hands of a foreigner he is allowed to rot, be robbed, and go mad, untried and unconvicted. We fail to protect our own subjects; let us, then, have a cheap Government; for it is not worth while to raise the largest revenue in Europe merely to defray the cost of that joint responsibility which, as the French official organs say, entails upon us the duty of assisting to maintain order in France.

Lord PALMERSTON thinks it would be childish on the part of a great power to resist the amendment of a law because a few hot-headed French colonels had menaced us. But the common sense and common feeling of the country repudiate this sophism. We are legislating under the fire of the *Moniteur*. We are conceding to a menace that which we have frequently refused as a favour. We are establishing a law which, had it existed eighteen years ago, would have entailed upon LOUIS NAPOLEON a sentence of penal servitude for life, after the murderous affair at Boulogne. *A propos* of that event, Mr. DUNCOMBE will do well to read up the incidents of his fast friend's biography. He may then discover that the Emperor not only shot a Frenchman at Boulogne, but threatened to shoot an Englishman on board the steamer which took him there.

The Reform question hangs fire in Parliament. Lord PALMERSTON has a bill ready, which he touches up from hour to hour; but the scheme is to delay it until after the Easter holidays. Lord GRANVILLE said, on Thursday, that the date of its introduction depended very much upon the state of public business. If it depended on the state of public opinion, there would be no postponement. The country is awake; the great towns are in motion. The Parliamentary Reform Committee, anxious to make a real advance, has given a very proper and conclusive answer to the deputation in favour of manhood suffrage. The cry for manhood suffrage is at present mere sectional clamour; the thinking classes do not join in it. To insist upon this principle as a basis of agitation would be to sink once more into the slough of despond, and to be at the mercy of a few self-elected brawlers who played out their parts many years ago. Mr. JOHN BRIGHT pointed the way to safe and sound Reform when he declared, a few days since, that he dreaded a large extension of the franchise without the ballot.

AN OLD STORY OVER THE WATER.

(From the *Times*, August 12, 1840.)

"... Already we are accused of having launched the *City of Edinburgh*, with fifty-six crackbrained officers, desperate refugees, and man-cooks in uniform, headed by Monsieur LOUIS BONAPARTE and a live eagle, to upset the dynasty of ORLEANS."

IRISH AFFAIRS AND ENGLISH WRITERS.

ENGLISH writers on Ireland have become more Irish than the Irish themselves. Take up the Dublin newspapers and you find in one column a report of a successful railway, in another a good law case, or some criticism on a commercial company. But if you require plenty of Four Courts gossip, you must look to the Dublin letter in the *Times*, and Merrion-square scandal crosses the channel to be served up in spice through our smart contemporary the *Press*. "Happy is the nation whose annals are a blank" was a very proper saying when historians would record nothing but wars; in England our writers of history now condescend to note the victories of peace—but in Ireland the triumphs of industry are ignored, and, if we trusted English journalists, we should believe that the greatest events in Dublin are the squabbles of the lawyers for vacant situations. The recent vacancies were unhappily kept open for some time. Had English judgeships been in question, the *Times* would have excluded from its columns all the preliminary little battle of Westminster Hall, and possibly have inserted a quiet paragraph of four lines to announce a new judge; but speculations as to the new Irish

judges were given at length day after day in large type, and the final appointment was transmitted by telegraph. In the same way the drivellings of the *Nation*,—which was once a very able and, in excited times, a very influential print, but which is now fallen in character and circulation, and has been expressly excluded from many popular news-rooms,—are paraded in the *Times* at full length, while absurdities as gross and as seditious by one or two miserable publications in this country have been always ignored as below the expression of surprise or contempt.

We protest against this system of never noticing Irish affairs except to pick out some outrageous nonsense. Many of those excerpts no more represent the Irish press than Holywell-street represents English cheap literature. We never see an article of the Sepoy journals quoted except in the *Times*, and we are quite sure that many Irishmen can say the same. The writers have thus discovered a short cut to publicity; the more violent their effusions the more may they count on an unpaid advertisement in the leading journal. The contests of lawyers for the legal offices is no doubt of some legal and social interest in Dublin; but it is never a great question, and one only sees the occasional rumours chronicled quietly in *Saunders*, or quizzed in the more lively columns of the *Evening Mail*. Ireland, ceasing to be the battle-field of English parties, has been turned into a hunting-ground for correspondents and contributors hard-up for a subject.

It is greatly to the credit of Lord PALMERSTON that he has diminished party feeling in Ireland by making his Government honest and impartial. His measures have been wise and his appointments good. He has discouraged Protestant bigotry and repressed Roman Catholic outrage; he has curbed offensive Orangemen, and prosecuted riotous priests. That his merit may want no sign, he is heartily abused by the extreme men of both parties. His appointments have been made regardless of mere Irish parties. He recalled from retirement Chief Justice BLACKBURN, an old political Protestant, he gave the Chief Judgeship of the Incumbered Estates Court to another Conservative, Mr. MARLEY, and he manufactured the raw material of the fiery Romanist, KEOGH, into an excellent Judge. CHRISTIAN, an unpolitical Protestant lawyer, has been put into the Common Pleas to balance the three of another creed (giving rise to the mild Four Courts joke that that bench is filled by three Roman Catholics and one Christian), while a most unobjectionable political supporter, Sergeant O'BRIEN, is rewarded with another judgeship. Many of these new appointments gave rise to spasmodic growling from the Protestant papers that 'the two high law officers are Roman Catholic,' and that 'three seats in the Commons Pleas are filled by Papists,' and so on. But surely in a Roman Catholic country, where the professors of that creed are to Protestants as five to one, the fact that four out of the twelve judges are Roman Catholic is not very surprising. Considering, also, that all the Roman Catholics in Ireland are, like the Ministry, Liberal in politics—that the best Protestant Liberals, being Peclites, declined law offices when Lord ABERDEEN went out—it is not surprising that two leading Liberal lawyers, chosen as Attorney and Solicitor-General, should be Roman Catholics. The humiliating circumstance of these facts is that it is necessary to mention anything of the religion of the men appointed to these situations. Their religion has nothing to do with the discharge of their duties, as has been shown when the Roman Catholic Attorney-General KEOGH prosecuted with zeal a Roman Catholic friar, and in the present prosecution by another Roman Catholic official of Priests CONWAY and RYAN. When English Judges are appointed, we do not see it stated that they are Churchmen or Dissenters; and we hope to see the time when important Irish appointments will be made without the PAUL PRY penny-a-lining addition as to the creeds of the new officials.

We may rest assured that the less we hear of Ireland, the better she is going on; and we hope the time will arrive when our chief record of Irish news will be in the share lists and trade reports. Time is only wanted for the prosperity of Ireland. Its leading railways are doing very well: while our Great Western is paying one per cent. and our Eastern Counties' meetings are screaming farces, the Great Southern and Western of Ireland steadily pays four per cent., the Dublin and Kingstown, fifteen per cent., and the meetings are dull and stupid beyond comparison, the chairman knowing nothing of the lively habit of swearing which distinguished Mr.

DENISON. With the new race of landlords secured by the Incumbered Estates Court, the decline in fierce competition for land caused by the large emigration, and the rise in the value of agricultural labour, traceable to the same cause, we may, without making a fuss about it, or recording all its minute events, look forward to a career of solid prosperity for Ireland.

THE NEW NATIONAL GALLERY.—The Royal Commissioners having decided against the removal of the National Gallery from Trafalgar-square, the Lords of the Treasury requested the Commissioners of Works to prepare an estimate of the expense of enlarging the present building. Mr. Hunt, the surveyor, estimates the total expense at 500,000*l.*, which includes the reinstatement of the barracks and the workhouse buildings (to be removed for the enlargement of the gallery), the reinstatement of the baths and lavatories, the erection of a suitable building for the Royal Academy, and the construction of a building for the National Gallery upon the enlarged site.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—It was resolved on the 21st ult. by the standing committee of the Trustees of the British Museum, in special meeting assembled, that there is a great deficiency of space for the proper exhibition of the different collections in the various departments of the Museum; that the trustees are not possessed of any vacant space available for the purpose, and that in providing such space it is very desirable to contemplate the future and progressive, as well as the actual and immediate, requirements of the Museum. These resolutions were carried *nem. con.*; and it was further resolved, by seven to two votes, to adopt Mr. Smirke's plan for the purchase of land to the north of the Museum, as contained in the Librarian's report. The resolution has been laid before her Majesty's Ministers, with the plan of Mr. Smirke.

MR. HORSLEY PALMER.—The death of Mr. Horsley Palmer, whose name for fifty years has been among the most eminent and honourable in connexion with British commerce, was announced yesterday. Mr. Palmer was elected a director of the Bank of England in 1811, filled the post of Governor for three successive years (1830 to 1832), and at the date of his retirement, last April, was senior member of the Court. His withdrawal from the active business of his firm was notified at the opening of the present year.—*Times*.

THE PRESS IN IRELAND.—Ulster is certainly going ahead. Belfast, its capital, now boasts of three daily papers, which is as many as are published in Liverpool, and one more than the number in enlightened Manchester. The *Northern Whig*, long the leading journal of Ireland, commercially and politically, but which, as a great advertising tri-weekly sheet, withstood any experimentalization under the new Stamp Act, has now decided to issue daily, considering that its public has grown to be rich and numerous enough to justify and require the change. A fact like this should be received by English statesmen as a warning that Ulster Liberalism, insisting on religious equality in Ireland, and political institutions assimilated to those of England, cannot very much longer be played with.—*Liverpool Daily Post*.

BRIDEWELL BURIAL-GROUND.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Bridewell was held on Friday week, when the following resolutions were agreed to:—"That the burial-ground is at present in a most shameful condition, arising from the Earl of Delaware's tradespeople having placed large quantities of bricks and rubbish there, covering over entirely many of the tombs, tombstones, and graves; and that the vestry is deeply shocked and pained to find that the ground had been leased by his Lordship for a term of ninety-nine years to a builder. That the vestry cannot but view the disgraceful state of the ground, as well as the obvious intention to divert it to building purposes, as a gross outrage on the feelings of all those who have relations or friends interred therein, and likewise as a gross violation of public decency. That the chapelwardens, therefore, be authorized to take such steps as may be necessary, both legal and otherwise, to prevent such desecration of the ground, and to have it put into and preserved and kept in decent and proper order."

THE FAMILY OF THE LATE SIR H. R. BISHOP.—At the close of the business at the Mansion House last Saturday, the Lord Mayor said he wished to call public attention to the present condition of the family of the late Sir Henry Bishop. He did this in consequence of a representation made to him by a friend of the family who had waited upon him, and who said that, owing to the sudden death of their father, five young children had been left entirely destitute. The Lord Mayor felt that the case was one in which benevolent persons, especially in the musical world, would be glad to interest themselves, and, personally, he should be happy to undertake the application of any sums which might be sent to him in the way which might appear most conducive to the interests of the family.

VICAR-ADMIRAL THE HON. WILLIAM GORDON, late Commander-in-Chief at the Nile, and brother of the Earl of Aberdeen, has just died. He entered the navy in 1797, and acted with great courage and distinction during the last war with France.

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*.

It is assuredly an honour to our country to be able to record that the most remarkable Biographies, in the whole range of European literature, that have appeared of late years, have been written by Englishmen. In more than one instance, the subject of the biography has belonged to a foreign literature, and to the literary history of a nation surpassed by no other in intellectual activity. Take Germany, for instance: the *Life of Goethe* has been welcomed with enthusiasm, and permanently accepted as a classic and a text-book, not only by the intellectual aristocracy, but by the whole reading public of Germany. Three editions of a German translation, admirably executed, have been rapidly produced, and the third, a cheap popular edition, is eagerly taken up. In the midst of their honest and grateful admiration, liberally expressed by the eminent German critics, a sentiment almost of *pique*, certainly of dissatisfaction and regret, pierces through the warm words of welcome to the foreigner, who, for the first time, has made GOETHE, *the man*, familiar to his countrymen. There had been for years a library of GOETHE literature, in other words, of building materials for the construction of a Biography; but out of England the architect was to come.

If ever there was a nation constitutionally jealous and exclusive in its claims, that nation is France; and French men of letters are quite as self-asserting as French Colonels. Yet, what do we find in the last number of the Imperialist *Revue Contemporaine*? A notice of the recently published 'Biography of Montaigne,' from which we copy the introductory sentence:—

It is from London that we receive this Biography. England has stolen a march upon us once more. This work, which might have seemed to belong to us of right, which we had prepared for by so many researches, which, perhaps, we were actually intending to accomplish, has been executed by a foreign writer, and, let us frankly confess, executed so happily and with so much care, so completely and so well done, that the hope of doing it better, by doing it otherwise, is, I think, forbidden us henceforth.

This is high praise; but the French critic goes on to justify it by evidence from the work itself of that fine composition, as painters would say, which, by a judicious grouping and a true perspective, makes the hero of the Biography, as it were, a central figure of his epoch, without prejudice to the rest of the picture.

M. LANFREY, author of *L'Eglise et les Philosophes au XVIII^e Siècle*, which we noticed some time back, has just brought out another work, not less remarkable, entitled, *Essai sur la Révolution Française*. We shall make a point of noticing it in a more detailed manner at a future period, being content now to indicate the original criticism of the Mountain, and especially of ROBESPIERRE; and the brilliant manner in which a new theory of progress, without the sacrifice of liberty to imperial or democratic violence, is sketched by implication. The chapter on 'The Principles of '89'—a phrase the sense of which in half a century has been forgotten, and which is made subservient equally to liberty and servitude—is admirable, both for its boldness and its philosophical truth.

Marine Zoology has recently become popular and fashionable, numbers who formerly went to the sea-side simply for change of air and physical recreation, being quite as anxious to go there now for the mental enjoyment which the pursuit of a new and fascinating study affords. The volume of nature is certainly a decided improvement on the only other volume known at the sea-side—the third-rate circulating library novel, which, by a mysterious ordinance, every unhappy visitor was compelled to peruse, and which proved as deadening to the spirit as the sea-air was reviving to the body. The new study enables the mind to share in the reviving influences that invigorate the wearied frame, and to derive from them not only present enjoyment but lasting profit. The studies commenced on the shore are continued at the fireside by the help of books and specimens such as the aquarium conveniently supplies. A really serviceable and interesting manual is the great desideratum of such students, and, as a natural result, many short but excellent treatises designed to meet the popular want have recently appeared. We know of none, however, at once so charming and so practically useful as Mr. LEWES's papers on the subject, originally published in *Blackwood*, and just collected into a volume under the title of *Sea-side Studies at Iffracombe, Tenby, the Scilly Islands, and Jersey*. The articles having excited a good deal of attention at the time of their appearance, we have little more to do than chronicle the fact of their republication. As some students in natural history, however, may not have had an opportunity of seeing the papers on their first publication, we shall be doing them a service by directing attention to the volume, and describing its character. It possesses the qualities so difficult to meet with in happy combination, yet at the same time so important in a handbook of sea-side studies; it is at once popular and scientific, charming as a companion, and instructive as a guide. The charm lies in the style and manner of treatment. On the style of an author so well known we need scarcely dwell; it has the ease and vigour, the transparent clearness and vivacity, which mark Mr. LEWES's writings. There is something almost dramatic, too, in Mr. LEWES's treatment of the subject which irresistibly

awakens the attention of the reader, leading him to watch the experiments, and listen to the discussions they excite, with unabated interest to the end. While the matter is thoroughly scientific the form is purely literary, the papers abounding with touches of a pleasant personality, with vivid descriptions of scenery and sketches of adventure, with quaint and lively fancies, grave ironical reflections and light shafts of social satire, with learned reference and apt literary illustrations, interspersed here and there with glimpses of noble moral truths springing from the depths of a rich and wide experience. It seems to us, that for general students no way of dealing with the subject could be more truthful or more happy than Mr. LEWES's. Natural History in his pages takes its true position as a part of general culture, being unconsciously wrought into the larger whole of literature and life. With regard to the matter of the volume, the new experiments, the critical discussions and higher generalisations it contains, it will be enough to say that the great anatomist to whom it is dedicated has himself recognized both the value and originality of Mr. LEWES's contributions to his science.

The current number of the *North British Review* is a decided improvement on its immediate predecessors, several of the articles being both good and seasonable. Among the former, is one entitled 'Mill's Logic of Induction,' a temperate, but at the same time searching, and, at least partially, successful, criticism of the fundamental defects in that masterly writer's philosophy. Another paper on 'Arnold and his School' is well worth reading as a contribution, by one who evidently knew him well, towards a just and truthful estimate of the Rugby master and his work. The view given by the writer of the character, position, and probable fate, of the school ARNOLD founded is sagacious and instructive. Take the following passage as an illustration:—

Arnold was a man of passion, as are all who have exercised immediate influence on the world, and he held his idea of work in immediate connexion with his deep Christian feeling. His school appear to us defective in this grand point of motive force—what was passion with him is conviction only with them, or rather, it would be truer to say, what was passionate conviction in his mind represents itself as calm, almost dry, conviction in theirs. And this connects itself very closely with the second feature which we have pointed out as distinctive of this school—their decided preference for the objective. Arnold's mind took this character, because the understanding was in him much more strongly developed than the higher intellectual powers. He admired Aristotle, we have heard him say, more than Plato, because it seemed to him grander to confine himself to the truth, which could be defined and proved, than to launch out upon the sublimest speculations. This adherence to the positive led him into what men called his *crotchets*. His crotchets were rigorous deductions of the understanding from the facts which he took as premises. It made his strength, because it gave a reality to all his views, right or wrong. But passion with him supplied the deficiency of imagination, and gave a greatness even to his inferior conceptions. His school took after him in their adherence to the positive; but, while they are equally as defective on the side of imagination, they have not like him the compensating force of passion to vivify their opinions. Hence a certain hardness and coldness of tone is apt to disfigure their views, and to rob them of the attraction which would naturally attach to their unselfishness and substantial justice. How is it that among so many men of undoubtedly superior talent, who have sprung from Rugby during and since Arnold's time, not one, so far as we know, has been able to take hold of the popular mind? There are many who are highly respected, and more than respected, admired even, within the limit of their own larger or smaller circle. They are excellent administrators, clear and enlightened and earnest writers, sensible preachers, accomplished poets, &c., but no one takes hold of the world. And this we do not believe to be from want of genius, men of certainly less genius contrive to make more impression. How is this? We attribute it in part, perhaps, to a moral discipline, which has rendered them averse from the *arts* by which popularity is often caught, but more to a really refrigerative effect produced by a training in which the objective was made so predominant. We get excellent utterances from them, but their truth is flattish, and smacks of the reservoir; we do not find them offering us the sparkling element which comes fresh from the well-spring, and even if it be scant in quantity, speaks yet to the great underlying deep.

It seems ungracious, perhaps, while admitting so fully, as we trust we have been felt to admit, how valuable, or we might almost say how invaluable, an element Arnold's school forms in the society of our day, to express anything but gratitude to them, and a sense of the social benefit which they confer. It is not incompatible, however, we hope, with a full sense of this benefit, to appreciate its shortcomings. It is impossible for any earnest man, examining, with a sense of its meaning, the social condition of his own time, to confine his reflections entirely to the actual passing moment. We cannot contemplate the force of the stream without thinking of what this vast body of waters is hurrying on to do. To-day unavoidably carries the suggestion of to-morrow, and we are compelled to ask ourselves what the present portends of apprehension or promise for the future. And here it is that the character of a school, deficient in imagination and sentiment, becomes unsatisfactory. All we can say for the Rugby school is, that it does its best to impress right notions and sound principles upon its own generation; but will these hold? We have our doubts on the point. The course of the world at large is governed, not by principles, but by sentiments and ideas, and it is only so far as the former can be volatilized, so to speak, into the latter shape, that they dominate society. It was Arnold's faith, as opposed to his doctrine—the spirit of the man, not the tenets he inculcated—which created his school, and if we are correct in believing that his followers hold the doctrine without, or, at least, with but a faint measure of the faith, we are justified in apprehending that it has lost its vital element, and may be expected to become ere long extinct, or rather let us say, again dormant, till another shall arise to break its slumbers.

The two articles—'Naples, 1848-1858,' and 'Capital and Currency'—are seasonable as well as good. We may add that the *Review* contains—in an article on 'Scottish Natural Science'—an interesting sketch of the late Doctor FLEMING's life and labours.

The announcement of new works by the authors of *Friends in Council*, *The Saints' Tragedy*, and the *Nemesis of Faith*, would at any time be welcome to us, but in the present dearth of literary intelligence it is peculiarly acceptable. Messrs. J. W. PARKER and SON are about to publish a tragedy by Mr. HELPS, the title of which, *Outita, the Surf*, seems to promise revelations of

humbler Russian life. If so, it will appear curiously enough just as the condition of life represented is passing away. The same publishers have in the press a new volume of poems by Mr. KINGSLEY, whether dramatic, narrative, or lyrical, *Andromeda, and other Poems* does not determine. Mr. KINGSLEY has already proved that he possesses both dramatic and lyrical powers of a high order, and the new volume will excite both interest and curiosity in a large circle of readers. Messrs. PARKER and SON also announce as nearly ready for publication the third and fourth volumes of Mr. FROUDE's *History of England*.

EDMUND BURKE.

History of the Life and Times of Edmund Burke. By Thomas Macknight. Vols. I. and II. Chapman and Hall.

A NEW life of Edmund Burke was called for. The work of Prior is in many respects unsatisfactory. It is incomplete and uncritical. It is better than Thackeray's life of Chatham, and than any life of Fox that has yet been produced; but it partakes of the faults common to most biographies of the statesmen and orators of that period, Moore's biography of Sheridan not excepted. Mr. Macknight's book, so far as he has developed it, is an advance upon those publications. Elaborate and careful, written with great energy, and abounding in well-sifted anecdotes, portrait-sketches, and passages of picturesque description, it includes a full view of the times in which Burke moved, from his youth to his entrance upon official life. The long Indian episode has yet to come, the impeachment of Hastings, the wild and virulent crusade against the principles of the French Revolution, the quarrel with early friends, the partial eclipse, we must say, of a luminous and powerful mind. We are not sure, however, that Mr. Macknight has not traced his plan upon too large a scale. Four solid volumes—two thousand broad and dense pages—exceed, we think, the necessities of almost any biography. But Mr. Macknight's design has been to bring forward the great Irish orator as only the central figure of a wide scene, representing an era of English and European history, and even the history of India and the New World. To succeed in such an aim is in one sense impossible. If a life of Burke is to comprehend a chronicle of every event which engaged his public efforts, it must also comprehend a clear if not laborious account of the personages with whom he acted, whether in concert or opposition, and the picture must be crowded with full-lengths of Fox, Pitt, Sheridan, Washington, and Warren Hastings. This difficulty, however, is to some extent inevitable, although Mr. Macknight has perhaps succumbed to it in more than an unavoidable degree. At the same time—and now we are pointing to his principal defect as a biographer—he has too studiously dwarfed the contemporaries of Edmund Burke, so as to dilate the proportions of his own favourite statesman. The orator is to him a hero, the cynosure of an epoch, the bright particular star of a galaxy, a sun among the spheres. It is plain that he exalts Burke above Chatham, Fox, Pitt, and Sheridan—justly in the last instance, perhaps, since the eloquence of Sheridan was weak and tawdry as compared with that of him who pleaded for American independence and French degradation, for the rights of Tippecoo and the Bourbons, for the cause of Washington and the cause of Louis XVI. But it does not follow that because the oratory of Fox was different from that of Burke it was inferior to it. We have fewer examples remaining of the former than of the latter; it was not constructed, prepared, arranged, and moulded with similar precaution and foresight; it was an ebullition; it flashed from the intellect, and passing through the mind of the audience, was lost in their memories, instead of being formalized in volumes, as were the speeches of Edmund Burke. But we believe Fox to have been a far more effective debater than his older rival; his argument was more keen, his language more simple and direct. Burke, whatever may be said, is frequently monotonous and always heavy; we do not think we have missed a passage in his extant writings, yet we have never found, even in the correspondence, a trace of that light, sparkling effervescence attributed by Mr. Macknight to some of the speeches in Parliament.

In another respect we differ from Mr. Macknight. Burke's was not, we think, an attractive character; it was estimable rather than amiable. A better moral man he undoubtedly was than Fox; and yet Fox—generous and noble beyond all bounds—was born to be loved, while Burke was born to be honoured. The biographer is not of this opinion; he even finds sweetness and tenderness among the characteristics of Edmund Burke; but amid the frigid pomp and measured formality of his demonstrations, we have never been able to detect this golden ore of the warmest human sympathy. Not that Burke was insensible; on the contrary, he was as kind and benevolent as he was just and pure; but there was an asceticism in his charity, a hardness in his friendship, a species of indefinite ceremonial reserve in his affection. There was not a wild-flower in his nature; all was cultivated, decorous, and stately; even when at home, ruralizing and sporting, he appears to have been a man who would say "Sir" to his dearest friend. If we add that Mr. Macknight exhausts eulogy upon the oratory and patriotism of Edmund Burke, expatiates without limit upon the moral influence of his public exertions, and marks him as the greatest man of his age, we have recounted all the objections except one which we have to suggest with regard to this important biography. To take a last exception—the manner of the book is slightly theatrical, a fault which may more easily be pardoned than understood in so competent a writer. It is most conspicuous in the chapter-headings:—"The Beginning," "In the Forlorn Hope of Politicians," "Faithful among the Faithless," "The Herald of the Future," "Through Keppel's Agony of Glory," "Storm and Victory." A similar defect has been noticed in Mr. Motley's brilliant history of the war of independence in Holland. Therefore, Mr. Macknight may quote a valuable precedent, but his work is, nevertheless, defaced by excrescences of this kind. Let us add that, as the author of *The Right Hon. B. Disraeli, M.P.: a Literary and Political Biography*, and *Thirty Years of Foreign Policy: a History of the Secretarieships of the Earl of Aberdeen and Viscount Palmerston*, he might have been expected to deal in irony and invective; but the spirit of this book, in a general sense, is particularly calm; it does credit to Mr. Macknight, and

will better serve his reputation than either of the former essays, anonymously published, to which his name is now attached.

The work is one in which politicians of all ages and classes, of all shades and positions, will be interested. It appeals, also, to the ordinary students of history, presenting as it does a large view of a most interesting period, crowded with vicissitudes, conflicts, changes, and the growth of personal reputations. Mr. Macknight has treated his subject ably, and has written, indeed, the first book which can fairly be called a biography of Edmund Burke. Faults it has, but they are faults we are not likely to miss in any writer who attempts to supersede these volumes, while the merits of the author are numerous and remarkable. Mr. Macknight has emphatically studied his subject before attempting to deal with it; he has compiled from none of his predecessors, but has used them as contributors to a large mass of information never before collected, verified, and arranged. He has rejected, upon satisfactory grounds, several popular anecdotes; he has collated a large number of state papers, and has also introduced the testimony of Emin the Armenian, who tells more of Burke, in his private capacity, than any other writer, but whose autobiography seems to have been unknown to most historians of the time. Burke's own writings have of course been read with diligence by Mr. Macknight, who singularly exaggerates their value, we think, when he describes them as only second in genius and worth to Shakespeare's plays. Taken for all in all, however, this is a most welcome and interesting biography.

TENERIFFE.

Teneriffe: an Astronomer's Experiment; or, Specialities of a Residence above the Clouds. By C. Piazz Smyth, F.R.S., F.R.A.S. Illustrated with Photostereographs. Reeve.

IN May, 1856, Mr. Piazz Smyth was entrusted with a scientific mission to the Peak of Teneriffe, and a number of valuable instruments and a yacht were placed at his disposal by private individuals. His main object was to ascertain how far astronomical observation can be improved by eliminating the lower third part of the atmosphere; an equatorial telescope, therefore, formed part of his equipment. Arriving at the island in July, he conveyed this apparatus up the volcanic flanks of the mountain, to stations at the height of 8900 and 10,700 feet, and carried on a series of experiments during two months. His narrative, produced in an elegant form, and illustrated upon a novel plan with photo-stereographs (a book stereoscope, folded in a case like a map, being attached), is in many respects remarkable. The scientific results of the mission were of no inconsiderable importance, from the special point of view selected by Mr. Smyth; but he has added a variety of interesting remarks upon a body of natural phenomena concerning which our positive knowledge is to this day restricted within very narrow limits. Mr. Smyth distributes his relation under four heads: the first including the voyage out and the ascent of Teneriffe, the second describing the experiences of the astronomical party on the crater of elevation, the third referring to the crater of eruption and the peak, and the fourth to the insular lowlands.

The iron yacht *Titania* carried Mr. Smyth to within a few miles of his lodging upon the mountain, flying before the trade winds, and through a wondrous shoal of medusæ, estimated to be upwards of two hundred millions in number. Among these huge whales were sporting, the leviathans feeding upon the formless floats of living gelatine. Then, swimming crabs were caught, with paddle-shaped claws; next, approaching the Canaries, the water was observed to be of a deep Prussian blue; and, finally, the horizon was riven by the headlands of Teneriffe. On the 10th of July the astronomer and his wife rode into Orotava, near the Peak, which was, nevertheless, concealed by the clouds that hung like a tent around the lower bulk of the mountain; four days after, they began the ascent with mules and horses, across the bare bones of Teneriffe, exposed by a rush of fire from the volcano that tore away the vineyards; from red mounds with gaping apertures streams of a thick, vivid material were flowing perpetually; at an elevation of nineteen hundred feet the yellow bloom and pink leaves of the hypericum brightened the slopes; a thousand feet higher and they were above the clouds, which seldom pass upwards above that boundary; beyond it the hot blue sky sent down its brightness upon vast expanses of mist; here milch goats were feeding; at 4700 feet they found a singular leguminous plant; at 5280 a solitary pine, the last of a forest; at 7127 they entered 'a most moonlike region'; at 9000 they bivouacked at Guajara, within ten paces of a precipice fifteen hundred feet deep. It was with difficulty that a station was secured, since a powerful wind roams about the mountain, overturning everything except solid stone walls. The sunrise, watched from this elevation, was variegated, though not brilliant, but the splendour of the day was all but insufferable.

Here they passed some time, the astronomer rambling about the heights and picking up bits of obsidian, with a single violet, and dead butterflies of a beautiful purple; but a dusty haze in the atmosphere at first interfered with the employment of the telescopes. However, this effect was only partially produced, for in the evening Mr. Smyth was delighted with the marvellously fine definition of the stars, the discs and rings of which were perfectly displayed. Every result, however, pointed to the probable advantage of observing from a still greater altitude. But, before removing, Mr. Smyth explored the great crater, streaked with streams of yellow, rich red, and blue-black lava. His chapter on Solar Radiation will have an interest for all scientific readers. The spectacle of a whirlwind above the clouds, blowing the dust from Teneriffe, was one which no man can reasonably expect to witness more than once in his life; it sometimes caught up the vapours below and tossed them to heaven with fantastic fury. It was now determined to scale the Peak itself, and a party was sent off in advance. On the night after they left, a fire was seen upon the mountain pinnacle; through the telescope, tongues of flame were discerned leaping up among black rocks, casting a momentary light upon the figures of several men. This mysterious apparition excited intense curiosity; and Mr. Smyth, after a brief delay, pushed on to ascend and examine the central cone; beyond Alba Vista, ten thousand seven hundred feet above the sea, no beast of burden could go, consequently the scientific apparatus was planted in this

locality; walls four feet thick were erected to form an observatory. Here the sky was always clear, and the radiation of the sun enormous. The erection of the great telescope on this spot was a work of difficulty, but successfully accomplished, and many important experiments were satisfactorily completed. However, Mr. Smyth had resolved to scale the Peak itself, among its fountains of sulphur-scented steam. A variation in the weather enabled him to test the effects of rains and storms upon this sublime elevation; the mountain streamed with wet.

We have not undertaken to enumerate even the most remarkable of the observations made upon the heights of Teneriffe by this adventurous explorer. The narrative is so uniformly interesting, so original in substance, and pleasing in manner, that even the ordinary reader will find in it nothing monotonous or occult. At the same time it is a striking contribution to the historical literature of science. It should be added that the volume contains one of the best accounts of the dragon-tree we have seen. Altogether it is a rare and fascinating book, which places the learned and philosophical classes throughout the world under very great obligations to Mr. Piazza Smyth.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPUBLICATIONS.

We have to announce the publication of several important works, which we reserve for special treatment:—

Supplementary Despatches and Memoranda of the Duke of Wellington—India, 1797—1805, edited by his son, the present Duke. The first volume is now issued by Mr. Murray.

The History of the Constituent Assembly, 1789, by Alphonse de Lamartine, translated in four volumes, and published by Messrs. Piper, Stephenson, and Spence.

Parliamentary Government, considered with Reference to a Reform of Parliament. An Essay, by Earl Grey, published by Mr. Bentley.

The Descendants of the Stuarts, an Unchronicled Page in England's History, by William Townsend, published by Messrs. Longman.

James Montgomery: a Memoir, Political and Poetical, by J. W. King, published by Messrs. Partridge and Co., and

Impressions of Western Africa, by Mr. A. J. Hutchinson, Consul for the Bight of Biafra and the Island of Fernando-Po, published by Messrs. Longman.

A Cyclopædia of the Natural Sciences. By William Baird, M.D. With a Map and numerous Illustrations. Griffin and Co.

Suggestions Towards the Government of India. By Harriet Martineau. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The Life of Mahomet and History of Islam to the Era of the Hegira. By William Muir. 2 vols. Smith, Elder, and Co.

The Shareholder's Legal Guide. By T. H. Markham, M.A., Barrister-at-Law. (Robertson.)—The object of this free-and-easy little law-book is to let shareholders know the nature and extent of their liabilities in every kind of company. Nothing could be more useful and well-timed than such a manual. When we say well-timed, however, we fear that many a victim will have reason to say, as he reads it, that it is locking the door after the steed has been stolen. Let us only hope that it may assist in preventing further mischief. The law, it is true, is not supposed to protect the infatuated or the unwary; but it is not the unwary seamen only that are subject to the perils of navigation; and the rage for making money fast is continually hurrying people into all sorts of liabilities which they have never sounded or surveyed. Mr. Markham addresses his treatise to the general reader, and on this account he indulges in a vein of familiarity which is occasionally perhaps a little in excess; but we have no hesitation in recommending the motive and utility of the *Guide* to shareholding readers, who may be interested to hear that a shareholder in the British Bank having *one share only* was utterly ruined.

Mr. William Cotton has compiled from autograph memorandum-books and from printed catalogues *A Catalogue of the Portraits Painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds*. The catalogue, of great interest to artists, is published by Messrs. Longman, and has an interesting preface.

Mr. O'Byrne has commenced the publication of a new and enlarged edition of his *Naval Biography* in monthly parts. His original work was restricted to the higher grades of the service; in the present enlarged edition he comprises all ranks, and places easily within the reach of every one interested in our Navy (and who is not?) a faithful record of the services rendered by officers to their country. We think him fairly and honourably entitled to support in this conscientious and devoted endeavour to bring forward the claims of officers, whose interest at the Admiralty is not always commensurate with their good services into the light of public appreciation, and he has a right to consider his labours, in value and importance, national.

The principal republication of the week is a third edition of *The Principles and Practical Operations of Sir Robert Peel's Act of 1844 Explained and Defended*, by R. Torrens, F.R.S., published by Messrs. Longman. The work has been revised and enlarged, and includes critical examinations of the Report of the Lords' Committee of 1848, upon National Distress, and of the chapter on the Regulations of Currency in Mill's 'Principles of Political Economy.'

Mr. Boln's republications are:—the first volume of a new edition, revised, with numerous wood engravings, of *The Poetical Works of Alexander Pope*, edited by Robert Carruthers, in the *Illustrated Library*, and in the same collection a third edition, with additions, of *The Antiquities of Athens and other Monuments of Greece*, as measured and delineated by James Stuart and Nicholas Revett, with seventy-one plates, a work which every student of art should possess.

Mr. John Timbs has issued his most useful annual *The Year Book of Facts in Science and Art*, published by Messrs. Kent and Co. The contents of this volume are peculiarly rich and interesting, for 1857 was a year which will be marked in the history of science.

A third and revised edition of *Aytoun's Bothwell: a Poem in Six Parts*, has been published by Messrs. Blackwood and Sons. The author, in a pleasant preface, deals frankly but not arrogantly with his critics.

In the *Parlour Library*, published by Mr. Hodgson, we have a reprint of Mr. S. R. Gleig's well-known and entertaining story *Katherine Randolph; or, Self-Devotion*. Messrs. Ward and Lock send us *Night and Day, or Better Late than Never*, a volume of telling every-day romance, by Mr. John Bennett, who has a faculty for writing fictions of this particular class. Messrs. Anelay and Watts Phillips have illustrated the volume.

Mr. George Francis Train, who wrote the strange book, 'Young America Abroad,' now presents himself with *Young America in Wall-street*, a volume published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Son. It contains a series of letters from Europe and elsewhere, *à propos* of the crisis. He is a rapid, dashing, eccentric, strongly-Bostonian writer, with a good deal of intelligence and large stores of information, and a bad habit of prophesying. He talks about everything—Louis Napoleon, the Leviathan, Lord Palmerston, the Mormons, the Bourse, the Stock Exchange, the Rothschilds, secret treaties, Cawnpore, the Queen, the public journals, and all else of which he knows, or assumes himself to know, anything. Mr. Train is a most amusing gossip, and is occasionally informing and suggestive.

Another singular work from an American pen, published by Messrs. Sampson Low and Son, is *The Hasheesh Eater, being Passages in the Life of a Pythagorean*. It is wildly and imaginatively written, after the manner of De Quincey, but it is doubtful whether a De Quincey school can be successfully established. The relation of a dream is at all times liable to exaggeration and monotony.

Mesmerism in Connection with Popular Superstitions, by J. W. Jackson, is a little volume, published by M. Baillière, in which the writer supposes himself to have formed a connexion between mesmerism and the old beliefs in magic, sorcery, second-sight, death omens, apparitions, and other popular superstitions. His treatment of the subject is at least bold and entertaining.

Messrs. Blackwood, of Edinburgh, have published the eleventh volume of *The Works of Professor Wilson*, containing the tales, rich in pictures of manners and in creations of character. The twelfth volume will contain Professor Wilson's poems.

The Narrative of the Indian Mutiny, published by Mr. Routledge, has reached a second issue, after 'circulating' into extensive popularity.

Uncle Jack the Fault Killer, published by Messrs. Smith, Elder, and Co., is a little book for children, simple, moral, and amusing.

The Handbook of the Court, the Peerage, and the House of Commons, published by Messrs. King, and Simpkin and Marshall, which has reached its eighth year of issue, is a neat and useful manual, and reappears for 1858, corrected from information supplied by the members of both Houses.

We must draw attention to a most valuable little book published by D'Sousa, at Bombay, and entitled *A Dictionary of Commercial Terms, with their Synonyms in Various Languages*, compiled by Mr. Alexander Faulkner. It is full of practical information excellently arranged.

Messrs. Hamilton, Adams, and Co. have published a seventeenth edition of Mr. William Arthur's very popular tale *The Successful Merchant; Sketches of the Life of Mr. Samuel Budgett, late of Kingswood Hill*.

A new *English Grammar* has been published by Mr. Routledge. It is constructed by Mr. W. D. Kenny, L.C.P., and appears to have been designed to meet the requirements caused by the latest developments of our private and public educational system.

We only announce, at present, *The Letters of a Betrothed*, a curious collection of authentic love letters, published by Messrs. Longman and Co.

PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT IN FRANCE.

Histoire du Gouvernement Parlementaire en France, 1814-1848. Précédée d'une Introduction. Par M. Duvergier de Hauranne. Paris, 1857. Michel Lévy.

The pleading for liberty, driven from journals and pamphlets, takes refuge in France in ponderous volumes, which both by law and custom are removed to a certain extent from the influence of the police. M. Duvergier de Hauranne, under the form of an elaborate history, has undertaken the defence of Parliamentary government, in which centre his political affections and, we are glad to add, his hopes. The idea seems to have suggested itself to him immediately after the *Coup d'état*, when shoals of ranting Bonapartists, in a jargon which made the gorge of honest men rise, went about proclaiming the downfall of Parliamentaryism, and the definitive substitution for it of a new sort of representation, which, excluding lawyers, bankers, artists, men of letters, and the enlightened middle classes generally, who had hitherto by their activity and genius too much influenced the course of affairs, should express the will of the rabble by the Empire. M. Duvergier de Hauranne saw that for the time this new and peculiar theory, the hobby-horse of a man who had five hundred thousand soldiers, hoping to have two sous a day to spend instead of one sou, behind him, 'must prevail. There is no disputing against such hobby-horses. But neither the ex-Minister nor his friends acquiesced; and in the commencement of this elaborate work we are pleased to discover the presence of a sturdy conviction that sooner or later France, a country in which, as M. Mignet says, "everything comes, but everything passes, which wearies of everything, but returns to everything," will resume the experiment of a free government, and try once more whether it is not capable of taking care of its own affairs.

The 'Introduction,' which occupies the whole of the first volume of M. de Hauranne's work, is a history of the endeavours made in France to found or apply some system of Parliamentary government, from 1789 to 1814. Between these two periods there was a time of repose of ten years, represented by the Empire, the study of which is not, however, without its instruction. Indeed, from the historian's point of view, the description of the institutions of the first Empire is the most interesting part of the subject; for it contains implicitly the criticism of the present régime. We refer our readers who wish to read a sober account of the attempts made, at the end of the last century, to organize liberty in France, to this introduction, which reads like an eloquent blue-book, with passages that remind one of the minister and the orator. All the melodramatic incidents of the Revolution are suppressed; and, with the exception of some rather weak, and we must

say vulgar, abuse of Robespierre and the Jacobins, we have nothing but a decent, quiet narrative of the conflict of principles and doctrines at that eventful period. Such a work may be heavy reading to those who are not deeply interested in the fortunes of France; but it is an admirable study for young men who believe in the return of liberty, and wish to prepare themselves for its responsibilities.

M. Duvergier de Hauranne's account of the career and policy of Bonaparte is peculiarly interesting. It is quite refreshing to be able for once to watch the career of this grandest of parvenus, without being stifled by the smell of powder, stunned by the roar of cannon, or sickened by the stream of blood; far from flapping standards, shining bayonets, and multitudes of convulsed fanatics, fancying themselves heroes and patriots, rushing to die for that sublime egotist; out of sight of the three-cornered hat, queer waist-coat, tight breeches, and loose boots that make up the comical figure which French art is not ashamed to introduce into Paradise, telescope and snuff-box and all. M. de Hauranne has nothing to do with these things. He even refuses the advantage of painting the man for whom he has a cold, deadly repulsion in the mean attitude of the Eighteenth of Brumaire—how different from our Cromwell!—but simply describes him in his political character, and shows his exorbitant ambition, his utter unscrupulousness, his narrow views, his ignorance, and his failure. As he implies, it was scarcely worth while to wade through slaughter and perfidy to a throne which remained erect only ten years, even though, forty years later, the tradition of this temporary success may have enabled a relative, by similar means, to reach a similar position. It will be a singular dynasty that appears and disappears in this convulsive way every half century. As M. Duvergier de Hauranne clearly and imperatively shows, institutions like these, which alone find favour with the Bonapartist mind, in which the sovereign is not only the fountain of honour, but the fountain of every kind of power—electing even the representatives of the people—not only come as catastrophes, but inevitably depart in the same manner. "Whether he was consul for life, or hereditary emperor," says the historian, "his death would infallibly have reopened the career of revolutions, and restored to all parties the chances they had before. The best rampart that could have been given him was, not an heir, but liberal institutions, with representative, national, and independent bodies." This is significant, and reminds us of that fierce imperialist General de Castellane, at Lyons, when the telegraph brought him word, not that 'the Emperor Nicholas was dead,' but simply that 'the Emperor was dead,' and who instantly proclaimed Henri Cinq; and was not dismissed for his precipitate conversion, but simply joked with by Napoleon III., the man in all the empire who best knows the chances of his dynasty.

M. Duvergier de Hauranne quotes the extraordinary conversation of the Emperor with M. Decrès, recently revealed by the Duc de Raguse. It cannot be too often repeated, as showing the wild, Oriental character of the despot by whom all intellect in France was put in a corner, like a sulky boy at school. "I have come too late," said Napoleon. "Nothing great remains to do." M. Decrès, of course, was too accomplished a flatterer not to contradict. "Yes," answered Napoleon, "I agree that my career is fine; I have travelled a splendid road; but what a difference from antiquity! Look at Alexander: after having conquered Asia, and announced himself to the peoples as the son of Jupiter, with the exception of Olympias, who knew all about it, and of Aristotle and some Athenian pedants, all the East believed him. Well, now, if I were to declare myself to-day the son of the Almighty Father, and were to announce my intention of doing homage to him in that character, there is not a fish-frog who would not hiss me as I passed. People are too enlightened now-a-days. There is nothing great to be done."

"Do we not see," asks the historian, "in this strange regret, so strangely expressed, the certain sign of a mind that was going astray, of an ambition that could acknowledge no bounds, of a pride which even the empire of the world could not satisfy?" He might have added that this speech, which has many counterparts in the history of Napoleon, exhibited also the meanness which was created in him by the presence in this world of enlightenment and intellect. He felt that though his arm was strong enough to beat down for a time all physical opposition, his genius, which had a strong relationship to vulgar enthusiasm, could only impose on those who were prostrate before him; and he knew that his memory would only be preserved with respect in the traditions of the lowest developments of humanity. This partly explains his determined hatred against men of ideas, or *idéologues*, as he chose to call them, and who formed a permanent as well as a temporary danger to the State, as he conceived it.

In the chapter on the Empire, M. Duvergier de Hauranne ably develops the thesis, that 'the enemies of free institutions always see the embarrassments they cause, but never the support they give; and do not reflect that despotism in the days of adversity dearly pays for the facilities it has enjoyed in the days of prosperity.' He brings forward some curious examples to prove that not only political liberty, but civil liberty, which was still sometimes talked of, was tampered with. The Emperor wished to abolish the jury, and spared it only on condition that the lists should be so chosen as to be harmless, and that there should be tribunals of exception against forgers, armed smuggling, and resistance to public authority. He established state prisons, in which, despite certain formalities, people were shut up arbitrarily. "When I fell," said he at St. Helena, "the state prisons scarcely contained more than two hundred and fifty individuals." "Indeed!" exclaims M. Duvergier de Hauranne; "that was a great deal more than the state prisons of the old régime contained at the taking of the Bastille!"

A peculiar colour is given to this remarkable history by the firm conviction everywhere expressed that liberty will have its day again in France. The writer denies that the French people is 'radically incapable of self-government,' and adds:—

If this were so, France should seek the secret of its destinies in the annals of the Roman Empire; and thank those writers who, with more ardour than glory, labour to rehabilitate that wretched period. But, perhaps I may be allowed to protest against a decree, dictated by interest and accepted by weakness.

Again:—

Instead of mistaking the sleep of France for death, would it not be better to look

forward to the time when it shall rise up, gather new strength, and determine to use it? Whether that time be desired or feared, it will come infallibly, and the world will prepare for it.

"I have never loved and do not now love absolute power," says the historian, in his preface; "but I understand it. I understand that with more or less success, for a longer or shorter period, all political life may be stifled in a country, all spirit of resistance crushed, all liberty suppressed or annulled. What I do not understand is the strange idea of granting to a people liberty of election, liberty of speech, liberty of the press, on condition that it shall not make use of them, or that it shall do so uselessly; of putting into the hands of citizens a powerful weapon, and warning them at the same time that they are to be treated as if they were disarmed; of giving them, in a word, the form and the attributes of Parliamentary government, without giving the substance."

In this way does M. Duvergier de Hauranne criticize the present Government, with the evident object of insinuating that the time may come when the system of machinery which is now nothing but a huge hypocrisy may be used to restore liberty in France. It is certain that if the electors throughout the empire were on one and the same day to insist on exercising their right freely, an Assembly might be returned before which the governing coterie would fly like chaff before the wind. But it is precisely to prevent this possible though not probable result that the whole ingenuity of the Government is directed. However, we would not seek to discourage M. Duvergier de Hauranne and his friends, who no doubt are allied, at least in sympathy and intention, to the new party which since the death of General Cavaignac is endeavouring to form in preparation for the future; which abjures all narrow doctrines of Legitimism or Orleanism, whilst it admits the necessity of a monarchy, surrounded by institutions no matter how liberal; which looks with hope to the young pretender who, under the guardianship of his mother, is waiting for the conspiracy of time and circumstances; which may include all fragments of old parties, royalist or moderate republican; and which must necessarily go on recruiting from the unprejudiced masses, who feel only the shame and the inconvenience of the present system.

But if this be the case—if the former Minister, when he assures us that if not he yet his sons will assuredly behold the revival of Parliamentary government, speaks patriotically and not in the spirit of a coterie—why should he persist in saying offensive things of the men without whose aid there can be no return of liberty in France? Clearly, a restored monarchy must lean on something more than the personal friends and adherents of M. Guizot, most of whom are now growing old and grey. Why use, then, that hackneyed and unjust expression, 'the catastrophe of February?' In one sense, the Revolution of 1848 may be considered a catastrophe, because it led to the *Coup d'état*; but M. Duvergier de Hauranne, in defending the greater Revolution of 1789, proves that its excesses were not logically necessary, and that events do not succeed one another in this world mechanically, without regard to the merits and the conduct of men. He must know that many active promoters of the fall of Louis Philippe are only withheld from becoming Orleanists in the sense we have explained by the fear that they will thus 'deny their past,' and that it is from the foolish and bigoted vocabulary of the Reaction that he borrows the obnoxious phrase we allude to. Is he afraid to condemn his own past? Considering the ignoble fate of the dynasty he loves, he might do so with a good grace. Why not admit that the Revolution of February, with all its fearful and humiliating consequences, was not a catastrophe but a lesson? The confession may be a grievous one to make; but it is necessary to the union. Besides, M. Duvergier de Hauranne makes it elsewhere, when he says:—

If we consider the result to which our Parliamentary struggles have led us, nobody has the right to be very proud; and if there be a party or a man who boasts not to have committed a fault, that party or that man exhibits more pride than good sense. Why not tell the whole truth? The Government of 1830, Ministry and Opposition, did not sufficiently trouble itself to know what the popular masses felt, thought, and desired. Thus it was that the ground was mined under our feet, whilst we were combating with courteous arms, and that we came, with closed eyes, to a catastrophe unexpected by everybody, even by those who made it and those who profited by it. When absolute governments perish in this way no one has a right to be astonished. Free governments are bound and are able to be more clear-sighted and prudent. But even in free governments people are sometimes inclined to allow themselves to be blinded by success and lulled to sleep in the arms of power. It happens, then, that for fear of going too fast, they make up their minds not to advance at all, and that between those who govern and those who are governed such a distance at last is placed that they lose sight of one another. The merest accident, a spark, then brings about an explosion.

We hope that M. Guizot is not the man who 'boasts that he never committed a fault,' who will not allow that it was by his obstinacy that the 'lesson' or 'catastrophe' was rendered necessary. It is certain, however, that, even at the risk of admitting that he contributed from pride and ignorance to increase the distance between the governors and the governed, he ought to subscribe to this declaration, which wipes out many faults, and may be eminently useful in the future. The work of M. Duvergier de Hauranne, though it has made no sensation—nothing literary makes now a sensation in France but novels so highly coloured that they bring their authors before the Court of Assizes—has been favourably received by quiet politicians and by studious youths. It cannot be read without fruit; and will be a good antidote to the sound and fury of revolutionary annals.

OEHLENSCHLAGER'S ALADDIN.

Aladdin; or, The Wonderful Lamp. A Dramatic Poem in Two Parts. By Adam Oehlenschläger. Translated by Theodore Martin. J. W. Parker.

At the latter end of last century, the castle of Fredericksberg, one of the residences of the kings of Denmark, used to be occupied during the autumn and winter, when the court was absent, by a worthy Schleswiger and his wife and family, who took care of the royal abode until the return of the monarch. The castle, which is said to have been erected from the designs of our great English architect, Inigo Jones, stands about two miles from the western gates of Copenhagen; and here, in comparative solitude, the youthful son of the person charged with the care of the castle—a boy of a

romantic and thoughtful disposition—used to dream away his time, looking at the paintings, reading novels by the hundred, as fast as he could get them from a circulating library at the capital, and building castles in the air. His mother was a German by birth, and partly by blood, but *her* mother was a Dane; and the youth was bred up in the Danish language and read none but Danish books. The parents spoke in the same tongue, except when they wanted to talk to one another without the children understanding them, when they employed German, which, indeed, was their vernacular. The boy thus nursed in a taste for ideality was Adam Gottlob Oehlenschläger, destined to be one of the greatest ornaments of his country's literature and a dramatic poet whom his fellow Danes, in the flush of their pride and gratitude, have not hesitated to compare to Shakspeare. The literary life of Oehlenschläger was an almost uninterrupted series of triumphs. He soon found out that the tendency of his mind was towards poetry, and more especially to the dramatic form of that art; and he was doubtless encouraged in his literary aspirations by two fellow students with whom he lodged at Copenhagen—the illustrious brothers Oersted, one of them the discoverer of electro-magnetism, the other an eminent lawyer, and at one time Prime Minister of the kingdom. The young poet witnessed from a balcony the attack by Nelson on the Danish fleet off Copenhagen in 1801—Nelson, the Englishman whom some Danes, to soothe their national self-love, have said must have been of Danish descent, if there be any faith in names. That battle, Oehlenschläger afterwards stated, inspired the Danes with a love of poetry, as the battles of Marathon and Salamis inspired the Greeks, and the defeat of the Spanish Armada the English. Two years later, Oehlenschläger appeared as a poet, and soon made a name for himself. He travelled in Germany, became acquainted with Goethe, and the other great Teutonic writers of that time, and wrote plays in German, translating others, which he had originally composed in Danish, into the sister tongue. Before quitting Germany, he was accidentally present at Weimar on the day of the double battle of Auerstadt and Jena. He afterwards went to Paris, and composed there his tragedy of *Palnatoke*, by some esteemed his finest work. This he read to his countryman Baggensen, who had previously occupied the highest position among the Danish poets; and that writer, in a transport of admiration, flung himself at the feet of the younger poet. The act was noble; but—alas for human nature!—Baggesen afterwards became jealous of the increasing fame of his rival, and attacked him with much bitterness. For this he got into such disfavour with the populace that he expatriated himself in a passion of wrath and jealousy, and died abroad.

In the meanwhile, Oehlenschläger waxed day by day in renown and prosperity. Paying a visit to Sweden in 1829, he was received with a perfect ovation, as if he had been a conqueror returning from the wars. He was met by a procession of students on the high road; was addressed in the cathedral of Lund by Tegner, the bishop of Wexio (acknowledged by all as the chief poet of Sweden), who delivered a panegyric in hexameters; and was crowned with laurel in the midst of a storm of music and cannon, and in the presence of an immense crowd, including his wife and children. Indeed, he appears to have been regarded with something of a Pan-Scandinavian feeling, as throwing a glory on the whole northern race. A second visit to Sweden, and one to Norway, were equally triumphant; and he was patronized, not only by his own monarch, but by those who could have had no sympathy of race with him—namely, by Louis Philippe, and by Leopold of Belgium. A grand festival was given in his honour at Copenhagen on his seventieth birthday, November 14th, 1849, on which occasion he recited a poetical address of thanks, wherein he observed—

The feast I share is not my funeral feast.

It was nearly so, however; for, on the 20th of January, 1850—little more than two months after he had spoken those words—he died. He had been a vain man all his life, and on his death-bed his egotism ripened to an enormous growth. An hour and a half before he breathed his last, he requested his son to read to him that portion of a scene in his tragedy of *Socrates* where the great philosopher speaks of death. "It is," he remarked, "so unspeakably beautiful." He heard the passage read with great emotion, "looking round," says a biographer, "with a smile of pleasure. When it was concluded, he put an end to the reading, and took leave of his family." He had previously directed that the same tragedy should be performed at the theatre on the occasion of his funeral.

Novels and poems, as well as plays, flowed from the fertile pen of Oehlenschläger. The former are not greatly esteemed; but the dramatic works have given him a European reputation. His tragedies are twenty-four in number, and nineteen are on Scandinavian subjects—so thoroughly northern and national was his mind. To these he added several comedies and operas.

We have been at the pains of collecting these few particulars of the poet's literary life, because we believe Oehlenschläger is not much known in England, and such little bits of personal identity may be pleasant to any reader whom we may induce to go to the translation now before us. *Aladdin* was one of the dramatist's earliest works, and Oehlenschläger used to say that in it he had discovered his own 'wonderful lamp'—that is to say, the vein of poetry, which was destined to give him fame and fortune. Some portions, says Mr. Martin, in his Preface, were translated in *Blackwood's Magazine*, by Mr. R. P. Gillies, in 1816; but he does not seem to be aware that portions were also translated by the late Archdeacon Hare in a Miscellany issued in 1820 by Mr. Ollier. The Archdeacon (who is known by his fine rendering of La Motte Fouqué's *Sintram*) was peculiarly qualified for such a task, by his great knowledge of, and intense sympathy with, the northern languages. Mr. Theodore Martin also is known as a previous translator of Oehlenschläger, having in 1854 introduced the English public to the Danish poet's *Correggio*; and he seems to have gone to his task with enthusiasm and love. Of the present play he remarks:—

The 'Aladdin' of Oehlenschläger bears the marks of youth—but it is the youth of genius, rich in the exuberance of a fearless fancy, and revelling in the exercise of a newly awakened power. When it was written, Oehlenschläger was in the first bloom of manhood; he was in love, and he had recently lost his mother. Aladdin's story seemed to have an affinity to his own. In the faculty of poetic creation which had

begun to stir within him, he found, as he says in his Autobiography, a veritable Aladdin's Lamp. His own passion sought a vent in depicting Aladdin's for Gulnare, and his tears for a loving and much-loved mother overflowed as he wrote the Dirge of the Eastern boy at the grave of Morgiana. Thus heart and fancy were thrown intensely into the poem, and they give to it a vivid charm beyond that of his more mature and faultless works. The poet has not ventured to deviate from the familiar incidents of the Eastern tale. Indeed, he follows them with such minuteness, that occasionally the action drags, and the dialogue labours. In a few instances the translator has ventured to compress passages which are open to this objection, more particularly where the humour is of a texture too flimsy for the taste of a nation nursed in the schools of Shakspeare and Fielding. This liberty might, perhaps, have been carried further, without injury to the poem; but even the flaws of a work of genius possess an interest for the student.

There is no doubt that the drama might have been further compressed with great advantage. It consists of no less than ten acts, and is sometimes diffuse and feeble. The humour is frequently pleasant and genial, but is not always equally good, and even the poetry at times suffers from tenuity. Yet, notwithstanding these drawbacks, the *Aladdin* of Oehlenschläger is a charming work. If it have the faults of youth, it has also the excellencies—a bright vivacity, a happy dance of fancy, a luxuriance of feeling and perception (making some amends for the want of profound insight into the complex mysteries of the heart), and the unmistakable presence of a feeling of enjoyment, enthusiasm, and hopefulness on the part of the writer. The genii of poetry were attending on his beck, and had not tired of fetching him rich dowries from the haunted depths of imagination. He fills with a new life the glorious story which came to him from the lands of the East (but of which, by-the-by, no Arabic or Persian original can now be traced); and causes to pass before our vision the gorgeousness and stately splendours of Ispahan, the enchantments of the lamp and ring, the rich and subtle world of Persian faery, the humble abodes of Oriental poverty, and the strange vicissitudes of Oriental life. His descriptions are warm and bright with tropic sunshine and the glimmer of magic; and he has interspersed his drama with several charming lyrics, which trill and murmur in the pauses of the blank verse, like the singing of the nymphs in elf-land. Very complete, delicate, and affluent is the poet's perception of the supernatural part of the story, which, however, exhibits traces of the writer's northern birth. To the Persian world of genii he joins the Teutonic world of elves and fairies—as Shakspeare introduced Puck, Oberon, and Titania into the woods of ancient Attica. But this overshadowing of the North shows itself in other respects. Aladdin, in the Second Part, becomes a kind of chivalric hero, bearing, indeed, a resemblance to the Rustum of Persian and the Antar of Arabian fable, but also touched with something of the Christian ideal.

The character of Aladdin is excellently discriminated in the First and Second Parts. At the commencement, he is a gay, thoughtless boy, speaking much as any other boy with a vivacious nature would do; but afterwards, as he ascends into the regions of royalty, and passes through the extremes of prosperity and misfortune, the language heightens and expands with the circumstances, and often rises into grandeur or softens into pathos. The drama differs from the original story in making the death of Aladdin's mother an incident; and this leads to some affecting scenes. Aladdin, conceiving that he has hastened her death by neglect, and being at the same time under a temporary reverse of fortune, goes mad for a while; but this deviation from the story, as well as some others, is gladly received for the sake of the fine writing it brings along with it. The love passages are often full of languid and seductive sweetness, sometimes reminding the reader (though they are on a lower scale) of similar speeches in *Romeo and Juliet*, and at others seeming as if inspired by the flaunting and superabundant genius of Marlowe. The character of the homely, garrulous, affectionate mother of Aladdin is also effectively sketched, and is well contrasted, in all its humble simplicity and Sancho Panza-like wealth of proverbs, with the ideal aspirations of the son.

We had marked several passages for extract, but space forbids our giving more than two. Here is a sketch of the marvellous subterranean garden. Aladdin is speaking in a style of boyish wonderment:—

Oh me! what a strange garden! All the trees
Full of such pretty fruit! Ripe, rosy apples,
Green-gages, peaches with a purple bloom,
And oranges like flame; white gooseberries,
And, oh me! grapes!—some blue as heaven itself,
And others clear as water in a stream.
How sweetly winds the little brook through all!
Oh, what a pity there is no'er a bird
To warble in and out among the leaves!
How very still it is! What pretty flowers,
Yellow and fligreed, like ruddy gold!
Ha, what tremendous lilies! How they shine,
As though each leaf were out of silver carved!
I'll smell to one of them! They have no smell!
How comes it now they have no smell, I wonder?
My uncle, I must own, was in the right;
This sort of thing is only worth a look,
And then good-by.—But see! there hangs the lamp!
How strangely does its steady gleam light up
All round about, and make it beautiful!

And here is Aladdin's account of his journey through the air with the genie who releases him from the cavern:—

My head is all aspin. Well! such a journey
I never made in all my life before!
He caught me by the waist; the parting air
Around me flowed, like water in the bath.
In the clear moonshine, what a height he flew!
And oh, how strangely small the earth became!
Great Ispahan itself, with all its lights,
That in the distance one by one went out,
Looked like a bit of paper which we burn,
And see the boys all running out of school,
In a wide circle round the sky he wheeled,
That I might view the wide expanse of earth,

Bathed in the magic moon's transparent beams.
I never shall forget how far he flew
O'er Caucasus, and rested on its peak,
Then swept sheer down upon the plain, as though
He meant to plunge me in Euphrates deep.
A tall three-decker flew before the gale
Upon the chafing sea;—thither he sped,
And, resting with his toe upon the mast,
He, like a pillar, poised himself in air,
And there, secure as though he trod the ground,
He held me in one hand aloft to heaven.
Then when the moon, as pale as any ghost,
Vanished before the earliest flush of dawn,
Straightway he changed into a purple cloud,
And dropped down with me, softly as the dew,
'Mongst the small flowers, close by the city gate.
This done, transformed again, he soared, a lark,
And vanish'd twittering in the azure air.

Before parting company with Mr. Martin's volume, we cannot forbear from protesting against the translator's fondness for slang phrases, such as—'All right!' 'Rather, sir!' 'wide-awake,' 'spick-and-span,' 'precious little,' 'look alive,' 'pluck,' &c. Persia very likely has its slang; but these phrases are irreconcilable with our notions of Ispahan, and drag us back into the London mud.

The Arts.

THE MUSICAL UNION SOIRÉES.

MR. ELLA has commenced a sixth series of evening concerts, conducted on the principle of the famous Matinées of the Musical Union, with the occasional introduction of chamber-music, choral and solo. The present winter series is given at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS, to the equal comfort and advantage of audience and executants. On Tuesday evening there was a brilliant gathering, not only of the elite of the resident aristocracy of the Musical Union, but of many more of that Athenian public which has a discreet horror of monster and miscellaneous concerts, and a fine ear for the best music of the best masters, played *con amore* by the best executants, under happy auspices, in all the comfort and serenity of a private drawing-room. On Tuesday evening the Programme was as follows:—

Quintet. G minor	MOZART.
Quintet. E flat. Op. 44. Pianoforte, &c.....	SCHUMANN.
Quartet brilliant, in G. Op.....	MAYSER.
Glee.....'Summer Eve'.....	J. L. HATTON.
Part Song.....'Banish, O maiden'.....	LORENZ.
<i>Executants.</i>	
Violins.....	MM. SAINTON and GOFFRIE.
Violas.....	HENRY and RICHARD BLAGROVE.
Violoncello.....	M. PAQUE.
Pianist.....	Herr PAUER.
Vocalists...Messrs. LESTER, TAYLOR, HARRINGTON, and HENRY.	
The Quartet Glee Union.	

MOZART's exquisitely pathetic Quintet gave great delight, but the most interesting selection in this Programme was undoubtedly the Quintet by SCHUMANN. This composition was played in 1853, and we well remember with what a tender grace the piano was touched by Mlle. CLAUS; but Mr. ELLA tells us he was not satisfied with the 'imperfect performance' on that occasion, and certainly the Quintet was not then so effective as it proved on Tuesday, with the aid of the brilliant energy and complete mastery of Herr PAUER, who played with such an entire devotion and abandonment, you might almost have supposed he was the executor of poor ROBERT SCHUMANN, and was carrying out the Music of the Future like a last will and testament! SCHUMANN, we believe, is reckoned by orthodox critics as a heretic in musical art, though not so bad as RICHARD WAGNER, who is gaining ground in Europe daily. All we can say is, that if his Quintet in E flat is the Music of the Future, we are very glad to have a taste of it in the Present. Every movement is rich, flowing, clear, and full of genius and beauty, and if it is 'harmonious madness,' it is a madness infinitely preferable to much dull sanity. It was admirably played, with a truly contagious enthusiasm, by Messrs. SAINTON, BLAGROVE, GOFFRIE, and PAQUE, as well as by Herr PAUER, of whom we have already spoken, to an audience listening in rapturous silence. The Glee and Part Song were charmingly given by the gentlemen of Mr. HENRY LESLIE'S Choir, and narrowly escaped an encore.

We are glad to learn that the Summer Matinées of the Musical Union are to be given in the new ST. JAMES'S MUSICAL HALL, a noble edifice, which has been rising like enchantment under the magic wand of that Moorish Prospero, Mr. OWEN JONES. RUBINSTEIN, who has been dividing the laurels of Vienna with PIATTI, will once more be the lion of Mr. ELLA's summer season.

THE THEATRES OF LONDON.

We take advantage of the occurrence of a week in which no particular theatrical novelty has been produced, to offer some remarks upon the general condition of the theatres of London, of the style of entertainment which they offer, and of the causes of the success or failure popularly attributed to them. In the 'decline of the drama,' that wail so popular with old gentlemen who no longer go to the play, and third-rate actors—the Macbeths of the provincial, the 'bloody officers' of the London boards—we have an utter disbeliof. Some comedies have been produced within the last few years which, in their truth to nature, and the scope afforded by them for the delineation of real every-day character, are immeasurably superior to the standard dramas which have lived for a century and are still occasionally performed to a 'well-ordered' audience. It is heresy, but it is simple truth, to aver that such characters as *Bob Acres* and *Mrs. Malaprop*, were they now produced for the first time, would be hooted from the stage. But, at the same time, we are perfectly conscious of the shortcomings of the various managers, and the different style of entertainment produced, and we will endeavour to comment upon them with impartiality and justice.

Take, for instance, DRURY LANE, the largest theatre in London, and one capable, from its mere size, of affording greater opportunities for a certain display than any other. The management of DRURY LANE is at present, and has

been for some years, in the hands of a gentleman who possesses the greatest of all faculties—that of making money. His season, commencing on Boxing-night, is inaugurated with a *lever du rideau* and a grand pantomime. The *lever du rideau* may be anything, and is generally nothing. The people must be 'played in,' and whether the performance consist of tragedy, comedy, farce, or vaudeville, is but little matter. For the last few years he has retained the services of Mr. CHARLES MATHEWS, unquestionably the greatest living light comedian. But upon what have Mr. MATHEWS's talents been expended? The impersonation of *réchauffé* farce characters, worn threadbare in former seasons, and the whole point and idea of which have long since been used up. Since Mr. MATHEWS has served under the banner of Mr. E. T. SMITH, what single piece can be pointed out in which he has created a sensation? He hammers a hoarse laugh from a coarse throng, truly, but of what avail is his finesse, his delicate appreciation of the light and shade of character? The audience are all agog for the pantomime, and when it comes, what do they get? Fun? Heaven forbid that that glorious word should be so miserably misapplied! The opening is generally a bad burlesque 'with a purpose.' Gone are the big heads, the hollow unintelligible voices, the thwacks and kicks! Gone is the riot and the row, and in their stead we have halting rhyme hitting vaguely at what are called the 'topics of the day,' but in reality tamely joking upon the events of the previous September! The nonsense climaxes in a scene upon which the entire fortune of the pantomime depends, the transformation scene, and to the glorification of this is brought the rarest talent that has ever illumined the scenic artist's pencil within the memory of modern playgoers. As the little Cheapside gent vainly endeavours to rival the Pall-mall 'swell'—for by the time that he has acquired a bad imitation of the cravat and the gait a new phase of folly has commenced with his prototype—so do other theatrical painters always fail in their attempts at emulating WILLIAM BEVERLEY. They can imitate his bending palm-leaves, his pendant female figures, his successive gradations of 'effect,' each following the other in rapid succession until the mind fancies no further elaborations are possible, but they can never accomplish that wonderful mingling of colour, that exact blending of light and shade, that harmonized arrangement of drapery, which more strongly than anything indicate artistic conception! Shout, applaud, roar, people in boxes, pit, and gallery—come forth and bow, stout man in the red velvet waistcoat! We who know what is what believe not in you! As well might we honour the esteemed publishers for the satisfaction we derived from the perusal of *Pickwick*, or the man who takes the shilling at the Academy door for the gratification we have experienced from the sight of MILLAIS's picture! The comic business is simply nonsense. There are two of all the comic characters, each striving to outvie the other in agility, bad joke and attempt at political allusion, but as to general fun, there is none. The pantomime, however, as a whole, is sufficient attraction to draw crowded houses until Easter. The lessee has paid his rent, cleared his expenses, and pocketed a neat little sum to boot; and then the 'temple of the drama' is let, at intervals, during the remainder of the year, to any miserable people who may be misguided enough to risk the hard-earned provincial gains for the sake of acquiring what they vainly hope may be the prestige of a London reputation.

The PRINCESS's, under the management of Mr. KEAN, can easily be reckoned up. Finding that the production of modern comedies drew no money, the lessee conceived the notion of the Shakespearean revivals, which he has since carried out with an accuracy, liberality, and taste which have made them world-famous. An occasional romantic *drame* finds its way into Mr. KEAN's repertoire, but he generally confines himself to the Shakespearean revivals, two or three very slight farces, and the Christmas Pantomime. The pieces are invariably placed upon the stage with the greatest care, and the company, though by no means powerful, is above mediocrity. Mr. KEAN sadly wants a new *jeune premier*, a young man of good appearance and address, and no knowledge of the 'traditions of the stage.'

Perhaps no theatre is more legitimately ruled than the HAYMARKET, which is essentially devoted to comedy and farce. Go in when you will you are tolerably certain of a laugh, for though the matter provided may not be always first-rate, the manner in which it is set before you is invariably excellent. With the exception of Mr. BUCKSTONE, there is no artist of note in the entire company, and yet it would be difficult to find a better *jeune premier* than Mr. FARREN, a more thoroughly artistic comedian than Mr. COMPTON, a more useful assistant than Mr. CLARK. Mr. BUCKSTONE himself is a perfect master of his craft, is an unexampled favourite with the public, and knows so well the weak portions of a drama, and works so hard when he sees the audience are beginning to discover them, that the success of a piece has often been entirely owing to his exertions. It is in what linendrapers call the 'female department' that the HAYMARKET company is weakest, and the caste of the *Rivals*, so far as the ladies is concerned, is lamentable indeed. And when we recollect Mrs. GLOVER, Mrs. NISBETT, Madame VESTRIS, and others who once adorned the HAYMARKET stage, we more deeply regret that taste in dress has superseded artistic talent, and that a lady is more valued for the breadth of her ermine and the brilliancy of her toilette than the depth of her understanding and the brilliancy of her appreciation.

We purpose extending our comments to the smaller theatres next week. X.

THE BOHEMIAN GIRL A L'ITALIENNE.

THE appearance of *The Bohemian Girl* in an Italian dress, as *La Zingara*, has created a perfect furore among the middle classes, to whom a truly British ballad, delivered with a fine nasal expression (and the mouth half shut), is the richest of all tuneful treats. The admirers of British Tenors and Baritone voices have rushed in mobs to the OLD OPERA HOUSE in the Haymarket to salute the shades of HADRIAN and BORRANI, who were (invisibly) present beside their Italian successors, GIUGLINI and BELLETTI. Without undue cavilling, however, let us confess that Mr. BALFE's facile and fluent airs were welcomed with the enthusiasm of old days, and that Mr. BURN's 'pottery' was found to be far more intelligible in a foreign language than in the vernacular of DRURY LANE. Madlle. PICCOLOMINI looked deliciously, and warbled bewitchingly as the *Zingara*; GIUGLINI, BELLETTI, and the rest, in spite of Italian voices, Italian words, and an Italian method of singing, forcibly, too forcibly, recalled to memory their British predecessors, and this was felt by the audience to be their highest praise. There is something glutinous in the cloying sweetness of the music of this opera that cannot be dissolved even in Italian throats. Nevertheless, it is only just to add that *The Bohemian Girl*, since its first production in London, more than fourteen years ago, has been applauded in Germany and Italy, and barrel-organs over Europe. If we seem to be grudging in our recognition of its merits and beauties, the skilful and successful composer may proudly say, "When Baker-street is satisfied, Europe is content."

ROBBERY IN AN OMNIBUS.—Mrs. Greaves, a widow lady, has been robbed of her purse, containing a 100*l.* bank-note and 2*l.* 10*s.* in gold, while riding in an omnibus from the Borough to the Kingsland-road. When she got into the vehicle at the former place, she desired to be put down at King's Cross, where she lived, to which the conductor replied, "All right," and the omnibus then proceeded, as Mrs. Greaves thought, in the direction that she wanted to go. After she had ridden some distance on the road, another person got into the omnibus, on which a young woman, who had hitherto been sitting opposite Mrs. Greaves, shifted on to the same side, and sat down close against that lady. When they had gone about a mile further, the young woman appeared to pass something to the conductor, who thrust his hand inside the omnibus; she then abruptly got up from her seat, left the omnibus, and ran away as fast as she could, without paying. Shortly afterwards, Mrs. Greaves discovered that she had been driven in a very different direction from that of her own home, and, on alighting, discovered that her pocket had been cut, and her purse stolen. She suspected the young woman who had previously got out without paying to be the person who had robbed her, and that the conductor was also concerned in the affair, as he refused, when Mrs. Greaves mentioned the circumstance to him, to tell her anything about the woman. She was afterwards recognized by Mrs. Greaves at the House of Detention, where she had been taken by the police. The conductor of the omnibus was apprehended at the stableyard kept by his employer in the Borough. He and the woman were brought before the Worship-street magistrate, and remanded.

ADVENTUROUS THIEVES.—A man named Elton has been examined at Marlborough-street on a charge of committing a burglary in Dudley-street, Seven Dials. A policeman, about five o'clock in the morning, saw Elton and two other men go to the shop in question (a leather seller's), wrench away a shutter, take out a pane of glass, remove a quantity of leather, take it to an adjoining house, return to the shop, and carry away more property. All this while, the policeman was watching, concealed in a doorway. He afterwards took Elton into custody, but the other men escaped. Elton was committed for trial.

OXFORD EXAMINATIONS AT MANCHESTER.—It is proposed that the Oxford scheme for examinations of private middle-class schools shall be carried out in Manchester next June. At a meeting of schoolmasters of that city and the neighbourhood, on Wednesday evening, it was resolved to apply for the services of the Oxford examiners accordingly, provided a sufficient number of candidates be obtained.

THE ASSASSINATION PLOT.—A reward of 200*l.* has been offered for the apprehension of Mr. Thomas Allsop, the Englishman supposed to be implicated in the attempt of the 14th of January. He is about sixty years of age, and was a member of the Stock Exchange and a friend of the poet Coleridge, who at one time resided with him.

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—By the last advices from the Cape, we learn that Sir George Grey was making arrangements for visiting the frontier, a duty which had been postponed in consequence of the urgency of the intelligence from India. Colonel D'Urban, the newly appointed Commandant of British Kaffraria, and Colonel Dutton arrived at the Cape in the *Ida Ziegler* on the 28th of December. It is rumoured that headquarters are to be removed from Graham's Town to Cape Town. Three noted Kaffir chiefs are at present confined in the Cape Town gaol, and several others have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The tribes have been broken up, and the destitute are scattered among the English and Fingoes in search of food.

SUICIDE.—A man, named Turner, has shot himself in the streets at Portsmouth. He had been dismissed in the service of Captain Eveleigh, but had been dismissed on account of getting drunk, and conducting himself in a grossly improper manner. On Friday week, he enlisted into the North Lincoln Militia; and, on the following day he called on his late master, and begged forgiveness, which, however, was refused. Shortly afterwards, he shot himself.

POLISH DEPUTATION.—A deputation, composed of Majors Gielgud and Szulczewski, Captain Ordon, and Mr. F. Hankowski, presented, last Saturday, from their countrymen in England, an address to the French Ambassador, assuring him that they fully participate in the feeling with which the late attempt upon the lives of the Emperor and Empress of the French has inspired all classes in this country.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

BLADEN.—On the 9th ult., at Castle Villas, Stroud, Gloucestershire, the wife of Robert Bladen, Esq., a son. **PETRE.**—On the 9th inst., at 2, Cavendish-square, Lady Catherine Petre, a daughter. **TINLEY.**—On the 4th Nov., 1857, at Graham's-town, South Africa, the wife of Lieut.-Colonel Robert Newport Tinley, Cape Mounted Rifles, a son.

MARRIAGES.

ALLEYNE-CRUTCHLEY.—On the 9th inst., at All Saints', Marylebone, H. Alleyne, Esq., of Highfield, Hunts, to Ellen, second daughter of Robert Crutchley, Esq., of Glamorganshire, South Wales, and niece of the late Col. Logan, A.D.C. to the Queen.

OURSON-ANSON.—On the 8th inst., at Repton Church, Derbyshire, Colonel the Hon. Richard Ourson, second son of the Earl Howe, to Isabella Katharine Anson, eldest daughter of the late General the Hon. George Anson, Commanding-in-Chief in the East Indies.

DEATHS.

MORT.—On the 8th inst., at his residence, Moss Pit House, near Stafford, after a painful and protracted illness, Charles Chester Mort, Esq., in his 54th year. He was for many years editor and joint proprietor of the Staffordshire Advertiser, and was a magistrate and alderman of the borough of Stafford.

SUDELEY.—On Wednesday, the 10th inst., at Toddington, Gloucestershire, Lord Sudeley, in the 81st year of his age. **WHEATCROFT.**—Killed in action, on the 14th Nov. last, at the relief of Lucknow, whilst gallantly leading on a squadron of the 9th Lancers, which he had joined as a volunteer the previous day, Captain German Wheatcroft, 6th Dragoon Guards, only son of David Wheatcroft, Esq., Wingfield-park, Derbyshire.

Commercial Affairs.

London, Friday Evening, February 12. So great has been the influx of gold, and so slight the demand for accommodation, that the Bank authorities, to keep pace with the rival establishments, have again reduced the rate to 3 per cent. As yet commercial enterprise has not recovered the late crisis, and all produce languishes. The purchases in the funds have been steady and continuous, and the price of Consols this evening for money is very fairly 95.

Foreign stocks have also been in demand. Turkish Six per Cents. are now above par, and look to go higher. Peruvian and Russian and Brazilian are also still well supported. The Foreign Share market is steady, and well supported. East Indians on the account, which has just passed, were slightly depressed; but the already guaranteed lines are in demand, on account of a statement that has appeared, declaring that the East India Company will grant no more guarantees at 5 per cent. The Brazilian Railway guaranteed shares are still well held, and show no signs of weakness. In Grand Trunk of Canada and Great Western of Canada the receipts authorize the improvement in price.

In the heavy share market the continuation prices, owing to easy money and a light bull account, are 1 per cent. higher. Caledonians have given way slightly; the efforts of the bears to depreciate the stock, however, will not do away with the forthcoming report. Berwicks and Great Northern are sickly, though in Great Northern the preference shares—A and B shares—are in demand.

In Joint-Stock Banks there has been a good demand—all preference and guaranteed shares, and good Joint-Stock Bank shares. Dock and insurance companies are being quietly absorbed. These disposed of, the price of common stock and shares of dividend-paying companies will improve, and if money still continues at present rates, a fine field for staging and mushroom adventures of all sorts will be opened.

Blackburn, 9 9½; Caledonian, 94½, 94½; Chester and Holyhead, 36, 35; Eastern Counties, 52, 53; Great Northern, 105, 106; Great Southern and Western (Ireland), 103, 105; Great Western, 60½, 60½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 93½, 94½; London and Blackwall, 6½, 6½; London, Brighton, and South Coast, 107, 109; London and North-Western, 100½, 101½; London and South-Western, 98½, 99½; Midland, 98, 99½; North-Eastern (Berwick), 96½, 97½; South-Eastern (Dover), 74, 75; Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½, 6½; Dutch Rhenish, 34, 35; Eastern of France (Paris and Strasbourg), 27½, 28½; Great Central of France, —; Great Luxembourg, 8, 8½; Northern of France, 38½, 39½; Paris and Lyons, 34½, 34½; Royal Danish, 16, 18; Royal Swedish 4½; Sambre and Meuse, 7½, 8½.

BRITISH FUNDS FOR THE PAST WEEK.

(CLOSING PRICES.)

	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Frid.
Bank Stock.....	226	226	225½	225½	225½	225
3 per Cent. Red.....	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
3 per Cent. Con. An.....	96	96	96	96	96	96
Consols for Account.....	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½	96½
New 3 per Cent. An.....	96½	96½	96	96½	96½	96½
New 2½ per Cent.....	50	50	50	50	50	50
Long Ans. 1860.....	221½	218	218	218	219	219
Ditto Bonds, £1000.....	22½	22 p	20 p	21 p	21 p	21 p
Ditto, under £1000.....	20 p	20 p	20 p	21 p	21 p	21 p
Ex. Bills, £1000.....	32 p	32 p	30 p	30 p	31 p	32 p
Ditto, £500.....	32 p	32 p	30 p	30 p	31 p	32 p
Ditto, Small.....	32 p	32 p	30 p	33 p	34 p	32 p

FOREIGN FUNDS.

LAST OFFICIAL QUOTATION DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY EVENING.

Brazilian Bonds.....	103½	Portuguese 4 per Cents. ...	112½
Buenos Ayres 6 p. Cents.....	109	Russian Bonds, 5 per Cents.....	112½
Chilian 6 p. Cents.....	96	Russian 4½ per Cents.....	99½
Chilian 3 per Cents.....	96½	Spanish.....	43½
Dutch 2½ per Cents.....	65½	Spanish Committee Cert. of Coup. not fun.....	100½
Dutch 4 per Cent. Certf.....	101	Turkish 6 per Cents.....	104½
Equador Bonds.....	81	Turkish New, 4 ditto.....	104½
Mexican Account.....	81	Venezuela 4½ per Cents.
Peruvian 4½ per Cents.....	45½		
Portuguese 5 per Cents.....	45½		

CORN MARKET.

Mark-lane, Friday, February 12.

THERE now seems to be generally a healthier tone in the trade than existed last week, and more business has been done in various ways. Wheat is lower; Barley and Oats are unaltered. The arrivals off the coast have not been considerable. The actual prices here on the spot are, fair red English Wheat, 40*s.* to 43*s.* per Imperial quarter; fine red English Wheat, 40*s.* to 43*s.*; Holstein, 43*s.* to 44*s.*; white French, 47*s.* to 48*s.*; Taganrog Ghirka, 42*s.*; Odessa Ghirka, 43*s.* all per 400 lbs. French Malt, 32*s.* to 33*s.* 6d.; Odessa, 23*s.*; Baltick, 22*s.* 6d.; Turkish, 21*s.* 6d. all per 400 lbs. Fine Swedish Oats, 24*s.* 3d.; Archangel, 22*s.*; Norfolk Flour, 30*s.* 6d.; Supers, 32*s.* 6d.; French 4 Marks, 30*s.*, in retail; Good French Marks, 34*s.* to 35*s.*

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, February 9.

BANKRUPT.—THOMAS KENT, Brighton-place, Brixton-road, grocer—CHARLES TURNER, Walthamstow, ironmonger—WILLIAM ANGEL, Compton-street, Brunswick-square, painter—HARRY WEAVER, Piccadilly, woollen warehouseman—JAMES and THOMAS CHARLES MCLEAN, Turnagain-lane, Skinner-street, Snow-hill, wine merchants—JOHN HENRY MORTON, Malden, grocer—JOHN PELLIS, Elmwood, Suffolk, corn merchant—DAVID TURNER, Cranford-street, Portman-square, straw-hat maker—HENRY WEAVER,

Noble-street, City, commission merchant—FRANCIS WARR, Mount Pleasant, Brierley-hill, Staffordshire, victualler—MATTHEW JAMES, Ruddington, Nottinghamshire, hosier—GEORGE COCK, Plymouth, grocer—RICHARD CATLIN, late of Leicester, plumber—JOSEPH MORGAN, Garnvach, near Nantyglo, Monmouthshire, ironmonger—JOHN GREENWOOD, Dewsbury, Yorkshire, chemist—FRANCIS FRYER ABBEY, Huddersfield, woollen manufacturer—SARAH DAVIS, Halifax, innkeeper.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—A. FRANCE, Stirling, smith—J. ALLARDYCE, Drumblane, Aberdeenshire, farmer—T. R. PEACOCK, Dundee, contractor—J. DUNN, Auchinleck, Ayrshire, contractor—J. PERRATT, Port Glasgow, leather merchant—J. MARSHALL, Dunbarney, Perthshire, farmer—W. H. FIFE, Greenock, ironmonger—J. D. MARSHALL, Borton and Bowtrees, Stirlingshire, master in the Royal Navy—R. MACKISSACK, Elgin, merchant—J. ALLEN, New Kilpatrick, Dumfriesshire, farmer—L. E. OPROWE, Glasgow, picture-frame manufacturer—W. OER, Glasgow, calenderer.

Friday, February 12.

BANKRUPTS.—WM. HENRY LAST, Cannon-street West, commission agent—ALFRED SOUTHAM, Manchester, manufacturer—JOHN TABB, Upper Belgrave-place, Pimlico, licensed victualler—OLIVER LONG, King William-street, City, manufacturer—JOHN SAMUEL WILSON, Leeds, woollen merchant—DAVID THOMPSON, Ulleskelf, Yorkshire, innkeeper—JOHN ELLIS, Liverpool, builder and joiner—JOHN KNIGHT, Beoley, Worcestershire, brickmaker—RICHARD FRANK BINGHAM, Nottingham, confectioner—THOMAS GEO. SHAW, Great St. Helen's, Bishopsgate-street, wine merchant—JOSEPH LEVY, Jewry-street, Aldgate, merchant—WILLIAM LEIGH JOLLIFFE, Salisbury, grocer—JAMES SMITH, Lowestoft, brickmaker—JOHN MOORE, Pudsey, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturer—REES JEFFREYS, outfitter—WILLIAM WILLIAMS, Llandilo, Carmarthen, linen draper—ABRAHAM HENRY JAMES and THOMAS ROBERT, Newport, Monmouth, builders—WILLIAM INGLIS CARNE, Mark-lane, merchant—MARCO FERNANDEZ, Devonshire-square, Bishopsgate, baby-linen maker—SAMUEL GRIFFITHS, Wolverhampton, merchant—RICHARD HOPE PRICE, jun., Wolverhampton, scrivener.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—J. RUSSELL, Kirkin-tulloch, fletcher—J. JACKSON, Leslie Paper Mills, paper maker—W. HUTTON, Edinburgh, wood merchant—W. FINLAY, Glasgow, cattle salesman—M. SWIFT, Prince's-street, Helensburgh—R. BLACKWOOD, Kilmarnock, worsted spinner—J. WATSON, Greenock, ironmonger—J. HOOD and SON, Glasgow, manufacturers.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

LAST NIGHTS.

Piccolomini, Saunier, Belletti, Violetti, and Giuglini. On Tuesday next, February 16 (last night but five), LA ZINGARA.

Thursday, February 18 (last night but four), LA TRAVIATA.

Prices:—Pit Stalls, 12*s.* 6d.; Boxes (to hold four persons), Pit and One Pair, 2*l.* 2*s.*; Grand Tier, 3*l.* 3*s.*; Two Pair, 1*l.* 5*s.*; Three Pair, 1*l.* 5*s.*; Gallery Boxes, 10*s.*; Gallery Stalls, 3*s.* 6d.; Gallery, 2*s.*; Pit, 3*s.* 6d.

The doors will be opened at Half-past Seven, and the Opera commence at Eight o'clock.

Applications for Boxes, &c., to be made at the Box-office at the Theatre.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—203rd Concert, Polygraphic Hall, Strand.—ITALIAN OPERA NIGHTLY.—Morning Performance on Saturday, commencing at 3, evening at 8. Stalls, 3*s.*; Area, 2*s.*; Amphitheatre, 1*s.* Seats can be had at Mr. Mitchell's, 33, Old Bond-street; and at the Hall.

DR. KAHN'S MUSEUM AND GALLERY

OF SCIENCE, 3, Tichborne-street, Haymarket. Programme for February:—Lectures by Dr. KAHN, on "The Philosophy of Marriage," at 4 to 3 and a 1 to 8 p.m.; and by Dr. SEXTON, on "The Chemistry of Respiration," at 4 past 1; on "Skin Diseases," at 4; on "The HAIR and BEARD," at 5; and on "The Relations of Electricity," at 9. The Lectures illustrated with brilliant experiments, Dissolving Views upon a new principle, &c. Open (for Gentlemen only) from 12 till 6, and from 7 till 10. Admission, 1*s.* Illustrated Handbook, Sixpence. Programme Gratis. Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures and a Programme sent post free on the receipt of 12 Stamps.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS are undeniably the finest medicine for debilitated constitutions, disordered liver, bile, and indigestion. The wonderful efficacy of this salutary medicine, and the good effects produced on patients suffering from the above complaints, would appear incredible if it were not confirmed by daily proofs of the cures effected by them, and the permanent benefit derived from their use. The exhilarating properties of these invaluable Pills, entirely banish all nervousness from the system, and strengthen the stomach, thereby promoting digestion; also persons suffering from Dropsy should use these Pills, as they are the most safe and certain remedy ever known for that dreadful malady.

Sold by all Medicine Vendors throughout the world, and at Professor HOLLOWAY'S Establishment, 244, Strand, London.

TRIESEMAR.—Protected by Royal Letters

Patent of England, and secured by the seals of the Ecole de Pharmacie de Paris, and the Imperial College of Medicine, Vienna. TrieseMAR, No. 1, is a remedy for relaxation, spermatorrhoea, and exhaustion of the system. TrieseMAR, No. 2, effectually, in the short space of three days, completely and entirely eradicates all traces of those disorders which capsules have so long been thought an antidote for, to the ruin of the health of a vast portion of the population. TrieseMAR, No. 3, is the great Continental remedy for that class of disorders which unfortunately the English physician treats with mercury, to the inevitable destruction of the patient's constitution, and which all the sarsaparilla in the world cannot remove. TrieseMAR, Nos. 1, 2, and 3, are alike devoid of taste or smell, and of all nauseating qualities. They may be used on the toilet-table without their use being suspected.—Sold in tin cases, price 11*s.*, free by post 1*s.* 8d. extra to any part of the United Kingdom, or four cases in one for 33*s.*, by post, 3*s.* 2d. extra, which saves 11*s.*; and in 5*l.* cases, whereby there is a saving of 1*l.* 12*s.*; divided into separate doses, as administered by Valpeau, Lallemand, Roux, &c. Sold by J. Church, 78, Gracechurch-street; Bartlett Hooper, 43, King William-street; G. F. Watts, 17, Strand; Prout, 220, Strand; Hanny, 63, Oxford-street; Sanger, 100, Oxford-street, London; &c. H. Lingham, Market-street, Manchester; and Powell, 15, Westmoreland-street, Dublin.

ALLSOPP'S PALE ALE IN IMPERIAL PINTS.
HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO., are now delivering the October Brewings of the above celebrated Ale. Its surpassing excellence is vouched for by the highest medical and chemical authorities of the day. Supplied in bottles, also in casks of 16 gallons and upwards, by **HARRINGTON, PARKER, and CO.,** Wine and Spirit Merchants, 53, Pall-mall.
 Feb., 1858.

SISAL CIGARS! at Goodrich's Cigar Stores, 407, Oxford-street, London, near Soho-square. Boxes, containing 14, for 1s. 9d.; post free, six stamps extra; 16 boxes, containing 103, 12s. 6d. None are genuine, unless signed "H. N. Goodrich." A large stock of the most approved Brands. Orders, amounting to 1 Sovereign, sent carriage free within the London Parcells Delivery circuit amounting to 2 Sovereigns, carriage free to any railway station in the United Kingdom. The trade supplied.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.—For half a century this well known remedy for Pulmonary disorders has successfully stood the test of public approval, and their usefulness has been extended to every clime and country of the civilized world. They may be found alike on the gold-fields of Australia, the backwoods of America, in every important place in the East or West Indies, and in the palace of Pekin. During this long period they have withstood the pretensions of numerous inferior rivals, and are the now acknowledged antidote for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, &c.
 Prepared and Sold in Boxes, 1s. 1½d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., by **THOMAS KEATING, 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.** Retail by all Druggists.

PERFECT FREEDOM FROM COUGHS IS SECURED BY **DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS.** They give instant relief and a rapid cure of asthma, consumption, coughs, and all disorders of the breath and lungs. They have a most pleasant taste. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box. Sold by all medicine vendors.

KEATING'S PALE NEWFOUNDLAND COD LIVER OIL, perfectly pure, nearly tasteless, having been analyzed, reported on, and recommended by Professors **TAYLOR** and **THOMSON**, of Guy's and St. Thomas's Hospitals, who, in the words of the late **Dr. PEREIRA**, say that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour." Imperial Pints, 2s. 6d.; Quarts, 4s. 6d.
 79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL, entirely free from nauseous flavour and after-taste, is prescribed with the greatest success by the Faculty as the safest, speediest, and most effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, SCIATICA, DIABETES, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, NEURALGIA, RICKETS, INFANTILE WASTING, GENERAL DEBILITY, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.
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Opinion of **A. B. GRANVILLE, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.,** Author of "The Spas of Germany," "The Spas of England," "On Sudden Death," &c. &c.

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