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AND

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VOL. IX. No. 457.]

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1858.

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With Limited Liability.

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For full prospectus see the "Commercial Daily List" of the 16th inst.

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Extract from Minutes of Consultation transmitted by the Government of Madras on the 15th May, 1853, to the Court of Directors of the East India Company:—

The Government express their unanimous, strong, and earnest advocacy, that all irrigation works which, on a comprehensive view of the wants of the country, may be deemed necessary to develop its undoubtedly great resources, be commenced at once boldly and on a large scale, be pressed forward throughout all times and under all circumstances, and be looked on and be practically treated, as in fact they really are, as the most economical, because the most profitable, undertakings in which the Government could possibly engage. It is needless now again to bring forward the innumerable instances in which money has in the Presidency been most advantageously invested in irrigation works. The proceedings of Government have, in this respect, been only too desultory and vacillating, and it is confidently asserted that India could be placed in a position to pay all her own expenses and gradually discharge her debt far more readily and speedily by a judicious expenditure than by any scheme of retrenchment or reduction.

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SPECIAL NOTICE.

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Two of these Derricks, belonging to the New York Company, have raised and saved over 400 vessels. This Company commenced by paying its shareholders half-yearly dividends of 10 per cent.; but, since July, 1857, has regularly paid quarterly dividends of the like amount.

A limited number of shares of 50*l.* each, in the Capital Stock of the Patent Derrick Company remain for allotment. These shares are required to be paid as follows:—

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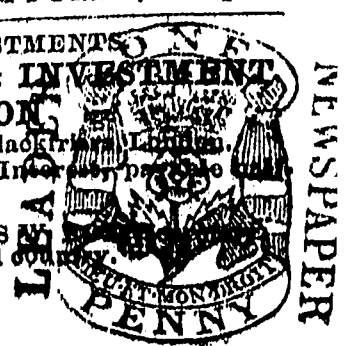
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(With power to add to their number.)

Two seats at the Board will be reserved for election from the shareholders at the First General Meeting.

AUDITORS.

George Daniel, Esq., 18, Cannonbury-square.
Henry William Sewell, Esq., Stoke Newington.

MANAGER—Edward Wilkins, Esq.

BANKERS—Union Bank of London.

OFFICES—Great Scotland Yard, Whitehall.

The advantages attending the employment of capital in the improvement of land are justly acknowledged; capital thus employed is, at the same time, the means of great social benefit, and productive to the investors of the highest rate consistent with perfect security.

Opportunities, however, for employing, individually, the smaller amounts of capital in this channel are necessarily limited. This advantage the present association will supply. The object proposed is as follows, viz.:

The working of a plan for increasing with certainty the produce of the soil, and by such means to bring into cultivation and render profitable lands hitherto entirely unproductive.

The value of the plan of sub-soil manurage, invented by Mr. Wilkins, has been fully tested, and it is especially applicable to the poorest lands. By the carrying out of this system Nature's own increase may, in many cases, be rendered twofold, and the crops, in a great degree, guarded against loss from the uncertainties of season and of temperature, whilst large annual crops may be taken from land now considered worthless.

Results already obtained form a basis of the fullest confidence for the project now brought forward.

The present company propose to carry out the plan, on an extended scale, for the growth (chiefly) of flax and hemp, Mangold Wurzel, and potatoes, being crops specially suited to this cultivation, and of an assured demand.

The former of these are crops of a very remunerative character, and of a great national importance. Farmers, however, are not induced to cultivate them, as they tend too much to impoverish the soil. Grown on the present principle, the soil is in no wise impoverished, and they can be produced year after year on the same land with unfailing success. Mr. Wilkins has even had two crops of flax in one year. For any quantity cultivated an immediate and certain market is open.

The Mangold Wurzel on this principle is a perfectly superior root to the ordinary mangold. From it the patentee has produced an excellent WINE, which can be sold at the rate of Two Shillings per gallon, and leave a net profit of over thirty per cent. Also (in mixture with flour) a wholesome and nutritious Bread, at one third less than the usual price. Neither of these important purposes can the ordinary mangold suffice.

His weight of this crop has reached the unprecedented amount of sixty-nine tons per acre.

Of the last mentioned (potatoes) little need be said. They would be produced in greater weight, with almost certain immunity from disease; and (by means of Mr. Wilkins's patent process for extracting the germs for planting) of a large and uniform size.

NOTE.—This patent has been purchased, independently, by the directors, and is the property of the company.

It is submitted that certain and assured returns of a very remunerative character may thus be realised on the capital of the company.

The operations of the company will be as follow, viz.:

- 1st. The purchase or leasing, at a low rate, of land adapted to their purpose;
- 2nd. The preparation of such land on their system of drainage, whereby it will be rendered highly productive; and
- 3rd. The cultivation—or the resale at enhanced prices—of the land thus prepared.

Thus the advantage of a combination of capital and resources in such an enterprise is obvious; and after making a careful allowance for all contingencies and expenses, it is estimated a net profit of twenty to twenty-five per cent. may be realised.

The directors have selected, and obtained the offer on very advantageous terms, of a plot of 600 acres of land well suited to this purpose, and which could be laid down at the minimum price. On two-thirds of the shares being taken up, the contract will be completed, and operations on the first portion at once commenced.

A further adaptation of the same principles to the construction of Vine Boxes and Flower Vases has also been patented.

These patents also are vested in the company, and the eminent success which has attended the manufacture and trial of these articles affords further warrant for confidence in success on the larger scale.

The Directors can state that this branch of the business is already organised, and first-class agencies appointed in various parts of the country (England, Scotland, and Ireland). Every preliminary expense has been paid, and considerable orders, both for home and export, are obtained.

These articles are calculated to command a large and very remunerative sale, and will realise a handsome profit to the shareholders.

Improved Model Cottages will be built upon the company's property in connexion with allotments of land. This obtains a fair and certain interest for such capital, and would prove of incalculable social advantage to the tenants.

DANIEL GREEN, jun., F.S.A., Secretary.

December 25th, 1858.

Applications for shares must be made in the annexed form, accompanied with a payment to the bankers, or to the secretary, of the deposit of 4*s*. per share.

If a less number be allotted than applied for, the amount so overpaid will be returned in full.

Interest at the rate of five per cent. will be allowed on shares paid up in advance.

By the provisions of the Act 19 and 20 Vict., the liability of shareholders is limited to the amount subscribed for. Prospectuses forwarded on application.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the Sub-soil and Cottage Improvement Company (Limited), Great Scotland-yard, Whitehall.

Gentlemen,—Having paid to your credit at the Union Bank of London (or remitted herewith) the sum of *£* I request you will allot me shares of one pound each in the above company; and I hereby agree to accept such shares, or any less number which may be allotted to me, to pay all calls thereon, and execute the deed of settlement when required; or in default of this to forfeit the deposit now paid.

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Review of the Week.

MR. BRIGHT appears, by his activity, determined to earn his right to the position which the country generally seems to have accorded to him on the subject of Reform. At Birmingham, Manchester, Edinburgh, and now at Glasgow, he has delivered addresses surpassing in importance all the rest of the Reform speeches of other speakers put together. He is doing his work, it is plain; and whatever the measure may be which he himself is preparing—whether it is destined to supersede the Government bill or not—his prefatory labours on the platforms of the great towns cannot but have a powerful influence on the course of Ministers. In the dead silence of the leading members of the Derby party, indeed, it is already fancied that the course the Government intend to pursue is, to a certain extent, made visible: waiting on the expression of the country's opinion evoked by the active labours of Mr. Bright and his party, the Government will measure the amount of amelioration to be offered in their bill. The complete silence of the chiefs of the Whig party on the question of Reform is much more mysterious, and the disunion of the Liberals seems only to become more and more confirmed. The only shadow of an explanation offered as to the silence of the Whig leaders is, that they too are waiting and watching the course of public opinion. In the mean time, the *Times* is nervous and irritated at the progress of that same public opinion, which it affects to regard as the opinion only of the Radical part of the community. The middle classes, it pretends, are being talked down, and it threatens them with universal suffrage, of which there does not appear the smallest chance, and with the ballot; as if the middle classes were the deadly opponents of secret voting. But if there is one thing more obvious than another, on the subject of the popular demand for Parliamentary Reform, it is that the time has passed when, by raising a cry, class could be set against class for party purposes. There never has been a time when the middle and lower classes have felt so much confidence in each other, or so much inclined to unite for their own joint benefit. The time of immoderate views and subversive demands has been outlived, and we have evidence without exception, perateness which has, almost without exception, ruled at meetings where there have been speakers holding extreme Radical opinions.

The news from abroad is led off by the story of the Count de Montalembert's appeal, which was heard on Tuesday. If there had been any doubt as to the wisdom of the Count and his advisers in appealing against the iniquitous sentence pronounced against him, the result of Tuesday's proceedings

would have done away with it; Count de Montalambert is acquitted of the charges of attacking the principle of Universal Suffrage, and the Constitutional rights of the Emperor; and he is sentenced to three instead of six months' imprisonment, the fine of 3000f. remaining unaltered. But nobody believes that the Count will suffer either fine or imprisonment; if the pardon of the 2nd of December is found to be informal, a new pardon will be pronounced, either on Christmas or New Year's-day. The results of the trial and appeal are felt by the opponents of the present régime to be a great triumph. The witty correspondent of the *Globe* tells us that the pardon of the anniversary of the *coup d'état* was called a *coup de grâce*; but the stroke was given with a knife that has cut none but the hand that used it. One striking consequence of the persecution of Count de Montalambert is seen in the esteem in which he is now held by the *prolétairé* class, the artisan, the "dangerous class" *par excellence*. Another very natural result has been an extensive demand for the famous "Debate on India," and we are told that this demand has been very ingeniously met by the publication of a large number of the pamphlet under the title of "Edni' L Rus Tabéd Nu, Par Ed Trebméletnoum," or the proper title printed backwards.

One other item of French news demands notice: it is a report that on Sunday last a detachment of French troops were marched into the valley of the Dappes, the Swiss valley to which claims have been set up by the Imperial Government. Great excitement is said to be felt in Switzerland at the proceeding, and the Swiss and Austrian presses are reported to be highly indignant; but the story has yet to be confirmed before we can comment upon it.

On the subject of the disturbed state of Italy we have no news of great importance, but several small incidents have come to our notice in confirmation of the serious view we have recently taken of the condition of Italy. Further denials have been made of the language attributed to Count Cavour on this subject. It is now said that he issued no such circular as the one ascribed to him; but it is admitted that the Sardinian Minister is wont to send a monthly lithographed circular to the Piedmontese representatives abroad, and in one of these it is possible he may have written something like the language reported. It is every day becoming clearer that it is not alone the extreme party in Italy that is impatient of Austrian rule; the aversion is as common to those of moderate views as to those of extreme views; and both are agreed that secure Italy for the Italians, even at the price of to see a civil war, would hardly be paying too dear. A European war, relative to the present state of the Austria is nervously anxious to prepare to resist it. popular temper, and is preparing her forces in. Within a few weeks she has recruited 10,000 men. Pavia Lombardy by the addition of 8000 men.

events are hurrying forward. A few day ago, it was discovered that a determined attempt had been made to burn the Austrian military forage magazine, and in secluded parts of the outskirts of the city several soldiers had been pelted with stones by unseen assailants. The latest sign of the popular ill-will has been open insult offered at Milan to the Archduke Maximilian, while walking with his wife, by a porter.

Turning to despotic Russia, we have a picture of autocratic power exerting itself, not without great peril, for the emancipation and enfranchisement of the serf-millions. After a desperate struggle the party which, in the General Commission at St. Petersburg, represents the extreme views of the Emperor, has triumphed over its more timid Conservative opponents, and has given to its master a highly satisfactory report on the progress of emancipation. In Russian-Poland the peasants have already been set free, their forced labour being commuted into a rent-payment for lands which are to be granted to them, under conditions that will probably at some not very distant time be found to require considerable amelioration, but which at the outset will secure to the emancipated peasant a living, with liberty.

From America we have Mr. Buchanan's Message to Congress, and we are struck with the grand simplicity of the story which the President tells of the progress of events in the United States during the past year. Nothing could be more unaffected or dignified than the language used throughout this long and elaborate résumé. We refer to it at length in another part of the paper; it may, therefore, be enough to remark here, that Mr. Buchanan speaks in the most friendly tone as regards England; and while pointing out the fact that there are still differences to be settled in connexion with the subject of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, points out that the settlement of these differences will "wipe out the last remaining subject of dispute between the two countries," and his tone is that of hopefulness as to the amicable adjustment of the question.

Some proceedings in the Belfast police-court, on Monday last, have given us a taste of the feeling which is active in connexion with the subject of the late arrests. Mr. Rea, solicitor for the accused persons, made an attempt to force on the public hearing of his clients, but he only succeeded in drawing from the committing magistrate the fact that the Irish Government have good grounds for the course they have taken, though they are not prepared to investigate the case publicly. Mr. Rea delivered himself of an opinion that the "British Constitution had left Belfast this last week," and he further intimated that he had considerable satisfaction in performing what he thinks a clear duty against the Crown, because he thinks it has not

done its duty by the Irish people. "I don't forget their services to myself," said Mr. Rea, "and I intend to repay them."

The case of "Harrison v. Pearce," for libel, tried in the Court of Exchequer on Tuesday and Wednesday, opens that difficult question, the rights of trades' union combinations, or rather the right of workmen to "dictate" the terms upon which they will work for their employers, and the means they may take to secure their own terms, by preventing others from underworking them. In the present case, Mr. Harrison, the proprietor of the *Sheffield Times*, objected to what he considered the "dictation" of the men employed in his printing-office, who were members of a working printers' union; and he proceeded to fill the places of the union men with other workmen who were not members of the union. The consequence of this proceeding was the publication of a libellous placard, which was repeated in the *Sheffield Daily News*, a rival paper, which warmly espoused the case of the outstanding union men. The libel had the effect of greatly damaging the sale of the *Sheffield Times*, and the jury gave 500*l.* damages. The point lost sight of throughout the Sheffield struggle appears to have been the perfect right of each party to decide for itself the terms which would give or receive labour, but not to coerce either side into an acceptance.

THE RIFF.—A letter from Spain says:—The pirates of the Riff having gained a certain notoriety by their repeated attacks on unarmed ships, it may not be uninteresting to you to know something of their country. The Riff commences at Tetuan, and extends along the coast of Morocco to Nemours, a distance of 150 miles. The country has a depth of territory varying from 10 to 30 miles; it is mountainous and difficult of access. In good seasons it produces much wheat and a greater quantity of barley, which is the principal food of the inhabitants. Well cultivated it would produce almost any crop, but at present it is in a miserable state. Excellent honey is found there, and numerous almond-trees. The pasturage is abundant, but of horned animals goats are the most numerous. The Riff is rich in iron, lead, and rock salt. The population of the Riff may be estimated at 80,000 souls, of which one-fifth is armed. It is divided into twenty-two tribes, and he among them who possesses a pair of oxen is regarded as a wealthy proprietor. The inhabitants of the Riff are barbarous thieves, whose entire pursuit is piracy. Muley Abderrahman, Emperor of Morocco, like a true Mussulman, delights in their success against Christians, but he will not assume the responsibility of their acts. He collects a light tribute from them through a Caid, as the head of their religion, and he leaves the Christian Powers full liberty to punish them for their acts of piracy. It is the general opinion that, without the aid of France, neither Spain nor Prussia can accomplish anything effective against the pirates of the Riff.

ST. THOMAS'S DAY.—The municipal elections in the numerous wards into which the City is divided took place on Tuesday. The question which chiefly occupied the attention of the various meetings was the proposed county rate for the erection of a new lunatic asylum. The opposition to this obnoxious rate was most emphatic, scarcely a voice being raised in its favour. The question of Parliamentary Reform was mooted in two wards, but in only one of them with success.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—At a special court, held on Monday, it was agreed to refer the question of the desirability of erecting drinking fountains in the City for the working classes to the City Lands Committee to examine and report thereon. The chairman of the General Purposes Committee brought up a report respecting the arrangements in progress for the fruit-meters. The report was agreed to, and referred back for execution by the committee. A report was brought up from the Officers and Clerks' Committee upon the mode of conducting business in this department; but, after a discussion upon some proposed amendments, the consideration of the report was adjourned, and the court separated.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS.—A conference of members and fellows of this body was held at the Freemasons' Tavern on Monday evening, when resolutions were carried unanimously to the effect that in the opinion of that conference the council, having excluded members and fellows from a voice in the election of their representative to the General Council of Medical Education and Registration, under the Medical Act, had thereby invaded the corporate rights of the members and fellows, and infringed the provisions of the act; and further, that in the opinion of the conference a principle was involved in the election that would subvert the representative rights granted to the members and fellows by the Legislature in that act. The meeting stands adjourned.

Home Intelligence.

POLITICAL FORESHADOWINGS.

MR. CRUM EWING, M.P.—At the Paisley meeting the hon. gentleman said that he concurred cordially with the resolutions on the ballot and triennial parliaments. He was also sensible of the anomalous nature and injustice of the present division of the country into electoral districts; but he had not yet heard any opinion on the subject in which he could fully concur. There was great danger in exact proportion of members to the population, and he instanced the case of London, which, on this principle, might have fifty or sixty members, who would, as the metropolitan members now do, combine for carrying out gross jobs—such, for example, as purifying the Thames—which they would fain have done at the expense of the whole country, while London ought alone to bear the cost. Mr. Ewing said that although not in favour of manhood suffrage, he would not support any measure that did not, in some way or other, recognise household suffrage.

PROVINCIAL MOVEMENTS.—On Saturday Lord William Graham was returned for Herefordshire without opposition. The noble Lord avowed himself to be an advocate of Conservative progress, but added that the Radicals had done the State some service.—At Stockport a crowded meeting adopted the Guildhall programme.—At Paisley an enthusiastic assemblage of Scottish men declared in favour of manhood suffrage.—At Horsham, a crowded public meeting was held on Monday. A deputation attended from the Ballot Society. A resolution in favour of the ballot accompanying any Reform Bill was voted unanimously, and it was arranged that the proceedings of the meeting should be communicated by letter to Lord Derby, to the members for the county, and to Mr. Seymour Fitzgerald, M.P., Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs and member for the borough.—A meeting of the Bradford Liberal Registration Society was held on Monday. It was stated that Mr. Bright had cheerfully accepted an invitation to address a public meeting at Bradford.—The adjourned meeting of the Manchester Manhood Suffrage Association was held on Tuesday. The principal resolution which was carried, ran as follows:—"That this meeting having accepted the principle of manhood suffrage, the vote by ballot, triennial Parliaments, and equal electoral districts, heartily recommends the Manhood Suffrage Association to the support of all thorough Reformers in Manchester and the surrounding districts."

THE BALLOT SOCIETY.—The weekly meeting of the executive committee was held on Tuesday. Mr. Washington Wilks was authorised to represent the society at Reform meetings in the North of England and in Scotland. A letter respecting the ballot in America, from a citizen of Edinburgh, formerly resident in the States, was read. This letter states:—"Lord Palmerston has said, that he defied any one to bring proof that there was anything like secret voting in America. How Lord Palmerston got this information I am of course ignorant, but I am not ignorant of this—that there is secret voting in America—and, further, that all Americans, who look up with pride to their constitution, look upon the ballot as one of the most important safeguards of that constitution."

MR. BRIGHT IN GLASGOW.—On Tuesday evening Mr. Bright addressed the citizens of Glasgow in the City-hall, which was densely crowded. Mr. Walter Buchanan, M.P., filled the chair, the Lord Provost of the city having declined. Mr. Bright said they were there to discuss a great constitutional question, and to consider how far they might with security extend the liberty they had received from their fathers. They might have liberty with monarchy, as they had in this country, and they might have a monarchy without liberty, as there was in many nations of the continent. He had been told that he used the same facts and figures in his addresses, but what if he had used other facts and figures when the case was the same? Suppose he were to assemble all the 6,000,000 men in Scotland upon a heath, which he would hardly do even in imagination, for fear of disturbing those sacred animals the grouse, the Constitution would say to 5,000,000 of these men, "We don't want you; you may return to your homes, and the million which remains will do your business for you." He alluded to the large number of members returned by small boroughs, and said it was impossible to devise a system more cumbrous and untrustworthy than that which now existed. As to the inequalities of representation, he remarked that Edinburgh and Glasgow, with a taxable property of 7,800,000*l.*, had only four members, while one hundred and one boroughs in England and Ireland had 128 members, although the value of the taxable property in these boroughs was less than 7,434,000*l.* Mr. Bright denied that he had in any way moderated his principles, and he declared himself anxious to see lodgers admitted to the franchise as they are admitted in some of the counties of Scotland, namely, by proving that they pay a rent of 10*l.* He had been informed that the Ballot at Edinburgh, and it had been intimated that he had changed his mind. He considered the Ballot absolutely indispensable in an extension of the suffrage. He presumed that any Reform

Bill would draw a line and disfranchise the burghs under it. He was satisfied that if they now changed the representation, and should they treat the great body of the people with generosity, before twenty years passed the course of generosity in 1859 would be found to be the path of absolute wisdom. He then spoke of the law of entail. The land in Scotland did not belong to the people. Was there any reason why land should not be as free as machinery, ships, household furniture, or the goods and manufactures in their warehouses? He had travelled from the rising to the setting of the sun upon the lands of one man, and found there few tenants and little agriculture. There was little social freedom, little industrial freedom, and less political freedom in districts such as these. He said the laws of primogeniture and entail were most pernicious, not only to agriculture, but to all other classes of the country. He then spoke at some length upon the selfish and unpatriotic manner in which foreign affairs were conducted. The people of this country knew as little of foreign affairs as did the people of Russia, Austria, and France. He also spoke briefly of the horrors of war. He compared Great Britain to Egypt, and the Foreign-office to an Egyptian temple, in which there were serpents and creeping things, in defence of which the British fleets were traversing the world, and their children's blood was shed like water. Reform in Parliament would change all this. He then spoke at considerable length on the extravagance of the Government. Freedom in land, he said, would produce as much benefit to the country as the abolition of the corn laws. He sat down after speaking two hours. Resolutions were passed in favour of his scheme of Reform.

MR. MONCRIEFF, M.P.—The late Lord Advocate addressed his constituents at Leith, on Monday, after expressing his opinion that the defeat of Lord Palmerston's Government was a national misfortune, and giving his reasons at great length. Mr. Moncrieff considered the general question of Reform, particularly animadverting on the views of Mr. Bright. As a member of a Government which had seven years previously introduced a Reform Bill, he (Mr. Moncrieff) thought the country did not need the advice of Mr. Bright. He was favourable to a large extension of the franchise, though he avoided pledging himself to any precise amount for fixing it. At the same time he showed that the voting mode proposed by Mr. Bright was totally inapplicable to Scotland, and could never be introduced there. He was in favour of a 10*l.* county franchise, but expressed himself in the most decided terms against the Ballot, which he considered to be thoroughly vicious in principle. He also exposed the absurdity of the system of electoral districts; and, with reference to the grievance in the ship-building trade, remarked that he would be most unwilling to have the reciprocity clause imposed, believing that, to do so, would be to imperil the advantages which Free-Trade had conferred on the country.

CRIMINAL RECORD.

The unfortunate man, Edward Tombes, who is charged with the murder of Charles Canty, by cutting his throat, still remains in Newgate, and it is the opinion of the medical officers of the prison that he is in a hopeless state of insanity. He is constantly raving, and does not appear to have the least consciousness that he has committed any offence. If he should continue in this condition he will, of course, remain in custody for the rest of his life.

At the Oxford Assizes a young woman named Mary Newell, has been tried for the murder of her illegitimate child by drowning. The case was fully proved against the prisoner. The defence was that she was driven to a state of madness by the brutal indifference of the father of the child, one William Francis, a poultryer at Reading, who had seduced her and left her to starve, speaking also very cruelly to her when she applied for assistance. She was found guilty, and sentenced to death, but recommended to mercy.

GATHERINGS FROM LAW AND POLICE COURTS.

A few days ago a dead body was found floating near Margate, and as it was discovered to be pierced with holes a suspicion of foul play was excited, and a coroner's inquest returned a verdict of willful murder against some person or persons unknown. At the Thames police-court, on Tuesday, the mystery was explained by a sailor, who said that about six weeks ago he was on board one of the light ships off Herne Bay, when a dead body floated past. Efforts were made to sink the body, but this being unsuccessful, it was placed in various places—hence the appearance of ill-usage which it presented. The body is believed to be that of a Newcastle pilot.

At the Thames police-court, on Tuesday, Frederick Goodley, who is charged with having attempted to murder his wife by deliberately attempting to cut her throat, has been committed for trial.

The polygamist, in whom Sir Robert Carden expressed so great an interest, is likely, it is believed, to

meet with his deserts. A man named Gloucester Gale was apprehended at Egham, on Sunday, on a charge of having married six wives. The prisoner is thought to be identical with the *soi-disant* mate of a ship regarding whom an application was made to the late Lord Mayor, when it was stated that the scoundrel referred to had contracted marriage with several young ladies of most respectable station, deserting them almost immediately afterwards. On being placed before Mr. Beadon, at Marlborough-street, his worship directed the inquiry to be transferred to Clerkenwell police-court, as it was within that jurisdiction the second matrimonial ceremony was performed.

Tuttlebee, Ashton, and Irving, who are in custody charged with stealing a bell, valued at 2000 guineas, from the grounds of Alderman Finnis, at Wanstead, were brought before the magistrates at Ilford on Saturday. All three were committed for trial.

The Assize intelligence of Monday records two capital convictions. At Taunton, William Burgess was convicted of the murder of his little daughter, aged six years, in Exmoor Forest; and at York, John Whitworth, quite a young man, was convicted of the murder of his sweetheart, Sally Hare. Both are sentenced to death.

At the Court of Bankruptcy, on Saturday, Mr. J. Townsend, described as auctioneer, and late M.P. for Greenwich, applied for a certificate. After a lengthened hearing, the Court deferred judgment.

At the Court of Common Pleas, Mr. McGeach, a respectable tradesman of Shrewsbury, has obtained 1000*l.* damages against the North-Western Railway Company for having been nearly killed in consequence of an accident on the 5th October in last year.

The alleged conspiracy of the General Omnibus Company against the Saloon Omnibus Company was proceeded with this week. One or two additional witnesses were heard in support of the charge of conspiracy, and another remand took place.

Higgins and Davis, charged with swindling Gruneberg, the nurseryman, have been committed for trial. It came out on the examination of Mr. Denis, the execution creditor in this business, that Higgins, unwilling doubtless to leave things half done, had made use of his liberty by bail to endeavour to get an execution in on Gruneberg's goods, although without success. Higgins was conveyed to gaol in default of bail, and Davis only walked out of court to be arrested for debt.

In the Court of Queen's Bench an action was brought by one Mr. Smith against the Great Northern Railway Company to recover damages for injuries which the plaintiff sustained by an accident on that railway. Lord Campbell ordered the jury to be locked up, and locked up they were all night till ten o'clock next morning, without fire, food, or drink. When called into Court, they all looked very ill, unwashed, unshaven, and unkempt, and one of their number had to be attended by a doctor during the night. When asked, they said they had not agreed, and could not agree; and then Lord Campbell told them it was clear when they gave in the verdict of a furthering damages overnight, that they were not then agreed, that the ridiculous unreasonableness of such a verdict, when substantial damages were due, was a proof that they were not agreed, and that for that reason he had refused to accept it. His Lordship having further lectured the jury, discharged them. Both Lord Campbell and the Lord Chief Baron have lately expressed their opinion strongly in favour of an alteration in the law as regards the trial by jury.

Several petitions for dissolution of marriage on the grounds of adultery and desertion came before the Court of Divorce this week. In the Marchmont case an application was made to the Judge Ordinary to give effect to the finding of the jury by pronouncing a decree of judicial separation. The counsel for Mr. Marchmont, in reply, intimated that such a decree, if made, would be appealed from. The judge therefore declined to pronounce it, preferring that a new trial should be moved for before the whole Court, a course which Mr. Marchmont's counsel said he should adopt.

Charles Hodgson, the chemist from whose shop the arsenic was supplied which caused so many deaths when eaten in the form of lozenges at Bradford, was tried for manslaughter at York, before Baron Watson, on Tuesday. The evidence having shown that he had frequently cautioned the shopman who sold the poison to be careful, and particularly regarding arsenic, the judge held that there was no proof of negligence, and directed a verdict of acquittal. His Lordship expressed no opinion as to the practice of selling "daff" or terra alba for the purpose of adulteration, which was the actual cause of the mischief.

In the Court of Common Pleas an action has been brought by the proprietor of the *Sheffield Daily News*, and two other papers, against the proprietor of the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*, for publishing a series of libels, these libels consisting of attacks upon the plaintiff, arising out of a claim between him and the Printers' Combination Society. The trial occupied two days, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 500*l.*

The Tweed salmon question has again turned up in the Manson-house. Rosetta Meyer, wife of Mr. Meyer, of Billingsgate, was charged with being in unlawful

possession of sixty-four salmon after the season had closed. Sir R. Carden imposed a heavy fine.

A gang of coiners were captured in St. Luke's on Wednesday, and brought up before the Clerkenwell magistrate, by whom they were remanded.

As a man named George May was being conveyed to Wandsworth House of Correction, in the prison van, from Southwark police-court, where the magistrate had sentenced him to a month's imprisonment for deserting his wife, he cut his throat. The wretched man now lies in the infirmary at the point of death.

At the Court of Bankruptcy this week, a dividend sitting under the bankruptcy of Leopold Redpath, notorious as the perpetrator of the frauds upon the Great Northern Railway Company, which lately excited so much public attention, was adjourned in consequence of the non-receipt, through technical obstructions, of a considerable sum of money.

IRELAND.

The affair of the arrests continues nearly at a standstill, and since Saturday last the authorities seem to have made but little progress in the unravelling of the plot—for a plot there undoubtedly has been, though its precise objects are as yet by no means made clear. The idea of a special commission, if ever entertained, is wholly abandoned. With the exception of the principals, all the prisoners have been admitted to bail—bound over, however, in heavy recognisances to stand their trial at the ensuing spring assizes. The evidence of the approver, it seems, has been sustained by other parties, whose voluntary appearance in the capacity of "informers" forms the strangest episode in the whole proceedings.

NAVAL AND MILITARY.

By our advices from Australia it appears that up to the time of the despatch of the mail nothing whatever has been heard of the *Sappho*, 12, Commander Fairfax Moresby, which sailed from the Cape of Good Hope for Australia in the month of January last. Her Majesty's screw steamer *Cordelia*, 11, Commander C. E. H. Vernon, had arrived from making a careful search along the whole track the missing vessel was supposed to have taken, but without meeting with any traces whatever of her. There is, therefore, too much reason to fear that the vessel has foundered at sea, and that all on board have perished.

The Secretary of State for War has directed that the contribution for messing, to be paid by officers of all arms of her Majesty's service, including officers of the cavalry and staff officers, for the entire passage to and from India to this country, whether proceeding by the overland or by sea route, be fixed at the uniform rate of five pounds for each officer.

A court-martial was held on board the Victory flag-ship on Tuesday, to try the captain and master of her Majesty's screw frigate *Curaçoa*, 31 guns, when at Smyrna, for allowing that ship to get ashore. The witnesses having given evidence, Captain Mason read his own defence; the master simply handed in certificates. The court recommended the captain and master to be more cautious for the future.

The half-yearly examination of the gentlemen cadets belonging to the Royal Military Academy of Woolwich, took place on Tuesday. The whole of the students, to the number of one hundred and thirty, were drawn up on the arrival of the Duke of Cambridge, by whom they were inspected. His Royal Highness subsequently distributed the prizes to the following gentlemen:—Messrs. Anderson, Carroll, Woodward, Grover, Johnson, Haig, E. Harvey, Deshon, Marshall, Jesson, Featherstonhaugh, Macpherson, Bailey, Wilson, and Hepper. The Duke then addressed the cadets, expressing his satisfaction at their conduct, and the progress they had made in their studies. He also complimented the professors on the satisfactory result of their instruction. His Royal Highness afterwards inspected the entire corps of artillery, which were mustered for the purpose, and entered the Gymnasium, where a number of men were put through a course of attack and defence with the carbine and fixed sword.

NOVEL RELIGIOUS VIEWS.—The *Israelite*, an American journal, says:—"In this vicinity (Sioux City, Iowa, United States) an American farmer, with the whole of his family, has embraced the religion of Moses and the Prophets. The pious man performed circumcision on himself, and now lives strictly according to Judaism, as far as he knows."

CAMBRIDGE MIDDLE CLASS EXAMINATIONS.—The University has sent examiners to Birmingham, Brighton, Bristol, Grantham, Liverpool, London, and Norwich; and the examination would begin on the same day in all the above places, and thus the same set of papers, printed at Cambridge, would serve for all. When the examination is over—it will last six or seven days—the answers of the candidates will be brought up from all the different places, and the papers will be examined, and the places determined, in Cambridge. It will be about a month before the list comes out. In all there are nearly 450 candidates.—*Cambridge Independent*.

Foreign Intelligence.

CONTINENTAL NOTES.

FRANCE.

THERE is a settled impression in Paris that war in Italy is a probable event for next spring. The question is continually recurring in the French journals; one says there "is nothing in it;" another affirms that "there is something;" while a third says, "it is the great question of the moment."

A new political journal of great pretensions is about to appear in Paris, under the auspices of MM. Debraux and Cucheval Clarigny. The paper, which is to be a weekly one, is to be called the *Mémorial Diplomatique*; the first number will appear on January 2. It is probable that it will advocate the maintenance of the *status quo* in Lombardy in the interests of the peace of Europe and so far support Austrian policy. A good many Parisian journalists of ability and experience are likely to cast in their lot with this attempt to establish an independent journal destined to treat mainly of foreign policy.

M. Rigault, the eminent ex-professor and writer of the *Débats*, is seriously ill. While writing an article, his brain gave way, and it was found that he was—temporarily, it is hoped—afflicted with a total loss of memory.

M. Gondou, formerly a writer in the *Univers*, but who seceded from the staff of that journal about two years since, lately attempted to found a new religious journal under the title of the *Universel*. The Government has, however, refused the authorisation, in consequence of a suspicion that M. de Montalembert might possibly write in it.

The commission with which Prince Napoleon has surrounded himself to advise him in the government of the colonies of Algeria has met for the first time in Paris. The Prince presided, and delivered an opening speech, which seems to have made a very favourable impression on the audience. The commission has divided itself into three sections: one for public works in general, one for railways, and one for questions of colonisation and for the tenure of land.

The Grand-Duke Constantine arrived in Paris from Toulon on Monday, under the travelling name of Admiral Romanoff.

Prince Jerome gave a grand dinner on Sunday, at the Palais Royal, on the occasion of his entering his 75th year.

Although it is hardly probable that the Emperor will risk a quarrel with England by continuing the slave trade, reports are abroad from which it is to be inferred that some temporising on the subject is to be practised. It is said that in the event of the immigration of negroes not being abandoned, a superior functionary, with four inspectors, will be posted at the different slave-market stations in Africa, in order to superintend the transactions in black flesh.

The legislative labours of the session will commence on February 7.

The Emperor went this week to the Russian Embassy, where the Grand-Duke Constantine was at the time. His Majesty remained about half an hour. Count de Kisselef, in honour of the Grand-Duke's arrival, gave a grand dinner, at which were present Count Walewski, M. Fould, and a number of French and Russian personages.

SPAIN.

General Prim, the leader of the Liberals in Spain, has opposed in the Cortes, in the boldest possible way, that war against the Mexican Republic into which Queen Isabella's Government wants to engage. The Ministry, in reply to General Prim, said that the passage in the royal speech that brought the General out did not mean what he understood it to mean, but simply asserted that, in case the negotiations still carried on with England and France, and through them with the Republic, remained without result, then Spain was prepared for war. The journals state that in the sitting of the Senate, on General Prim's amendment, the absence of many of the senators was remarkable. The opposition press had seized upon the fact, and had observed that, though favourable to the Government policy in Mexican affairs, yet they desired to withhold their countenance from the Ministers.

The Spanish fleet which is to act in case of hostilities against the Moors is to remain at Algeiras till the result of the negotiations with the Court of Fez is known.

The Count de Paris arrived at Seville on the 17th, on a visit to the Duke de Montpensier.

The Spanish Senate has approved the address in answer to the Speech from the Throne by 108 against 28 votes.

PRUSSIA.

Arrests have been made in the matter of the *épergne* which the city of Cologne gave the Princess Frederick William on her marriage. Better still, the whole of the precious metal, or very nearly the whole, has been recovered, although melted down, so that the costly workmanship of the piece is lost. It was stolen during the night of the 4th, but was somehow not missed till several days later. The persons in custody are a ser-

vant of the palace, aged sixty-eight, father of a family, and a silversmith, a man of bad character, who has been before convicted.

LOMBARDY.

The Archduke Maximilian and his wife have been grossly insulted in the streets of Milan by a man of the lower orders—a facchino, or porter. It is believed in Milan that the man was summarily punished by a flogging.

The Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian is doing all in his power to make himself popular in Lombardy and Venice. His friends relate that he disapproves the new laws for supplying the army with recruits, and has informed the Imperial Government that such is the case.

In order that the lower classes should suffer as little as possible by the change in the currency, the Milan Mint gives new copper coins in exchange for the old coins of five cents, which are taken at their full nominal value. New silver coins are also given in exchange for the old "zwanzigers."

A few days since Count Gyulai returned to his post in Italy, and it is believed that he is furnished with greater powers than he had before he came to this city. Military men appear to have a high opinion of the Count.

SARDINIA.

A letter from Nice, dated December 16, says:—Admiral Istmin has arrived in Villafranca Bay, and has hoisted his flag as second in command under the High Admiral Grand-Duke Constantine. The Russian squadron concentrated in these waters has been raised by fresh arrivals to a very respectable strength; and it may really be inquired what necessity exists for this naval demonstration. The force is composed of the Retizian, screw line-of-battle ship; Polkan and Gamboy, screw frigates; Baian and Rurick, screw corvettes. Two other frigates are recorded as on their way. Nothing certain is known respecting the intended movements of the fleet. The squadron will probably proceed to Cadiz and other Spanish ports, and then return to Villafranca. Should it subsequently proceed eastwards and accompany the Prince to Jaffa on his talked-of pilgrimage to the Holy Land, work may be cut out for diplomacy.

The correspondent of the *Times* at Turin says:—"The most moderate people here seem to forget the world moderation when the questions of Italian nationality and of Austrian rule are brought forward. The fixed and immovable idea is to drive out the foreigner and have Italy for the Italians, and I hope I do not wrong them when I express my belief that they would deem the attainment of that end cheaply purchased by a general war in Europe. Europe might think this rather too high a price to pay even for the emancipation of the Italians. It is certainly to be deplored that misgovernment and oppression have been suffered to be carried to such an extent that now no concession would be held satisfactory, and every hope of improvement is based upon anticipations of an armed and desperate struggle."

RUSSIA.

A Russian fort has fallen into the hands of the Circassians, who were led by Sefer Pasha's son.

The Imperial Foreign-office has granted Mr. S. Dufour, the bookseller of the Russian Court, to be the director of the French *Journal de St. Petersburg*, and to have the right of its publication for fifteen years. This journal will consequently appear, from the 1st of January, 1859, and treat of politics, commerce, and literature.

DENMARK.

The German Diet has come to the resolution to await what propositions of constitutional arrangement the King of Denmark will lay before the Estates of Holstein, which are to assemble on the 12th of January, and not to negotiate beforehand with him on what he may himself propose. Whatever the relations between Denmark and Holstein are, the King's sovereign rights as Duke of Holstein must be respected.

SWITZERLAND.

On the 29th of November fifty French soldiers, belonging to the garrison of the Fort des Rousses, entered the Dappenthal, and advanced as far as the Grevine. This unceremonious occupation of a part of the Federal territory has created a great sensation in Switzerland, and the Federal Council is about to ask the French Government for an explanation of its conduct.

BELGIUM.

The debate on postal reform in the Belgian Chamber has been continued, and was not concluded when the last mail left. The proposition of the reformers is to introduce the system of penny postage unreservedly.

In connexion with the prosecution of *Le Correspondant*, a stormy discussion has arisen in the Belgian Chamber, *à propos* of a bill framed on the laws of September, 1836, imposing a fine of 10,000 fr. and five years' imprisonment as a maximum penalty for press articles against the governmental authority. The Ministry was assailed by M. Dufre (member for Brussels), and the debate was adjourned. The metropolitan member deprecated most vigorously the importation of French laws into Belgium.

SWEDEN.

Intelligence from Stockholm states that the health of the King is seriously impaired. His appetite and power to sleep diminish, and his strength falls.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

A despatch dated Corfu, Dec. 14, says:—"A few days ago Mr. Gladstone went to the southern Ionian Islands and to Greece. Shortly before his departure there was a demonstration at Santa Maura in favour of an annexation with Greece. The Municipal Council of Zante has addressed a memorial to Mr. Gladstone, in which it is said that the best thing England can do to improve the political position of the Ionian Islands is to consent to their being united to the Kingdom of Greece. The Municipal Council further expressed a hope that Mr. Gladstone would communicate to her Majesty the Queen the wishes of the Ionians."

TURKEY.

A letter of the 8th from Constantinople quotes intelligence from Aleppo, to the effect that the governor of the province has arrested Karaieid Oglou Ali, a brigand chief, who for the last twenty years has been carrying on his depredations on the roads about that city.

Letters from Beyrout state that Ismail Hcir Bey, the rebel chief of the district of Safita, who, after his defeat in the late disturbances, took refuge in the village of Ansaries, on the territory of Hama, was pursued so closely by the Ottoman troops that he surrendered. The Pasha was disposed to treat him with clemency, but the inhabitants did not give him time. They seized on the rebel, his son, and his brother, and cut off their heads.

The note of the Porte has been published, in which the Turkish Government makes excuses for having admitted the American frigate Wabash to the Dardanelles, and promises for the future to adhere strictly to the Paris Treaty.

A letter from Belgrade of the 13th instant announces the assembling of the Skuptschina. Afterwards there was a grand reception at the palace. A certain number of deputies, however, refused to attend it, as well as the grand banquet which the Prince gave next day to the National Assembly. Many of the deputies base their refusal on the ground that they have come to discharge the business of the country, and, that until that is done, there ought to be no amusements. This shows what the Prince has to expect from the Skuptschina. Belgrade was looking very much like an English town during an election. All was political stir and life, the people in crowds in the streets, discussing, and yet the greatest order and decorum prevailing.

The Turkish Government has formed a commission at Constantinople to draw up a new Ottoman dictionary.

The *Journal de Constantinople* publishes a decree making the following nominations:—Ali Pasha, at present governor of Djeddah, is confirmed in that post. Mahmud Pasha, who had been named to the post of Djeddah, is appointed governor of Kurdistan. Ali Kiamly Pasha, governor of Kurdistan, is appointed governor of Damascus.

AUSTRIA.

A letter from Vienna says:—"There is reason to believe that the highest and most influential persons in the empire are beginning to observe that they committed a gross political blunder when they gave such unlimited powers to the Roman Catholic clergy. Since the publication of the Concordat there has been nothing but discord at home and unpleasant complications abroad. The Government would fain do something for the Protestants, and the Emperor himself is of opinion that their reasonable wishes should be attended to, but the Ultramontane party is so strong that no power in the state is now able to overcome its passive resistance. The consequences of the Concordat have, if possible, been even more disastrous abroad than they have been at home. With the exception of Naples, Tuscany, and Rome, Austria has no ally. It would be good policy for England to be on intimate terms with her; but no British Ministry can venture to go hand in hand with a power which barely tolerates Protestantism."

NAPLES.

A telegram of the 21st indicates the confirmed hostility of the King of Naples to French interference. Monsieur d'Agiout had brought fresh capital and skill to the undertaking of a line from the Appian Way to the remote seaport of Otranto, and had lodged a very large sum as caution money for the due execution of the contract. On some flimsy pretext the King has confiscated the deposit, and annulled the contract. A similar proceeding had already occurred in the Castellamare line of rail.

PORTUGAL.

The commission for the revision of the tariff has held repeated meetings lately, but the results will scarcely be ready for presentation during the present session.

In a short time the railway question will be brought before the Cortes.

Many of the documents respecting the Charles-et-Georges question have been published, and the Marquis de Loulé has declared with respect to some papers which were not published, that the Government did not think it expedient to publish them, but they would be laid on the table for the examination of the deputies, they being the judges of the secrecy and confidence which ought to be maintained; the Marquis also stated that he would give all explanation in public session when the matter was discussed.

ROME.

Some difficulty has been experienced in collecting the taxes in Romagna Campagna, and it is said that Cardinal Antonelli having applied to General Guyon for the assistance of French soldiers in the collection, the General had refused. He said neither he nor his men were tax-gatherers.

THE DE MONTALEMBERT APPEAL.

The appeal of Count de Montalembert against the judgment of the Court of Police Correctionnelle, which sentenced him on the 25th of November to imprisonment for six months and a fine of 3000fr., was heard on Tuesday in the Appeal Court of the Imperial Court of Paris.

The court sat at half-past eleven. M. Dufaure commenced in support of the appeal. M. Chaix d'Est-Ange replied to M. Dufaure, and M. Berryer followed. The police regulations at the last trial were justly commented upon. No such severity was exercised on this occasion, and several persons were observed taking notes of the proceedings without hindrance. There were not less than eleven judges. The president of the court, M. Perrot de Chezelles, is described as an enlightened and impartial magistrate.

A few minutes before eleven the judges entered, and M. de Montalembert was called in. He stood up and answered to the customary interrogatory. The "proceedings," or minutes of the former trial, and judgments were read by M. Treillard, as reporter.

M. Dufaure opened the pleadings. He went over the history of the case, as he did in the Police Correctionnelle. He related the early career of his client; and the remarkable part he had played for nearly twenty-eight years in public affairs. He denied that the note in the *Moniteur* which proclaimed the Imperial pardon granted to his client was a pardon in the proper sense of the word. It was only a limited remission of the sentence, because it did not free the accused from the effects of the penal law of the 27th of February, 1838. It still left him exposed for the rest of his life to the chance of being transported to Algeria, or exiled, without trial or judgment; nothing was remitted but the penalty pronounced by the Police Correctionnelle. It was for that reason that he appealed—that he called upon the court to quash the judgment of the Police Correctionnelle. M. Dufaure again examined the passages of the article in the *Correspondant*. He maintained that, in praising the institutions of England, there was no defamation or attack on those of France. That which he did attack was the system of calumny and hatred adopted by those whose constant practice was to abuse England and to exalt the rebels in India. He only attacked the *so-disant* Conservative and Catholic press of France; and throughout the whole of the article of the *Correspondant* the same spirit is observable. Surely it could not be made the ground of a criminal charge that a writer should speak in praise of England? If such be the case, then "Montesquieu," and all works written in praise of English institutions, must be at once suppressed. If writers are allowed in France to traduce England and its Government, others should be allowed to say something in praise of them. M. Dufaure again retraced the early career of M. de Montalembert—his advocacy of civil and religious liberty—of the liberty of instruction. All his triumphs were won in the tribune—was it strange that he should love its traditions, cling to the recollections of his younger days, and praise the freedom of Parliamentary institutions?

The speech lasted an hour and a half. When he ended, M. Odilon Barrot crossed the floor and shook him warmly by the hand.

The Procureur-Général, M. Chaix d'Est-Ange, followed. He read the whole of the passages of M. de Montalembert's article and several extracts to show that his intention was to attack the Imperial Government. He said that England had spent much time in acquiring her present liberties, and she had not passed through so many ordeals as France. In England there formerly existed severe laws against the press, and he read passages from old statutes showing the rigour of the English law against those who spoke or wrote against the sovereign. He related the history of the Indian insurrection as recounted by M. de Montalembert. He ridiculed the debate on that occasion in the British Parliament. It was only a contest between Lord Derby and Lord Palmerston as to who should be in office. He read a passage from the speech of Mr. Roebuck (whose name, by the way, he made several vain attempts to pronounce, and at last gave it up in despair). The debate, he considered, was vain and sterile. M. de Montalembert did excite to hatred of the Imperial Government, and his glorification of England and of English institutions was nothing more than an attack on France. M. Chaix d'Est-Ange spoke an hour and a half. There were signs of disapprobation during his speech.

M. Berryer, for M. de Montalembert, went over the same ground as his colleague, M. Dufaure. He said it was useless to try to impose silence on his client, as you could not impose it on the rest of mankind, or prevent them by the most stringent laws from expressing their love of liberal institutions. He denied that the debate

in the English Parliament was the vain and sterile contest the Procureur-Général described. It was not merely a struggle for place and power—it was something of a high and a noble character. He eulogised Lord Ellenborough for having given up his place in the Cabinet when he found that his despatch to Lord Canning was condemned in Parliament. He alluded to the pardon accorded to M. de Montalembert, as announced in the *Moniteur*, and said it was couched in a form offensive to M. de Montalembert. He described the conduct of his client on the 2nd of December. M. de Montalembert, as President of the Electoral Committee of the Rue des Pyramides, had signed a protest against the forcible dissolution of the National Assembly, and he read portions of his letter of the 12th of December. He defended his client for not having accepted the pardon. In this he only imitated the Emperor himself, who declared to him (M. Berryer), when visiting him in the fortress of Ham in 1845, that he should not ask for an amnesty from the Government of Louis Philippe. M. Berryer spoke for two hours and a half, and was much applauded.

M. Chaix d'Est-Ange again addressed the court, on account, he said, of a personal allusion made by M. Berryer, who had spoken of persons whose conversion to Imperialism coincided with their elevation to rank, honours, and fortune. He denied that he owed his fortune or reputation to his conversion.

The Judges remained in deliberation two hours and a half. The judgment reduced to three months, instead of six; the term of imprisonment imposed by the Police Court; maintained the 3000fr. fine, but by the withdrawal of one of the counts in the indictment completely freed M. de Montalembert from the effects of the law of the 27th of February, 1858, under which, even after completing his punishment, he was liable to be transported to Algeria or be exiled. As this was one of the principal objects of the appeal against the sentence of the Police Court, the judgment of the Cour Impériale is unquestionably a triumph over the Government.

INDIA.

THE Bombay Mail has arrived with intelligence to the 25th November, which has already been summarised in the telegraphic despatches.

There are many speculations as to the course which Lord Clyde will pursue for the purpose of pacifying Oude. The suggestion of the Lucknow correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* is to the effect that the object of the Commander-in-Chief is to clear the Baiswara country, now under the control of Benin Madho Sing, and so work gradually up in the direction of the Gogra river, while all the columns north of Lucknow work southwards in the same direction. It is further supposed that during the time we are pursuing this course, the Ghats along the other banks of the Ganges will be scoured by a sufficient force to prevent the crossing of bodies of the enemy.

TANTIA TOPEE.

This chieftain is thus described by the *Daily News* correspondent:—Tantia Topee is a Mahatta, and a soldier by profession. He is of mean origin, of no education, and destitute of talent—unless the Pindaree characteristics which he has displayed of late can be regarded as such. He can neither read nor write, but he possesses courage, and his followers have confidence in him. Containing in himself all the energy and perseverance of a robust and vigorous frame, he infuses zeal and strength into others more by his physical than moral example. He is perfectly acquainted with our system of warfare, and prefers fatiguing us by our pursuit of him, to meeting us in the field. Tantia Topee is in the vigour of manhood, being about forty years of age. He is rather above the middle height, and is in person vigorous and robust. His countenance is good, and his bearing bold and martial. His eyes are piercing, fierce, and restless; the eyebrows black and oval-shaped; the forehead high and expansive; the nose aquiline; the mouth small, and the lips compressed, covering while in repose the teeth, which are, as is usual amongst natives, of ivory whiteness. His whiskers are black, and his complexion olive. He dresses very plainly, seeking comfort rather than ostentation, and wears generally the loose white robes of the Hindoos, with a Cashmere shawl thrown over his shoulders. His usual guard is composed of twenty or thirty men; but he dispenses with this pomp on the field of battle. He is frequently seen on horseback, and only resorts to a palanquin when wounded or over-fatigued. He styles himself the Viceroy of the Polishwa Nana Sahib, and indulges in dreams which he will never see realised. His followers are losing heart, and desertions are numerous.

THE ARMY ON THE MARCH.

Mr. Russell writes:—"No one who has not beheld Mars making war upon Ceres in India can imagine the dreadful damage inflicted by his legions. Sugar plantations are crunched up by the acre by the elephants, who also strip away the leaves of trees, and devour shrubs, plants, and walking sticks, or the shavings of them, with provoking appetite and indifference. Camels growl and gobble up everything edible in the reach of their long necks and flexible lips; goats revel in the gardens; the bullocks, buffaloes, and ponies crash through fields of dall and pulse and various grain,

beating them down into a fragrant carpet, representing the produce of half the country. Then comes the heavy beat of squadrons of cavalry, the continuous, monotonous tramp of infantry; the guns, each wheel tearing a deep furrow in the fields; the mortars; thousands, literally thousands, of carts, laden with food and ammunition, shot and shell—all in one line, about 150 yards broad and as long as our march, right over the crops and harvest. Yesterday we marched 13½ miles. I should like to go over the ground and see what it looks like now. I know that as we advanced there were indeed patches of sandy soil studded with stumpy bushes which lay fallow or uncultivated, but the greater part of our route lay through corn-fields, in which the young wheat was just springing and looking timidly a few inches above the surface, or cates of unknown crops, some as high as a horseman's waist. May Heaven keep war away from our own doors! I could not help thinking as I looked around me of such a march across the odorous culture of Mr. Mechi, if the caprice of invaders and the greatness of misfortune ever led an enemy, in default of roads, to pass by Tiptree-hall. But the evil does not cease at the end of our march. The head of the column halts in the plain; the tapering line, which is lost in the dust in the far distance, seems to grow thicker and thicker as it approaches, to spread out and expand and swallow up the line, which grows to lose itself in the mass. But, as the canvas of the camp rises and the pickets are posted, out fly the camp-followers like locusts hatched at one batch, and in myriads wonderful burst from the bowels of the army. It would seem, indeed, as if our troops were merely the protectors of these destroying swarms. Everything that grows and is fit for food of man or beast is cut, carried off, sucked or chewed, or boiled or roasted, or eaten raw. Far out on the plains on all sides may be seen moving heaps of fodder, with little black feet just visible below the overhanging luxuriance of green. Ants are not so laborious or so strong."

COCHIN-CHINA.

A DESPATCH from Manilla, dated the 23rd October, supporting the rumour of an insurrection in Cochin China, says the chief of the insurrection is a Prince of the dynasty of the Trinh, whose father died in the year 1851, and who enjoyed great popularity at Tonking. His tyranny is not confined to the Christians; it oppresses the entire population of the states, and particularly the inhabitants of Tonking, who are said to feel much aversion for his government, and this explains the encouragement given to the chief of the present insurrection, who is the last legitimate descendant of the dynasty of Trinh. It is added that the pretender has shown a friendly feeling towards the Christians, whom he wishes to attach to his cause.

FRIENDLY ISLES.

THE New Zealand papers contain an account of an aggression of the French at the Friendly Isles. On the 7th of July last, some French priests landed at Lifuka, on the Haabai group of islands, and insisted on leaving one of their number there to promote the Catholic faith. The native governor said that strangers could not settle there without the consent of the king, who was then at Tonga. The French priests then left for Tonga, where a French frigate was lying; and, on the ground that the governor of Haabai's refusal was in violation of a treaty with the French, the king was compelled to promise to remove the native governor, to convey the French priests to Lifuka, with their servants and baggage, and to build a permanent residence for them.

AMERICA.

THE following is a summary of the President's Message. Mr. Buchanan ranges over a variety of topics, beginning with Kansas and ending with the slave Echo. With respect to the relations between England and the United States he speaks of them in the best terms. They are of the most amicable character. The long-pending controversy relating to the question of visitation and search has been amicably adjusted. Proposals for verifying the nationality of vessels suspected on good grounds of carrying false colours will be considered in the best spirit, and negotiations are still pending with a view to the settlement of the Bulwer-Clayton Treaty. The President disclaims the desire of obtaining Cuba by any other mode than that of honourable negotiation, although he throws out vague hints as to an alternative that might arise. The Message says the transit routes upon the Isthmus are in a very unsatisfactory condition. The highway is the property of all nations, and it is the right of the American Government to see that it is kept open. One of these routes—that by Nicaragua—has been closed, and a treaty concluded with the States Government by the Nicaraguan Minister has been defeated by that state. The President asks power to employ the land and naval forces of the country in keeping these routes open to the commerce of the world. Against Costa Rica and New Granada the States have just claims, which ought to be enforced. Brazil owes the States money, which ought to be paid. And Paraguay, it is hoped, will come to reason before being compelled

to yield to force. The commercial condition of the country is discussed at some length, but without eliciting any special light. The President recommends a bankrupt law, and an increase of the revenue by an increase tariff, with specific duties. The expenses of the year have been 81,585,667 dols., including 9,684,537 dols. applied to the payment of the public debt, which now amounts in the aggregate to 54,910,777 dols. It is estimated that the expenditures of the next fiscal year will be 73,139,147 dols.—or 4,075,848 dols. over receipts. A larger navy and larger postage receipts are required. A Pacific railroad is recommended. These are the principal points of this document.

WEST INDIES.

MARTINIQUE.

ACCOUNTS to the 28th ult. have arrived. The Council-General had voted the establishment of a careening dock at Port de France, and the introduction of 18,000 immigrants, Africans and Chinese. This large number was considered necessary in consequence of the increasing desertions of labourers in the island; 515 coolies had arrived from Pondicherry.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

DE MONTALEMBERT'S APPEAL.

PARIS, Wednesday, 6½ P.M.

YESTERDAY was tried the appeal of M. le Comte de Montalembert, before the Cour Impériale de Paris, and in the chamber presided over by M. Perrot de Chezelles, who enjoys a high reputation for independence and uprightness. The appeal, as you will perceive, was unsuccessful, except in obtaining the reduction of the term of imprisonment from six to three months. With regard to the term of imprisonment and amount of fine inflicted on M. Montalembert, I can only repeat what I said last week. They are the least significant part of his punishment—*le cadet de ses soucis*. It is the judgment of the police tribunal which renders him liable to be placed under the jurisdiction of the *Loi des Suspects*—liable to the surveillance of the haute police, and liable to be imprisoned and transported without any further trial or judicial proceedings, and at the caprice of any Government official. It appears that the pardon was not pleaded, but M. Chaix d'Est-Ange, the Procureur-Impérial, confined his requisition to the confirmation of the judgment. M. Dufaure commenced the defence of M. Montalembert and M. Berryer concluded it, M. Chaix d'Est-Ange speaking between the two. After hearing the speeches on both sides, the court withdrew at a quarter past five o'clock to deliberate, and re-entered the court at half-past seven to give the verdict, which is as follows:—

"Whereas, if the law confers on citizens the right to discuss the laws and acts of the Government, the laws relative to the press forbid and punish outrage against the fundamental principles of our political institutions, against the authority of the chief of the State, attacks against the respect due to the laws, and exciting to hatred and contempt of Government;

"Whereas, in the article in the *Correspondant*, entitled 'A Debate on India in the English Parliament,' published in the number of the 25th October, devoted to the examination of a question of foreign policy, are to be found several passages relative to France, stamped with bitterness and a spirit of depreciation, in which the author seeks to disconsider France, its laws, and its Government;

"That in the said article are to be found attacks against the respect due to the law, and to the inviolability they have consecrated, especially at pages 215 and 258, where our legislation is signalled 'as leaving the faculty to speak but by order and by permission, under the salutary terror of a warning from above if one has had the boldness to oppose the ideas of authority, or of the vulgar;' and again, 'as rendering impossible the daily discussion between the organs, of which some only have the right to speak out, and will always be guided, more or less voluntarily, to decoy their adversaries on to a ground where the official gag awaits them;'

"Attacks of which the publication in a journal that has been offered for sale and circulated constitute a misdemeanour provided for and punished by Art. 3 of the law of the 27th July, 1847;

"That in the entirety of the said article, and at the pages before cited passages, are to be found exciting to the hatred and contempt of Government, constituting a misdemeanour provided for by Art. 4 of the decree of 11th August, 1848, and especially at the following pages:—Page 205, where the author declares that 'when the marasmus attacks him, and when he stifles under the weight of an atmosphere loaded with servile and corrupting miasma, he hastens to breathe a purer air, and to bathe in the waters of life in free England;'—Page 210, where France is signalled as having repudiated the civil and municipal liberties which England has maintained in Canada;—Page 261, where Frenchmen are compared, by insinuation, 'to a flock docilely indolent under the shears, and led out to pasture under the

silent shade of an enervating security ;—Pages 260, 261, and 266, where it is given to understand that France undergoes a humiliating tutorship, and is deprived of the reign of right, of light, and of liberty ;

"As to the accusation of attacking universal suffrage, and the rights and authority which the Emperor holds from the Constitution ;

"Whereas the accusation has not been sufficiently established ;

"Whereas the misdemeanours imputed to the Count de Montalembert in the publication of the incriminated article in the number of the *Correspondant* of the 25th October, 1858, which has been offered for sale and circulated, have been improperly qualified by the first judges ; that improperly, the judgment appealed against, declared the Count de Montalembert principal author of the misdemeanours laid to his charge, as well as Douairol, editor of the *Correspondant* ;

"That in matters of misdemeanours committed by means of the press, the publication whence is derived the injury, and without which there can be no case for proceedings, is considered as constituting the principal misdemeanour ; that particularly with respect to political journals that have deposited caution money and having responsible editors, the article of the law, 18th July, 1828, upon newspapers, declares the editors thereof especially responsible for all publications in journals they conduct and represent, while reserving the faculty of proceeding against the authors when they have voluntarily co-operated to the publication by furnishing the means to effectuate ;

"Whereas the Count de Montalembert admits having composed and given to Douairol for publication the article subject of the proceedings ;

"That thus he has knowingly given to Douairol the means of committing the misdemeanour resulting from the said article, and has rendered himself guilty of the two misdemeanours above specified ;

"That in consequence there is reason to apply to Count de Montalembert Art. 4 of the decree of August 11, 1848, Art. 3 of the law of July 25, 1849, Art. 60 of the Penal Code, and Art. 366 of the Code of Criminal Instruction, which has been read by the President ;

"Whereas, one of the misdemeanours being set aside, there is reason to reduce the punishment pronounced against the Count de Montalembert ;

"The court has placed and places the appeal aside, amends that which is appealed against, discharges the Count de Montalembert so far as regards attack against the principle of universal suffrage and the rights and authority which the Emperor holds from the Constitution, reduces to three months the imprisonment pronounced against the Count de Montalembert, maintains the fine of 3000fr. pronounced by the first judges, condemns the Count de Montalembert to the expenses of the first trial and appeal, and fixes the term of imprisonment for non-payment of the fine at one year."

DUMAS PÈRE.

The Souloque of French penny-a-liners, Alexandre Dumas père, has entered upon a new branch of literary manufacture which promises to be as dull, feeble, and unsubstantial, as wretched a fabric of rotten yarn and "devil's dust" as was ever sent forth by that notorious firm. For some time past the author of *Monte-Cristo* has been travelling for the benefit of his health, and to pick up new ideas, or rather old lamps, that he may issue them as new. It is also stated that this travelling has something to do with the preservation of that good digestion which is likely to be disturbed by the ridiculous importunities of unreasonable creditors. Previously, Alexandre Dumas père honoured Brussels with his presence, and endeavoured to pass off as a political refugee, the victim of imperial tyranny. But the habit he contracted of taking a return ticket to Paris and back every Sunday destroyed any illusions that may at one time have existed as to his political importance, for Government accord no immunity to their enemies on Sundays, but only to absconding debtors. Whether the capital of Belgium grew in the course of time to be peopled with the same class of individuals who had in Paris so annoyed the Marquis de la Palisse, is not stated. I wonder, by-the-by, when he had the pick and choice of titles, that he should have selected one which, by a trifling error in pronouncing, might seem to indicate his profession, Paillasse. Be that, however, as it may, last June Alexandre Dumas turned his face northwards and started for Russia, as being the land which best accorded with his liberal ideas and fraternal affection for all men. How the great man-novel was received has not yet transpired, but extraordinary paragraphs have surged up in the papers among the "faits divers," and ingenious inventions of monster truffes and eccentric Englishmen ; stating how the mighty Alexandre had his crisp tresses wreathed with flowers by the most noble dames of all the Russias ; how the great dignitaries of the empire have divided among them the honour of feeding, clothing, and lodging him ; how he travels with an armed escort, and has commandment over all the military stations ; and how he wears a ukase suspended round his neck, whereby the Alexander of Holstein Gothop ordains respect and homage to be rendered to the Alexander of la Palisse. The result of this journey due north is a series of letters, the first of which appeared in the *Séclès* of yesterday under the head of

"Variétés," a title very apropos to the matter, and which treats of the emancipation of Russian serfs. "Dumas's last Epistle to the Parisians" is dated from Moscow, "18th August (1st September)," to show how genuine is the communication, and how completely the Russianising has been effected.

Alexandre Dumas imagined the emancipation question the easiest thing in the world to understand and solve, but two months' study and experience of the amiabilities of the proprietors of the serfs convinced him that it was the most difficult. It involves the triple question of principles, prejudice, and interest, wherefore, he says, "these ideologues, applicators, and utopists who rush into the future." Who the "applicators" are, I cannot imagine, but the ideologues and utopists are, I suppose, the emancipationists. It appears that there are also in Russia "realists" who walk in the present—the press, which raises revolutions, seeing only the object to which they tend, and statesmen, who are alarmed at the road they have to take before arriving at the object." However, "at the end of two months, after having chatted with the men who urged the Emperor to make the law, and with the slaves in whose favour it was promulgated, with the journalists who provoked it, and with the proprietors who are smitten by it," the all-knowing Alexandre Dumas believes himself "capable to give exact information upon its (the emancipation's) effect at present, and its consequences in the future." In two months the author of Heaven knows how many hundred volumes of romance has been able to solve a problem which has been studied for generations unsuccessfully. It is aptly the letter-writer did not tell us how many minutes he took to acquire sufficient knowledge of the Russian language to be able to "chat with the serfs," whose education, I presume, has not been sufficiently developed to enable them to speak French. The first letter on the emancipation of Russian serfs is headed "Rome.—Its Increase by Conquest.—The Slaves.—Who they were.—Whence they came.—The Agrarian Laws.—Their Spirit.—The Gracchi.—Catiline.—Cæsar." It is justice to add that the substance of the letter answers faithfully to the title, but what Alexandre Dumas's version of Roman history has to do with Russian serfs in the nineteenth century, my ignorance will not allow me to ascertain. True Roman history, as written by the great romancier, resembles nothing that has ever been written on Rome previously, from Titus Livius down to Sir George Cornwall Lewis. Among the numerous discoveries made by this inventive genius, there is one that ought not to be passed over in silence, and that is, that the Gracchi, Catiline, and Cæsar are the four great Socialists of antiquity.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE COURT.—Her Majesty left Osborne on Monday and arrived at Windsor on the same day. The Queen was accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Prince Consort, and the royal children. The Duchess of Kent has been on a visit to the Castle. On Tuesday the Prince of Wales and his father were present at the performance of the Westminster play.

THE LORD MAYOR.—His Lordship has recovered from his recent attack. On Tuesday he presided at the ward-mote of his own ward, and also at that of Mr. Alderman Finnis. In the evening he entertained at dinner the members of the Court of Common Council, the clergy, and several friends connected with the ward.

JENKINS IN PARIS.—The following paragraph appears in the *Constitutionnel*:—"Yesterday afternoon, at the moment when a little sunlight had led numberless strollers into the Tuilleries, the Emperor and his Highness the Prince Impérial appeared in the reserved garden. A large crowd gathered to see the young Prince running after his august father in the walks of this little park, uttering joyous cries every time his Majesty allowed himself to be overtaken."

SPURGEON ON ARCHITECTURE.—At a tea meeting held last week, this great critic remarked in reference to Gothic designs for churches, that he could never make himself heard in them, and could easily see that the Devil invented it.

ART AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—The colossal lion has arrived at the British Museum. It is still in its case in the court-yard, and will so remain till the glass box for the reception of this and other expected antiquities from the East and Carthage is completed, and the noble front of the Museum turned into the likeness of a tinker's street in Whitechapel.—*Athenæum*.

CLERICAL PREFERENCE.—She sub-deanery of St. Paul's Cathedral, vacant by the death of the Rev. J. Townshend Bennett, M.A., has been conferred upon the Rev. William Charles Fynes Webber, M.A., of Christ Church, Oxford, incumbent of St. Botolph, Aldersgate.—The Rev. J. H. Coward, M.A., rector of St. Bonet's, Paul's Wharf, and minor canon of St. Paul's, has been appointed chaplain to the Vintners' Company.

MORALITY IN PARIS.—The French Minister of the Interior has taken a step in humble imitation of Lord Campbell's Holywell-street Act. Several volumes have lately been published in Paris somewhat more free than decent, and M. Delangle has ordered that they are not to be exposed for sale in the windows and stalls of the booksellers, but are to be sold only within the shops.

This is the morality described by Voltaire to have left the heart and taken refuge on the lips.

THE REV. THOMAS PUGH.—On Tuesday a special meeting of the Directors of the Poor of St. Pancras was held at the Vestry-hall, for the purpose of considering a proposal, recommending the vestry to rescind its resolution dismissing the Rev. Thomas Pugh from his office of chaplain of the workhouse, and requesting them to reinstate him in his chaplaincy. Mr. Young, who had given notice, moved a resolution to that effect. Mr. Pratt seconded the motion. Mr. Wyatt moved an amendment expressing regret that the Board could not accede to the motion made by Mr. Young. Mr. Tomlinson seconded the amendment, which, after discussion, was carried. A committee was appointed to draw up officially the whole case, and lay the same before the Vicar.

MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL.—The winter examination of the scholars, on Tuesday, terminated by the Doctor's-day. At two o'clock the master of the company, accompanied by his wardens, the examiners, and the head master (the Rev. Dr. Hessey), entered the school-room. Various speeches were delivered from Herodotus, Lucretius, Cicero, and other authors. A scene from the *Achæans* was well put upon the stage by Messrs. Knapp, Irvine, and Thurstfield ; and the same youthful actors, with the addition of Messrs. Kitson and Baker, were no less effective in a scene from the *Taming of the Shrew*. The audience was very numerous. At the conclusion of the recitations Dr. Hessey alluded in feeling terms to the loss which the school had sustained by the recent death of M. Delille. The school was dismissed until the 18th of January.

SIR FITZROY KELLY AND THE TEMPERANCE.—The Attorney-General presided on Friday at a temperance meeting in Ipswich. Sir Fitzroy said it was with great satisfaction that he appeared to give his countenance and support to a movement which was making great and successful progress among many classes of the people. His friend, the late Mr. Baron Alderson, had declared his conviction, after many years' experience at the bar and on the bench, that four-fifths of the crimes committed in England might be traced to intemperance ; and he (Sir F. Kelly) was sure that if this degrading vice could be removed from society, a state of things would follow in which an amount of innocence, virtue, and general happiness would prevail, such as no man would be sanguine enough to foretell. Impressed with this belief, he had felt it a sacred duty, amidst many other occupations which left him little time to attend such meetings, however important their subjects may be, to lend the temperance movement what little aid he could.

WARNING TO HUMORISTS.—The Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph* says:—"A few months ago a book was published here under the title of *Les Trappeurs*, by M. Gustave Aimard. A weekly journal, publishing a short time ago some caricatures, gave amongst them the representation of a person in an exaggerated and absurd costume, and under it was appended the remark, 'Hullo, my friend! why you are dressed like the *Attrappeurs* of Gustave Aimard.' To show the utter innocence, not to say silliness of this pun, it is sufficient to say that an *attrappeur* is a person who delights in practical jokes—in 'selling' people, as the modern slang phrase has it. The word had been chosen, apparently, simply from its resemblance to *trappeur*; nothing more. M. Aimard, however, saw in the caricature an insult directed against himself ; and, accordingly, he wrote to the proprietor of the journal which had published it, stating that, unless an apology were offered, a duel must result! The proprietor, instead of risking his life against so susceptible an antagonist, gave the desired apology or retraction. His letter was written something to this effect: 'Monsieur,—I give you the apology you desire, and I am sorry that a caricature, utterly harmless in itself, and which I thought of a kind to please you, rather than otherwise, by showing that your work was becoming generally known, should have caused you annoyance. Rest assured, Monsieur, that I will not repeat the offence, for I do most solemnly assure you that never again, by any chance, or under any circumstances, shall your name appear in my journal.' I should hope that M. Aimard was satisfied with this letter."

RUSSIA'S PROGRESS IN ASIA.—Russia has not yet finished her march. Whatever may be her attitude towards Europe, she knows that she cannot advance on that side without coming in contact with France, or Germany. She has accordingly changed her course, and directed her steps towards Asia. This Power, which two centuries ago scarcely figured at all upon the map of Asia, has since then conquered possessions there, vaster in extent than China—two-thirds, at least, of her seven millions and a half of square miles of territory ; and within the last sixty years she has pushed forward so far towards India, that her frontier upon the Caspian Sea is at this moment not so distant from the Punjab as from St. Petersburg.

THE SICK MAN.—A good caricature appears in the *Charivari*. Britannia with helmet on head and trident in hand, and France, represented by a soldier of the line, are straining every nerve to get upright a ponderous door which has fallen down, and upon which is inscribed the words, "Sublime Porte." The Sultan, sitting on the ground in an attitude of helpless imbu-

cility, with his hands clasped over his knees, is looking at them. The French soldier says to him, *Dites donc, l'ami—il nous semble que vous pourriez bien nous aider un petit peu.*

A GOOD WIFE.—Katy made an excellent wife; she took home her husband's old mother, and nursed her with a dutifulness and energy worthy of all praise, and made her own keen outward faculties and deft handiness a compensation for the defects in worldly estate. Nothing would make Katy's black eyes flash quicker than any reflections on her husband's want of luck in the material line. "She didn't know whose business it was, if she was satisfied. She hated these sharp, gimlet, gouging sort of men that would put a screw between body and soul for money. George had that in him that nobody understood. She would rather be his wife on bread and water than to take Captain Blatherem's house, carriages, and horses, and all,—and she might have had 'em fast enough, dear knows. She was sick of making money when she saw what sort of men could make it,"—and so on. All which talk did her infinite credit, because at bottom she did care, and was naturally as proud and ambitious a little minx as ever breathed, and was thoroughly grieved at heart at George's want of worldly success; but, like a nice little Robin Redbreast, she covered up the grave of her worldliness with the leaves of true love, and sang a 'Who cares for that?' above it."—*From Mrs. Stowe's new Tale "The Minister's Wooing."* (Sampson Low, Son, and Co.)

ACCIDENT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN TELEGRAPH.—A telegram from Cagliari, in the island of Sardinia, received on Wednesday, has announced a sudden stoppage of electrical communication by the submarine wire between that port and Malta, belonging to the Mediterranean Extension Telegraph Company. The cause is not known, but is supposed to be from some vessel dragging her anchor at Malta, in which case there will be a prospect of speedy repair. Owing to this accident the next telegraphic news from India will experience a delay of two or three days, the distance between Cagliari and Malta being three hundred miles. The break occurred on Monday afternoon.

THE NEW MATERIAL FOR PAPER.—On Tuesday week Mr. Houghton's experiments were witnessed at Mr. Perkins's factory in Francis-street, Gray's-inn-lane, by several paper-makers and other gentlemen. The flax refuse was put into a small boiler heated to 380 degrees, and then boiled in alkali. After about three hours it was converted into very satisfactory pulp, or rather half stuff. We understand that a public exhibition will take place as soon as a large boiler is manufactured for the purpose.

PRIVATE THEATRICALS.—A correspondent writes from Lisbon:—"For the benefit of the sufferers at St. Ubes, by the recent earthquake, an amateur dramatic performance in English took place on the 14th inst., at the Theatre of Donna Maria II. The affair was under the patronage of Dom Fernando, and the British Minister and several leading English merchants formed a committee to carry out the arrangements. The pieces represented were *Box and Cox*, *Fast Train*, *Village Lawyer*, and *Bombastes Furioso*. The theatre, the second largest in Lisbon, was crowded in all parts, and I never before in Lisbon saw so many English families gathered together. An English dramatic performance is a great novelty here, and it is more than thirty years since the occurrence of a similar entertainment."

SPIRITUALISM.—The spirit-rappers have come out in a new style, and rather an aggressive attitude. A body of these singularly endowed people in Dudley have assumed a mission from the spirits to convert the religious bodies in the neighbourhood to the Spirit Truth, and for that purpose have gone in a body to the Primitive Methodist Chapel, where they fell to ranting and raving, and smiting their breasts, and making a fell disturbance. It is probable the magistrates may have something to say to the spirit-stricken.

THE CAMP BY NIGHT IN INDIA.—The shouts and noises swell into a tempest as the sutlers prepare to pack up their goods and move off in the early night. Then, long before the first of the small hours, the camels, which are to move your house and furniture, are brought close to the head of your bed. The "ships of the desert" are anchored beside you, and the canvas offers no resistance either to the dreadful vapours which come from the holds of those ships or the sounds which rage on board. Those ships are always in a state of mutiny. A camel's life is a long and loud protest against the load that is put on his back, and he wisely enters his protest before the period of his suffering begins. I know of no sound more sleep-destroying. Then there is the trumpeting of elephants, the barking of dogs, the yelling of jackals, and, above all these, the hideous dissonance of the many-voiced camp. The camp bells and gongs, too, vary in time. They are generally a quarter of an hour or more before they finish striking one o'clock. The smoke of the camp fires steals into the tent and half chokes one. Look out and you will see something like a Fusell's dream of Pandemonium—blazing fires, surrounded by black men in white clothing, moving to and fro, with strange quaint heads of camels, elephants, and other animals peering through and above them. A reddened smoke hangs in the air like a pall over the scene. To-

wards morning the horses begin to neigh, and those animals are mostly sound-lunged, and are picketed close behind the tents, so that—But what is the use of my endeavouring to describe the sights or sounds of an Indian camp?—*Mr. Russell in the Times.*

INDIAN TENT-PITCHERS.—The klassies, or tent-pitchers, are a most peculiar class of men. The moment the tent is pitched their cares for the day are over, and all the day they sleep under the eaves of the tent accordingly, but as darkness falls they get up and wander about stealthily, tapping tent-pegs and preparing for the great business of their existence. It is in vain that order after order has been issued to the klassies not to touch a tent-peg till the first bugle sounds. It is their caste to tap tent-pegs; they are born to it, bred to it, and die to it. The whole race of men belonging to this order would endure martyrdom in the faith that tent-pegs, when in the ground, are to be knocked out of it, and when out of the ground are to be knocked into it. When awake they can no more resist their impulses on this head than a London pickpocket can refuse the appeal of an easy pocket-handkerchief. Soon after dusk the noise begins—tap! tap! tap! tap! far and near, like a fire of musketry, for many a weary acre of canvas-covered ground. This is called tonking—striking the long deep Indian tent-pegs on the side so as to loosen them in the earth, and to prepare them for easy extrication when the tent is to be struck. The ground shakes with those myriad knockings—one gets feverish, restless, rushes out on the persecuting klassie, and, as he falls in the dark over the tent ropes, beholds a white ghost-like form glide away into obscurity.—*Mr. Russell in the Times.*

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.—By this time it had grown dark, and the lamps were lighted. There was a hum of voices abroad, and two floods of dark figures hurrying by, on some purpose bent. Shop windows were throwing out dazzling effulgence, reflected brightly from the many little shining pools and ponds in the road; where, too, were reflected cheerfully flaring lamps and flitting forms. Round certain sheets of effulgence specially—throwing out a glare as from open furnace-doors—were gathered crowds of admiring figures and illuminated faces viewing the huge stores within: the holly within; the white-capped and white-robed attendants within; the dispensing of rare Christmas cheer; and the file of buyers incoming and outgoing. With a far more deluged amphitheatre of glowing faces round certain other sheets of effulgence—temples of confectionery—feasting their eyes on the spreading Christmas-tree and its glittering fruit of gold and silver, card and ribbon; on the huge white cakes rising like towers: on the gaudy vista reflected by mirrors many times over, down towards the far end, of men and women packing busily; sitting the snow cake and Christmas-tree fruit into cases, going down to the country that night. Where shall that tree be set up? What troop of children, far down in some well-wooded English county, be gladdened at its coming? More glare from open furnace-doors; more glowing faces; more trees; more busy packing. I am jostled by hasty men on Christmas errands. I am put aside by men bearing Christmas packages, and nearly run down by heavy wains laden with strong ales for Christmas drinking. Everybody seems to have Christmas business but my poor lonely self. Getting absorbed in contending floods, I am taken up through many by-streets into one of the great markets where gas is flaring nakedly, bringing out gaunt, Rembrandtish effect; where, too, is Christmas food in the bulk, raw material of coming cheer in huge massive heaps, of which are there sellers in bulk and buyers in bulk. Sellers entrenched strongly behind groaning counters and mounds of provision; behind monster poultry suspended high; behind primest joints; all with Christmas purpose. Dark foliage overhead of shining green-necked birds newly arrived from those richly-wooded counties with Christmas purpose. Flocks of wild birds, armies of great fowl, with Christmas purpose. Buyers gauging monster poultry, appraising the height and depth of their fatness with Christmas purpose. Sellers giving out ceaselessly, taking in ceaselessly, with Christmas purpose. Housewives, hand in pocket, reflectively taking thought of what store they needed; not so much caring for hard bargains on this eve, thinking, with glistering eye, how little Tom, or Jack, or Harry, now on his way home, would be gathered round her cheer—whose little hearts would be set a-dancing at this sight. Perhaps, even the dripping ostler, after change of his damp garments, had been up here with Christmas purpose. Groves of holly and ivy with Christmas purpose. Everybody, everything with Christmas purpose, beyond myself; who was now wandering, utterly purposeless, out off from any Christmas hope and prospect.—*Household Words.*

PROTECTION IN ALGERIA.—A curious document is published in the *Alydia Nouvelle*, a newspaper which has recently been started at Algiers. A number of cultivators and distillers complain of an irregular and abusive competition on the part of the Trappist monks of Staoueli, and the complaint is embodied in a petition to the Prefect. It seems that the special industry of the petitioners is devoted to the raising of odoriferous

plants, from which are made essences for the toilette. With this exercise of industry the Trappists compete, it is said, unfairly. They first obtained from the authorities an important accession of land, with a valuable stream of water flowing through it. Then the holy fathers contrived to get bestowed on them the service of a number of soldiers to till the ground; and, moreover, subscriptions and donations, collected in France by some of the members, had enabled them to found the magnificent establishment which they direct. The petitioners, on the contrary, had possessed no other resource than their own private means, and they consider it most unfair that they should now be opposed by a wealthy community, who have no need of any such assistance to their means of subsistence?

Postscript.

LEADER OFFICE, Friday Morning, December 23rd.

AMERICA.

THE Arago has arrived with the American mails. She left New York on the 11th instant. She passed the Ariel on the 16th instant, on her way to New York. A sea had struck her, and killed Captain Ludlow, and wounded two officers and two seamen.

The Federal Judges at Columbia, South Carolina, have decided that the law under which the crew of the slave brig Echo has been detained is constitutional.

The Nicaraguan filibusters have their rendezvous in the Florida Keys. It is believed that a steamer has escaped from Mobile with a number of filibusters.

A fire occurred on the 10th inst., at the Harlem Railroad depot, New York, which entailed a loss of nearly 50,000 dollars, mostly covered by insurance.

The weather at New York was very cold and wintry, and it was expected that navigation on the canals would soon be stopped. The Welland Canal was entirely closed up by ice.

IONIAN ISLANDS.

The following telegram has been received:—"Zante, Dec. 16. Mr Gladstone has arrived here and was received with the same demonstrations as before, expressing the desire of the people to have the Ionian Isles joined to Greece. It is reported that part of the fleet stationed at Malta has been placed at the disposal of Sir John Young."

SPAIN.

A telegram from Madrid dated yesterday says:—"The Congress has rejected, by 158 against 17 votes, the amendment of Senor Moyano, demanding the fulfilment of the Concordat."

IRELAND.

The official investigation into the charges preferred against the youthful conspirators from Skibbereen and Bantry of being members of a secret and illegal society commenced on Tuesday morning in the Cork County Gaol. It was conducted with strict privacy, the press being excluded.

A Mansion-house meeting of considerable importance has been held in Dublin, with a view to promote the Lever line of communication between Galway and America. The Lord Mayor presided, and so many influential citizens were present that no doubt can be entertained of the successful support which the project will receive.

LIVERPOOL.—The Isaac Wright, packet-ship, was destroyed by fire in the Mersey yesterday. She was bound for New York, and most of the passengers escaped in their night clothes.

OUTBREAK AT WOOLWICH.—A serious military riot took place at Woolwich yesterday, arising from a bad feeling between the Artillery and the Marines, as against the Antrim Rifles. No very explicit account of the circumstances of the riot is yet forthcoming, but it is certain many soldiers have been wounded, and the public houses of the town severely damaged.

THE RIVAL OMNIBUS COMPANIES.—The fifth hearing of the dispute between the Metropolitan Omnibus Companies occupied the attention of Mr. Paynter at the Westminster Police-court yesterday, and again was the case adjourned, but under more hope than before that the companies will come to an understanding. The magistrate gave it as his opinion that an Act of Parliament will alone be able to meet other disputes of the same kind that will be sure to arise. It is understood that the present case will now be settled by calling in such an arbitrator as Sir Richard Mayne would make.

LEEDS.—A very important reform meeting was held last night at the Town Hall. Three thousand people were present. The resolutions submitted to the meeting were rather vaguely expressed on the question of the suffrage. Some more decided Reformers accordingly moved as an amendment that the meeting should support the rate-paying suffrage proposed by Mr. Bright, and this the meeting agreed to.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, ART, &c.

LITERARY CHRONICLE OF THE WEEK.

WHAT shall we select as the book of the week, when nothing very remarkable has really appeared? A few novels and some reprints, with one or two works of minor interest, such is the budget of the Christmas week, during which people's minds are annually intenter upon matters of more mundane interest than "the feast of reason and the flow of soul." Messrs. Longman have indeed put forward a volume on "The Logic of Banking," by Mr. Gilbert, which is likely to excite some curiosity; for some people have never yet been able to appreciate the logic of that operation, whilst others have felt themselves puzzled by the variety of conflicting formulae presented to them; the synthesis of Sir John Dean Paul and Messrs. Cameron and Co. must, for example, be a very different one from that used by our more respectable, if less brilliant, bankers. Among the better reprints are Liebig's "Familiar Letters on Chemistry" (Walton and Maberley)—now the fourth edition of that justly celebrated work; that popular novel, "John Halifax, Gentleman" (Hurst and Blackett); and Miss Mitford's "Recollections" (Bentley). Among other pleasant *nugæ* we must also especially notice an admirably humorous portfolio of "Proverbs with Pictures" (Chapman and Hall), by Charles H. Bennett, a young artist who has brought to perfection the grotesque school of caricature of which George Cruikshanks was the founder. The last Christmas book issued, and not the least beautiful, is a handsome volume published by Sampson Low and Son, entitled, "The Poets of the Far West." It is a selection of American gems, extremely well illustrated.

A writer in *Household Words* administers a well-merited rap upon the knuckles to Sydney Herbert, Esq., M.P., for his speech at Westminster, and particularly for his uncalled-for eulogy upon that nondescript novel the "Heir of Redclyffe." Entrenching himself behind an opinion of M. Guizot, the honourable member instanced this as the type of our best domestic novels, and reports M. Guizot to have said that nothing so good has ever been done in France. After exposing the short-comings of this polemical romance in a style perhaps better fitted for the pages of the *Eclectic Review* than our familiar *Household Words*, the writer shrewdly observes that it is impossible that such books should be written, either in France or elsewhere, until the classes are found to exist there to which such works are addressed. This is considered to be a fair retort upon the Puseyite purists who admire the "Heir of Redclyffe" and attack Mr. Dickens in the pages of the *Saturday Review*.

There is often something very fine in the *naïveté* of ignorance, but to be proud of it occasionally rises to the sublime. At the late appeal of M. de Montalembert, the Procureur-impérial, M. Chaix d'Est-ange, one of the most celebrated men at the French bar, after making a series of blunders in his use and pronunciation of English, such as excited the risible faculties of the accused, who is himself a very consummate English scholar, astounded his hearers by saying, "I know nothing of English," *et je m'en félicite*; an avowal which (according to the testimony of an eye-witness), was awarded with "shouts of derision." But M. Chaix d'Est-ange is singular neither in his deficiency nor his conceit. Whoever yet met with a Frenchman fond of using English phrases, who did not continually commit the most egregious blunders? True it is that most of our writers return the compliment in full, and murder his imperial Majesty's French with equal coolness and atrocity; but with us there are exceptions, in France there are none. We recollect finding in a note appended by Victor Hugo to a volume of his poems, the most hopeless confusion between *Galles*, Wales, and *Gael*, Highland Scotch; and M. Hugo is, for a Frenchman, exceedingly well versed in English matters. We once heard him give an account of the Gunpowder Plot, which would not have disgraced an English professor of history. Here, again, in the *Revue des*

Deux Mondes, a magazine conducted with an ability second to none in Europe, and which professedly pays the greatest attention to English literature, and which is constantly obliging us with its opinions upon the most national matters, the most grievous blunders are incessantly occurring. In the last number, now before us, and in an article upon "The Revolt of the Sepoys from English Accounts," M. E. D. Forgues, who rather plumes himself upon his English, makes Lord Dalhousie speak of John Nicholson as "la force d'une tour"—the fact being that he called him "a tower of strength," and subsequently we find "mock philanthropist" translated *philanthrope pour rire*. In the political chronicle of the same number Mr. E. Forcade informs his readers that the member for Kidderminster is well known to be "one of the cleverest editors of the *Times*." This is almost as bad as the sketches of the Paris correspondents belonging to our daily journals, in one of which, a certain London editor, well known for the purity of his manners, is represented as in the frequent habit of frequenting taverns arm-in-arm with M. Louis Blanc.

Whilst upon French matters, it may be noted that an important work is spoken of as about to be issued under Government auspices, no less than a publication of all the documents in the public archives relating to the erection of the works at Cherbourg. Considering that this embraces a period of time extending from Cardinal Richelieu to the present Emperor, it will no doubt be a very voluminous undertaking. Of literary matters of note in Paris, it may be recorded that M. Curmer, who has acquired for himself a very honourable celebrity as the publisher of what may be called art literature, and whose splendid edition of the "Imitation de Jésus-Christ," with fac-similes from the rarest MSS. around each page, must be known to most artists, has lately produced a fac-simile of the well-known "Book of Hours," painted for Queen Anne of Brittany. Madame Sand has also published a book of rustic legends, collected and pruned by her accomplished pen, with illustrations by young Maurice Sand. The approach of the "jour de l'an" fills the book repositories of Paris with splendid "livres d'étrennes" and "éditions de luxe," even more remarkable than our Christmas does the emporia of Paternoster-row. Among these some loans from perfidious Albion may be noticed: a translation of Miss Edgeworth's "Tales for the Young and Gentle"; some of Captain Mayne Reid's works for more adventurous youth, and a full edition of Dr. Livingstone's Travels for more advanced readers, illustrated by forty-five splendid engravings, and with the maps stretched upon cloth—a plan of preserving these useful documents which our publishers would do well to adopt universally. We cannot close our summary of French literary matters without mentioning a "Picturesque Journey through England, Scotland, and Ireland," by M. Louis Enault, and a "Compte-rendu of the Brussels Congress on Copyright," by M. Edouard Romberg, the Secretary-General of the Congress.

Our faithful colonies of Australia are usually the importers rather than the exporters of literary and artistic interest, and seldom afford us much to comment upon. Scarcely even of either literary or artistic interest, and yet a matter worthy of note, that the people of Melbourne have made Mr. George Coppin, comic actor and theatrical manager, one of the members of their Legislative Council. He is now the Honourable George Coppin; and one of the Melbourne papers refers with no slight satisfaction to the fact, pointing out triumphantly that whilst they have so delighted to honour an actor, our Queen has not even made a knight of Mr. Charles Kean.

As connected with literature, as much as with bookselling and printing, may be recorded the deaths of two learned booksellers—Mr. Richard Taylor, of Red Lion Court, long the printer to the learned societies, and himself a contributor to their various papers; and Mr. Petheram, of Holborn, whose devotion to his business and his extensive knowledge of old English literature made him the frequent referee of the best-informed scholars and authors in their antiquarian and bibliographical inquiries.

THE NATURE AND PHENOMENA OF LIFE.

Life: its Nature, Varieties, and Phenomena. By Leo H. Grindon. Whittaker and Co.

THIS book is in most respects a good one, and the faults it contains are obvious, and, therefore, easily guarded against. They are isolated and disintegrated from what stands beside them. You can reject them, and still hold the truths expressed, for there is no network or complication involving the joint reception or rejection of the two. The object of the work is twofold. First, there is given a popular description of the phenomena which express and embody the mysterious substance or force to which man has given the name Life. The second and more ambitious division of the book is psychological in its structure and immediate intent, and impinges, as all full psychologies must, on the cognate themes of theology and metaphysics. But, in both parts, the function of the author as an inquirer is made strictly and continuously subservient to the higher office at which he aims—of a teacher. The *esse* is investigated only that the *deesse* may be inculcated. The first part is a "Combe's Constitution of Man," warmed and lit up by the fervour of religious reverence, and that lofty human benevolence which is amongst the first of its offspring. The second part expresses the insatiate gazings of mundane philosophy into the scantily-illuminated infinite, satisfied to the full with light and guidance from the rich and overflowing radiance of the solar light of revelation.

The whole spirit of the book is warm, faithful, and likeable; deeply reverent, therefore widely human and humane. The facts given are ample, substantiated, and with praiseworthy industry gathered from every domain of science; they are often set and softened in a manner that reminds us at every step of that most elegant of philosophical *litterati*, Dr. Thomas Brown, by analogy and illustration appositely drawn from ancient and modern poetry. Some of the theories seem to us most far-fetched and unsupported; and although the author's general spirit is their best antidote and corrective, if they were situated in fields more germane to them than his book, and supported with the sophistry and special pleading from which the author refrains, but which could be in other hands easily grouped around them, they could not fail to be perplexing and dangerous.

At the very outset, the extension of the term Life is made to reach to inorganic creation—to our minds a most ridiculous practical repeal of all philosophical nomenclature and verbal definition. For Life there ought to have been written Nature. The doctrine is not a new one. The Jewish Kabala contains it; and it has been, we think, supported by such commentators as Hutchinson and Parkhurst. It might be expected that this comprehensiveness of application of the term Life, so destructive of all boundary lines of special definition, would vitiate the whole book, and affect confusedly its every step. But this is hardly the case. For, even granting that the author's view were correct, and that some slender spirit of life were breathed by rocks and fountains, its manifestations would be so rare and simple, in contrast with the infinitely various functional developments and offices of vegetable and animal nature, as to confine practically the whole attention of an inquirer, affected by this fanciful and somewhat harmless delusion, to those parts of creation in which, by the common sense of mankind, a few phantasies excepted, life—vegetable, animal and spiritual—inheres.

It may be asked by the curious, How does the author attempt to justify his doctrine? And, indeed, it is but just, that while venturing to condemn him, he himself ought to be fairly represented. Two causes, we believe, have produced in his mind the conviction of this fiction of the poets: first, a very vivid fancy, which, not content with imagery and similitude, must turn them into assimilation and identity; and second, this confusion, praise-worthy in its causal motives, dangerous in its possible effects—he sees life everywhere; that is, he sees the power of God animating all creation, the primary rock, as well the most delicate tropical plant, or the swiftest denizen of the plains. Let us quote his own words:—

Life, in its proper, generic sense, is the name of the

sustaining principle by which everything out of the Creator subsists, whether worlds, metals, minerals, trees, animals, mankind, angels, or devils, together with all thought or feeling.

And then he quotes, in confirmation, from Laon:—

The life which works in our organised frame is but an exalted condition of the power which occasions the accretion of particles into this crystalline mass. The quickening force of nature through every form of being is the same.

Now, in one aspect, this becomes at a bound the veriest Pantheism. We shall take the last sentence quoted from Laon, and endorsed by Mr. Grindon, as text, and ask these simple questions, "What does it mean?" and, "What can it be made to mean?" When we answer the latter interrogatory by stating our conviction that it could, so vague is it, be uttered by three opinionists with views radically different, we at the same time indicate our inability to answer the former. "The quickening force of nature through every form of being is the same." By this we understand, and we believe that Mr. Grindon understands too, that the active hand of God, powerful in preservation as He was and is every day in creation (for is not the growth of the leaves in next spring just as wondrous as the growth of the leaves in the first spring?), upholds, as something above and separate from them, all matter and all spiritual existence. But what a different complexion is given to the doctrine when you adduce, from such a writer as Mr. Herbert Spencer, this sentence:—"The characteristic which, manifested in a higher degree, we call Life, is a characteristic manifested only in a lower degree by so-called inanimate objects." You have only to mix up a dash of the development theory, prate of inherent forces, animate generally nature with a self-born power of its own, after extending the range of life to every atom of the world, to enable you to dispense with God altogether, only keeping your ruler in reserve for dramatic and poetic purposes as a serviceable *Deus ex machina*! While we believe then that this doctrine of the universality of Life is really a minister to the veriest Pantheism, at the same time we gladly acknowledge that no belief is more repugnant to Mr. Grindon's mind; his whole book recognises the unity, personality, and government of God. We believe, in fact, his error to have arisen from religious feeling; he seems to have a nervous dread that if you limit the extension of the term Life within its ordinarily received bounds, if you confine it to those kinds of existence where there is the development and exercise of *functions*, vegetative, animal, and spiritual, you in some measure make those kinds of created things act independently of Deity, and live and move by virtue of an inherent force; and by establishing that inert inorganic matter has, or has had, the same life in it, he reduces, as it were, all kinds of creation to the same level as the rocks. This we give as a conjecture, and it must be measured by its own value. It may not be the correct hypothesis; we maintain, at all events, that as an hypothesis it is feasible and of apposite application.

There is no absurdity to which a pet and plausible theory will not carry its author in maintaining it. We actually find Mr. Grindon citing, as confirmation of his doctrine, those similitudes of the poets which endue inanimate objects with life and personality. We are told that the papers announce that the basins at the Crystal Palace are to be "alive with fountains and jets." Madame de Staël's testimony is adduced, when she speaks in *Corinne* of "the fount of Trevi, the life of that tranquil scene." Virgil and Ovid easily afford *flumine vivo* and *de vivis fontibus*. And when Mr. Grindon makes us sit with him, in the home of the nymphs, in the *vivo sedilia sacra*, he only shows that he entirely misunderstands, and fails to catch the beauty of Virgil's figure, which makes the damp slabs live by virtue of the living moss and seaweed that are tangled around them, and move with the motion of the winds and waves.

So we might deal with the fanciful, and, to us, almost revolting, doctrine, which takes the axiomatic philosophic law, that every known effect must have a duality of causes, and manufactures it into a "sexuality of nature," or "the reciprocal action and reaction of complementaries!" But deduction being made for such theories, not of very frequent occurrence, nor integrally affecting the texture of the production, we must estimate the book as safe, accurate, and healthy, a mine of information and precept, and a charming lure to entice youth or age into the study of man, all that surrounds him, and his deepest, holiest, and most mysterious relations.

THORNDALE.

Thorndale: or, the Conflict of Opinions. By William Smith. Second Edition.

William Blackwood and Sons.

THAT a serious and earnest work, composed in a philosophical spirit, should attain a second edition is, in these days, a welcome and encouraging fact. The dialogue form, which Mr. W. Smith has adopted, is furnished with many conveniences. The author can state many sides to a question without pledging himself to either. The reader is presented with a multitude of premises, but left to draw his own conclusion. This has been a favourite plan of treating philosophy from the time of Plato to our own. It requires in the writer, however, some of that poetic and dramatic power which Plato possessed in so eminent a degree. Mr. W. Smith has already evinced the possession of both in specific works, such as *Atheism*, *Sir William Crichton*, and *Guidore*, and came armed with the facility that these labours had secured to the composition of his present work. Hence much of its grace, its beauty, and its charm.

The author, moreover, has lived in a world of poetic associations; if, indeed, the poets have not been the founts of his philosophical inspiration. Shelley and Wordsworth have thrown their magic colouring on his mind, and given him glimpses of truth, without involving him in the responsibility of a system. He likes, in their works, to find a line here, or a line there, that shall look like a Pythagorean golden verse, he infinitely suggestive, operate like a sudden revelation, but not necessarily connect itself with an acknowledged theory. A truth must for him stand apart, by itself, "like a bright particular star," alone, and not as a shining member of the astral fellowship in the firmament of science.

We have said that the method of composition he has adopted is favourable to such views as these. But we should mislead the reader should he suppose that the book before us was in the form of dialogue alone. Part of it is, in fact, in the nature of a journal; other parts partake of the biographical, and some portion is autobiographical. The concluding sections even aim at the completeness of a metaphysical essay. In a word, the author has varied his method with his mental mood. In this licentious manner of writing there is boundless liberty, and Mr. W. Smith has allowed himself a scope as wide as the universe.

The book is an ambitious book. It is, besides, confessedly Utopian. It treats of two futurities—the futurity of the individual, and the futurity of society.

Mr. W. Smith is not only Utopian but eclectic. Unwilling to adopt the whole of any system he would take parts from all, and recombine without acknowledging it these parts into a new whole. He is not singular in this preference. Many great thinkers have done the same before him. Nevertheless, the plan is unsatisfactory. It wants philosophical integrity and a common origin. An antecedent unity is required, which the eclectic unfortunately has neglected to state.

There is, however, some pleasant tinting in the narrative portion of the work, which bespeaks the poet or dramatist rather than the psychologist. It is thus he paints for us his childhood and his student life. Here is a pleasant example:—

How vividly I remember that daisied lawn, those tall white lilies, those growing peonies, those tulips which are nothing in the world unless you can peep close into their cups—cups full to the brim with beauty. We men outgrow the flower. What arcades, what bowers, what triumphal arches they once reared for us! I can remember walking under the scarlet and purple blossoms of the fuchsia, and seeing the light fall on them through the green leaves above—I see it now. How they glow in that green and golden light which falls on them through the leaves! Milton's angels never had half so much joy in their "jasper pavement and amaranthine flowers!" Amaranthine! that surely was a mistake of the poet. It is the perishable blossom that is so pre-eminently beautiful. Amaranthine flowers! It is very like *eternal time*—neither death nor life. Wish for no amaranth; wish rather to be a child again, and see the blossoms of the fuchsia, half of them beneath your feet and half of them just above your head.

Thorndale declares himself to have been unfortunate in love and friendship. His cousin Winifred, and his fellow pupil Luxmore, the companions of his early life, were separated from him early in his progress. Much tender sentiment, much pleasant description, are devoted to both. The fault of the general narrative is that it is all sketched in outline; details are not expanded, they are only hinted. This want of filling-up leaves too much to the

reader's mind, and he wearies of skipping from point to point without stopping by the way to rest and look about him.

The author confesses to the study of Emanuel Kant, Lyell, Owen, and Faraday. From these he has derived the materials of his eclecticism—the separated segments of truth which he would incorporate into a new circle. It must not be imagined that they fit easily, or compose a perfect figure. What then? The most accurate ever drawn was far, very far, from being perfectly correct. The microscopic eye would detect inequalities, like mountains on the globe of the earth, in proportion to its dimensions, both on the surface of the curve and in its general sweep.

The union of labour with refinement would appear to be the purpose and end of Thorndale's practical scheme for the good of society in the future, and the basis of that Utopian state which it was ever his desire to institute. Nor need we doubt that, in the development of the race, some such state may be approximated. Thorndale, however, does not point out the means! Perhaps he leaves the result to the "conflict of opinions" and the energies of nature, and the laws by which both are guided to a successful issue.

Plainly enough, however, he perceives that from the Revolution of Hunger nothing is to be hoped. With hunger, in fact, nothing is to be done but to feed it. The hope of the Utopian is fixed on the classes that do not hunger. The first object, in his view, is to find all that is needful and expedient for the classes that cannot help themselves. Rid the world of the misery that besets the ignorant and incompetent; banish the gross forms of want and wretchedness; remove the uncouth and ugly from the path of vulgar life; see that the labouring man has his decent cottage, and his children the properly furnished schoolroom; and you will then withdraw the sight of the class immediately above from the conditions of poverty to contemplate the more refined shortcomings which make their own way of life less beautiful than it might be. New wants will arise in the middle order, will demand gratification, will receive it, will become the common-places of an improved generation; and will serve as the germs of a still more extended reform in the future.

In this manner Mr. Smith would appear to project his remedies for the "social evils" that now proceed from the grosser wants, that have not yet been extirpated and substituted by the more subtle appetencies of a polished age. He will not, however, himself undertake the responsibility of inaugurating the scheme that he has so elegantly sketched, but devolves it all upon a certain imaginary Clarence, who insists on filling the blank pages of his friend's diary with a *résumé* of the discussions they have had together. To him, it seems, Political Economy is the science of sciences. It is not the dry, hard, merely calculating study generally supposed. It is no enemy to enthusiasm, no foe to generous motives. His estimate of Adam Smith is high. Wait awhile, Clarence tells us; the future historian will have to report that the study of Political Economy, more than any other cause, is at present educating the people for the highest of all enthusiasms—desire for the public good. The progress of the world is the result of ideas; these ideas in their operation are creative—they at once inspire the mind that receives them, and leaven the society to which they are communicated. This theory of our author is at least hopeful, it touches on chords in our being that vibrate in harmony with its influence. On many points we may differ, but with the nobler portions of the book most thinking men will readily agree.

NEW PICTURES AND OLD PANELS.

New Pictures and Old Panels. By Dr. Doran. Bentley. Dr. DORAN is a wise man; there is no dangerous originality about him; his bosom is free from all that perilous stuff which weighs upon the heart; he is not brilliant, but, what is far better, he is safe; he is light, amusing, anecdotal, and well-read; he collects his material from many published sources, and he works it up again with a certain kind of grace; he passes through the ordeal of criticism untouched, because few blows are aimed at him for fear of hitting some one else; he is never above the comprehension of his reader, except when he assumes him to possess a general knowledge of history; and with some little wit, no humour, and much industry, he is a very favourable specimen of the existing literary man.

The book before us consists of some twenty histo-

rical, legendary, and literary sketches, strung together upon a plan which publishers demand rather than authors supply, because they imagine that by such means a connected air is given to a series of unconnected stories. The plan in this case is the shadow of a shade. A company of some half-dozen artists and others are supposed to assemble, and to interchange the stories which compose the volume, as they gaze upon pictures and photographs of the individuals who form the central objects of the stories. A few uninteresting words at the commencement of a sketch, and a few equally uninteresting remarks at its conclusion, are all that we see of our entertainers. They are like phantom showmen; they cannot place a picture before us without a few bony gesticulations; and when in husky tones they endeavour to tell us which "is a lion," the words seem to stick in their thin and impalpable throats. They are present to satisfy a superstition in the publishing trade, and the quicker they do their work, the better we like them. They are the froth on the top of a tankard of beer, which it is necessary to blow away in order to get at the fluid.

Dr. Doran does not confine himself to his own country, but treats us to French, Spanish, Danish, Greek, and German sketches. There is an account of André Chénier, the French poet, who perished in the Reign of Terror, and whose poems were collected in scattered scraps of manuscript after an interval of more than twenty years. There is a string of Sylvanus Urban gossip, giving a somewhat touch-and-go picture of our country and our countrymen a century back. There is a picture of England as drawn by foreigners (a rather over-worked subject), the foreigners being Alexandre Dumas, Max Schlesinger, and Heyne. The latter ought to be spelled Heine, as he may be confounded with the old classical scholar. There are several legendary religious pictures, "Our Lady of Boulogne," and others; and as a set-off to the pictures of the English by foreigners, there are pictures of foreigners by the English. In this latter paper the author pretends to find it difficult to spell the name of a Polish village, and he tells us to pronounce it by sneezing five times, and adding iski! This may be given as a satire upon the vulgar wit in which the average English traveller indulges at the expense of his foreign friends; but, any way, the joke is rather mouldy, and had better have been left out.

In the opening sketch—called "A Picture in Three Panels"—we move in English society of the last century, with Dr. Dodd, Mrs. Bellamy, Griffiths the publisher, Dr. Wesley, and Oliver Goldsmith,—the most lovable character in literary history. In all such resurrection sketches the performers are wooden; they talk as they never did talk while on earth; their attitudes are angular, and they are jerky as marionettes. Goldy may have been a fool in conversation, and Dr. Doran does not improve him. Dr. Dodd is more elaborately portrayed, and repulsive as he is, we like the portrait better than that of the transcendental Wesley.

We give a neat and complete little French story of Lantara the painter, as a specimen of the author's agreeable style:—

"An artist of quite another stamp once made the Rue St Denis joyous. I allude to (in one sense) the French Morland,—gay, dissolute, tippling, and inimitable Lantara. The death of one he loved paralysed Lantara as it had done Vanloo. In other respects, however, the cases were dissimilar. Lantara was a painter of country scenes, and these he executed amid the din and dirt of the noisiest and dirtiest parts of Paris. He loved nature much, but the bottle more; and he drank the deeper because he could not see more of nature. His soul was a bright gem, and his body was its very course and ugly setting. He was for ever expatiating on the loveliness of the country, imagining or painting its beauties, and he the while was tipsily lounging before his palette, or uproariously descanting in dark taverns, or warmly making love to some laughing fruit-seller, whom he loved the more, he said, because she dealt in natural productions. This tipsiest of painters met with the very pearl of fruit-dealers, in a certain Jacqueline, whose voice was like a bird's, and whose smile was like nothing on earth, but—as the wine-loving artist was wont to remark—but in its bright promise, only like the rainbow in heaven.

Jacqueline was the friend, mistress, and guardian angel of the painter. She lived in the lower part of the house, in the attic of which the desolate artist had a refuge rather than a home. He was a solitary man without family or kin, and Jacqueline, who revered him when sober, and pitied him when drunk, loved and helped him, with all his merits and defects. He would have died of starvation but for the poor fruit-girl, who

saw him descend shivering and hungry from his garret, and was delighted to share with him, what he was never very reluctant to take, her *soupe, bouilli*, and litre of wine. For dessert poor Jacqueline bestowed on her illustrious and vagabond friend the rarest fruit which she had in her shop. The poor girl strained her very utmost to make Lantara prefer her back parlour to the public-house, and the careless fellow had just begun to appreciate each according to its real value, when Jacqueline suddenly died. Lantara plunged for consolation into the nearest wine-shop in the street.

Under his repulsive and fiery exterior there was still some tenderness of sentiment. No pressure of thirst could induce the drunkard to part with a landscape which he had painted on one of his sober days, while Jacqueline carolled one of her rustic lays at his side. In the garret next to that in which Lantara passed his last days there lived an old opera-dancer, almost as drunken, and quite as desolate, as the painter. She saw him one morning crying over this landscape in question. "I wonder," said she, "that you do not sell that country-piece!" "Sell it!" cried Lantara, not too tipsy to be unsentimental, "never! never! I can hear Jacqueline's voice in it, coming to me through the foliage."

"He drank on till wine killed him. In his last illness he was carried to the 'Hôpital de la Charité.' A confessor stood by his bedside administering what consolation he could. 'Rejoice, my son,' said the priest, 'you are on the road to Paradise, where, as long as eternity lasts, you will behold the Almighty face to face.' 'Face to face!' muttered the broken-down artist—and he did not mean it profanely,—'face to face! what, never in profile?'—and with this artistic query poor Lantara died."

The book is nicely got up in the matter of paper and type; and is embellished with a very good portrait of Doran, from a careful photograph by Herbert Watkins.

FATHER AND DAUGHTER.

Father and Daughter. By Miss F. Bremer. Translated by Mary Howitt. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

MISS BREMER'S reputation is peculiar. She made it immediately with the English public when her first productions were presented to their notice. Her status as a literary artiste was at once assigned to her, and her subsequent works were quite in harmony with the popular decision. It was felt that a new writer of Nature's school had manifested her presence in the literary world. No one, after perusing Miss Bremer's first simple and faithful delineation of Northern life and manners, ever desired or expected to see the gifted writer stray from her proper path into regions of sentimentality or melodramatic maudlinism. We have before us a work which has led us to regret that it was written by Miss Bremer. *Father and Daughter* might have made a name for a less distinguished writer, but we fear to the rich harvest of well-earned laurels that rightly adorn Miss Bremer's brow it will not add a single leaf. The "nature" that we so much admired in the clear, life-like, and quietly humorous pictures in *Home*, the *H— Family*, and the earlier works, is wanting here. There is the hand now and then visible of the master, but there is also the "prentice hand" unmistakably too conspicuous. Miss Bremer tells the reader, in the preface, this:—"I am tired of the old story of lovers' sighs, hopes, torments, quarrels, reconciliations, fascination, and happiness or despair. I am tired of writing about them, as if the romance of life had not something more beautiful, something better." From this exordium the eager reader will naturally be induced to expect in *Father and Daughter* "something more beautiful, something better" than even established favourites have evinced. Let us see whether this expectation will be fulfilled. About eighty pages at the commencement are devoted to dialogues between Professor Norrby and his daughter, Rosa Norrby, who live a studious and secluded life at Wisby, in Gothland, and extracts from the works of Cæsar, Cato, Seneca, Marcus Aurelius, and other antique authors of exploded metaphysical fallacies, sweetened with doses of paternal and filial love. The professor makes his daughter independent in circumstances at twenty-one, and then gives her permission to vary her studious life by visiting some relations at Stockholm, the Baroness Norrby and her son, the Baron Axtel Norrby. Rosa takes leave of her learned parent, begs his large walking-stick for her *compagnon de voyage*, and makes her first appearance to Baron Axtel, a Swedish buck of the first head, walking-stick in hand. The baronet at first despises his *roccoco* cousin, but soon afterwards, on the discovery of her great talents and amiability, changes his opinion, falls, or affects to fall, in love with her, and makes her an offer of his hand, which offer Rosa accepts conditionally. A letter is received by Rosa which induces her to return suddenly to her father's house. She finds him in a drooping state, smitten with blindness and

having a vertebral disease of which the sure end is idiocy or death. The father is deliberately meditating suicide by starvation. He coolly informs his daughter of the fact, and then a good deal of philosophy and many more extracts from ancient authors are brought forward and quoted, by the father, in justification of his determination, by the daughter, as arguments to prove that the determination is a wrong one. The "father" is only induced to suspend his attempt on his life by the threat that the "daughter" would terminate hers exactly in the same fashion. Father and daughter remove to a farm in their possession, and then, by the aid of new scenery and new amusements, the professor acquires a new stock of health, and his morbid fancies become gradually fainter. Baron Axtel visits Rosa, renews his vows, and is told that the marriage cannot be so long as the professor requires his daughter's constant care. He vows eternal fidelity, and immediately transfers his love to Cora, a young cousin of Rosa's. This new love becomes known to Rosa, and when the Baron offers his hand again, some time afterwards, she rejects him, and acquaints him with scenes that had been witnessed by her own eyes. Rosa is then at the house of the Baroness, who has just died. She makes preparation to return home, and in order to expedite her journey she embarks with the mails on board a small boat during the winter season. Here we have a minute history of the journey, the perils of the travelling party, their sufferings among the ice, from starvation, cold, and sudden death, and though we are assured that all the circumstances are founded on facts, and are taken from a newspaper statement of the mishaps of a real mail-bag party, we hardly think the general reader will consider them of sufficient value in themselves, or having a sufficient connexion with the story or its moral, to entitle the narrative to be reproduced at such length. Rosa is rescued from all but inevitable destruction, and she lives on with her father and brother at their new home. Baron Axtel and Cora are united, and several years afterwards the professor dies. There is a Madame Carlander, the aunt, with her two only teeth, Malakoff and Sebastopol, her physic for everybody, and especially her "head cure for the stomach." She is the only really "Bremer-like portrait" we have, and might have been made a good deal more of with advantage to the story.

This is all that *Father and Daughter* contains worth noticing. The materials are of the slightest, and the moral not likely to be very fully appreciated here, where the standard of filial duty and love is placed on what we would venture to term higher and more refined grounds than in Sweden. Of course the book will be read by everybody. Many will applaud, but more, we think, will be inclined to adopt our estimation of its merits.

BOOKS FOR YOUTH.

The Boy's Book of Modern Travel and Adventure. By Meredith Jones. Kent and Co.

False Appearances. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

The Canadian Crusoes. By Catherine P. Traill. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

The Kangaroo Hunters. By Ann Bowman. Routledge and Co.

The English Boy in Japan. By William Dalton. J. Nelson and Sons.

The Boy's Book of Modern Travels and Adventure is not a collection of imaginary sketches, but is for the most part composed of extracts from some of our most popular books of travel, with clever condensations of actual incidents and particulars of distant regions from the original works themselves. The author has judiciously blended instruction with amusement. Binding, type, paper, and illustrations are all capital.

False Appearances is one of those pleasing domestic tales with a moral which Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Sherwood, and Mrs. Trimmer have made so popular. Mrs. Mackay, the authoress of the present little volume, takes high rank among these pleasing writers of juvenile moral fiction.

The Canadian Crusoes is of sufficient merit to obtain the editorial revision of Miss Agnes Strickland. The first edition instantly established itself in public favour, the second will enlarge the audience and reputation of the work.

The Kangaroo Hunters is as amusing as some of Marryat's or Chamier's best productions. The authoress, we hope, will pardon us for giving a piece of advice. In writing for childhood or youth, simplicity of style ought to be carefully adhered to. Read Defoe's "Robinson Crusoe," and it will be found that the secret of its universal charm is the clear and pure Saxon made use of.

The English Boy in Japan is not a book to be read and thrown aside. The manners, customs, and legends, as the author himself tells us, have been gathered from the latest as well as the earliest authorities, the only imaginative part is the pleasant vehicle which the author has adopted for the purpose of conveying the information he imparts to no doubt eager readers in its most attractive form.

AN OLD DEBT.

An Old Debt. By Florence Dawson. 2 vols.

Smith, Elder, and Co. HAD Miss Brontë never written *Shirley*, Miss Dawson would have gained higher praise for the originality of her novel. Not that Miss Dawson has copied servilely either personages or catastrophe in *Shirley*, but as she has introduced a strong-minded tutor and a susceptible young lady pupil, the coincidence naturally solicits attention, and attracts comparison. The story worked out in these two volumes appears to be this—Ellen Scudamore and her brother Frederick are left to the guardianship of Lord Conyngford, their relative. Ellen is beautiful and lovable, but somewhat self-willed and impetuous. Frederick is an invalid—all softness and sensibility. Lord Conyngford, though outwardly cold and stern, inwardly is loving and amiable. A distant relative, Edward Young, is engaged in the capacity of tutor. He is silent and impassive to outward appearance. But like his noble relative, he has a temperament deeply susceptible of female attractions. Lord Conyngford falls in love with his ward, makes a declaration of love, and an offer of his hand. His ward does not entirely approve of the alliance; but she takes a year to think over it, and to give her final answer. The frail health of her brother calls for a change of climate, and accordingly, with Lord Conyngford's consent, a party is made up, consisting of Ellen, Frederick, and their stepmother, with Mr. Young as tutor and manager of the travelling arrangements. While travelling hither and thither, the peculiarities of character possessed by Ellen Scudamore and Edward Young are brought out prominently. The result of the intercourse which takes place between all the members of the travelling party, and certain well-wrought incidents which take their rise from the course of events is, that Edward Young finds himself the rival of his patron, Lord Conyngford, hopelessly in love with Ellen, but as desperately determined to keep his secret. The year expires. Lord Conyngford makes his appearance, claims the hand of Ellen, and receives it. Edward Young quits the happy pair, but writes to Lord Conyngford a letter which lets that nobleman into the well-kept secret of his life. Lord Conyngford follows Edward Young, and overtakes him, but too late for earthly aid. Edward Young has expired—we infer, through blighted hopes. The tale is worked out with cleverness and with level ability, though certainly it has no pretensions to take higher rank than that of a very good, seasonable novel.

JOHN HALIFAX.

John Halifax, Gentleman. Fourth Edition.

Hurst and Blackett.

THIS sterling production has reached a fourth edition. This is no more than its inherent literary merits demanded, and we may be sure that when this edition is exhausted the public will call for more editions, and the work will continue to hold the high rank it immediately attained when it was first introduced to the public.

MESSRS. DEAN AND SON'S CHILDREN'S BOOKS.

Every Child's Own Book: Poetry and Pictures for Little People.

The Lion's Grand Ball.

Mrs. Dove's Party.

New Mother Goose.

Three Little Kittens.

Every Child's Own Book Primer.

Funnily told Tales and Funny Pictures.

Shakespeare fresh Chiselled on Stone. By J. V. Barrett.

The Coloured Picture-Book of Surprising Stories.

THE first seven of this Christmas issue are all admirably suited for very young children. The subjects are full of fun, and the illustrations in admirable keeping. The series are all printed and got up in superior style, and the price moderate. *Funnily told Tales and Funny Pictures* is a work of higher pretension. The binding and the illustrations are so good, and the poetical text so replete with humour, that a more acceptable Christmas gift could hardly be devised. *The Coloured Picture-Book of Surprising Stories* is another charming little work—a perfect treasury of enjoyment for young ladies and gentlemen who have got beyond their primer. *Shakespeare fresh Chiselled on Stone* consists of burlesque pictorial renderings of well-known quotations from Shakespeare. Children of "larger growth" of course will be best able to appreciate properly the humour of the artist and the culler of quotations.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Tales from Blackwood. Vol. III. Fcap. 8vo. W. Blackwood and Sons.

The Two Mottoes. By the Author of "Summerleigh Manor." J. W. Parker and Son.

The Calamities and Quarrels of Authors, &c. &c. By Isaac D'Israeli. A new Edition, Edited by his Son, the Rt. Hon. Benjamin Disraeli. Routledge and Co. *Days of Old.* Three Stories from Old English History. Macmillan and Co.

Florence. A Tale. By Mr. E. Hammond. James Blackwood.

The Book of Job. By T. J. Conant. Trübner and Co.

The Foster Brothers. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

Hanworth. J. W. Parker and Son.

Augustin and Wenonda; or, Forgiveness of Injuries. Tallant and Allan.

The Prayer Book and its History. By the Rev. G. Okehurst. Wertheim and Co.

Memoirs of W. Beckford of Fonthill. 2 vols. C. J. Skeet.

Our Veterans of 1854 in Camp before the Enemy. By a Regimental Officer. C. J. Skeet.

The Plays of Shakespeare. Edited by Howard Staunton. Vol. II. Routledge and Co.

How to Farm Profitably; or, the Sayings and Doings of Mr. Alderman Mechi. 8vo. Routledge and Co.

Moore's Irish Melodies. People's Edition. Longman and Co.

The Kangaroo Hunters. By Anne Bowman. 8vo. Routledge and Co.

An Old Debt. By Florence Dawson. Smith, Elder, and Co.

New Pictures and Old Panels. By Dr. Dorau. 8vo. R. Bentley.

The English Schoolgirl. By Mrs. Alfred Higginson. Chapman and Marshall.

Memoirs of Bartholomew Fair. By Henry Morley. Chapman and Hall.

A Few out of Thousands: their Sayings and Doings. Groombridge and Co.

False Appearances. By Mrs. Mackay. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

Canadian Crusoes. A Tale. By Catherine Parr Traill. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

Father and Daughter. By Frederika Bremer. Translated by Mary Howitt. A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

The English Boy in Japan. By William Dalton. Nelson and Son.

Thorndale. By William Smith. W. Blackwood and Sons.

The History of Moses Wimble. By Himself. C. J. Skeet.

Narrative of Services in the Liberation of Chili, Peru, and Brazil. By Thomas, Earl of Dundonald, K.C.B., and Admiral of the Fleet, &c. &c. 2 vols. James Ridgway.

Outlines of Scripture History. By Rev. J. E. Riddle, M.A. Longman and Co.

Chiming Trifles. By an Oxonian. W. Kent and Co.

History of the Reign of Philip II., King of Spain. By W. H. Prescott, Vol. II. Routledge and Co.

The Boys' Book of Modern Travel and Adventure. By Meredith Johns. W. Kent and Co.

Relics of Genius. By T. P. Grinstead. W. Kent and Co.

Ballads and Songs. By Edward Capern, the Bideford Postman. W. Kent and Co.

The Theory and Practice of the International Trade of the United States and England. By P. Barry. Trübner and Co.

John Halifax, Gentleman. 4th Edition. Hurst and Blackett.

The Pulpit Observer for 1858. Judd and Glass.

Le Magasin de Librairie Public. Par Charpentier. Paris: Charpentier.

The Fairy Tale of Science. By John Casgill Brough. Griffith and Farron.

The Logic of Banking. By J. W. Gilbert, F.R.S. Longman and Co.

Lays of the Middle Ages, and other Poems. By James Hedderwick. Macmillan and Co.

Cambridge Essays. 1858. J. W. Parker and Son.

Recollections of a Literary Life, &c. By Mary Russell Mitford. R. Bentley.

The Town. By Leigh Hunt. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Proverbs with Pictures. By C. H. Bennett. Chapman and Hall.

Reports Relating to the Sanitary Condition of the Strand District of London. By Conway Evans, M.D. John Churchill.

On Copper Smelting. By Hyde Clarke, Esq., C.E. "Mining Journal" Office, Fleet-street.

Lessons on Mind. J. W. Parker.

Fine Arts.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE FINE ARTS.

THIS new society is now fairly launched, and apparently under the most favourable auspices. Upwards of eight hundred persons, ladies and gentlemen, all in evening dress, responded to the invitation of the council, and attended the provisional meeting at the Hanover Square Rooms on Friday evening last. Mr. H. Ottley, the honorary corresponding secretary, in his address on behalf of his colleagues in the council, referred with especial gratification to this circumstance, which he accepted as a proof that the promoters of the society "were not far wrong in the leading idea upon which it was based; namely, a conviction of the existence in the minds of the public of a living and growing interest in the fine arts." It is a prime feature in the principles of this society, that it includes all the sisterhood of the fine arts, and another, that it invites rather the community who have a taste for the enjoyment of one or all of those arts, than the professions of the arts themselves. A large general constituency is thus sought to be secured, which, whilst it gives might and importance to the action of society, will probably avert that tendency to "cliquism, favouritism, and partisanship," which has been the ruin of so many purely art institutions. That the professions of the arts, and those practically and commercially connected with them, are not ill-disposed towards this new catholic organisation, nor unmindful of the influence it will probably exercise upon their interests, may be judged from the alacrity and unanimity with which they came forward to give their aid in honour of its inauguration. Mr. Martin, the lessee, lent the Hanover Square Rooms without charge; the singers, including the Orpheus Glee Club, sang gratuitously; and the owners of pictures came forward to lend the pick of their collections to decorate the walls. Sculptors, too, were there in the lower room; so that, altogether, an evening's entertainment was produced which may be pronounced as unique as it was varied in character, and which went off without a hitch, to the evident satisfaction of all concerned.

As for the business part of the proceedings, it chiefly went to setting before the public a résumé of the progress and intentions of the society, points which, as they have already been discussed in these columns, we need not again enter upon in detail. Viscount Ranelagh, one of the vice-presidents, who took the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Earl of Carlisle, the President, gave a matter-of-fact statement of the declared views of the promoters, as set forth in the programme, and plainly put the question, "Was there room for such a society?" his affirmative reply to which was ratified by an impressive cheer from the audience. Then came Mr. Ottley's address, which was listened to with attention, and gave general satisfaction. In the course of it the speaker candidly referred to the conditions necessary to ensure public support to any project of this kind, and whilst he put forth pretensions to enjoy it, he judiciously disclaimed all intention of rivalry with any other existing body:—

We cannot be blind to the fact (he said) that, in this plain-speaking, plain-going country, the public, when appealed to by the promoters of any undertaking upon public grounds, are accustomed instinctively to hold a little aloof—to exercise a wise reserve, hesitating to accept and ratify the proposition until well satisfied of the ingenuousness and *bona fides* with which it is brought forward, and the probable means of its eventual successful accomplishment. We do not complain of this; on the contrary, we gladly accept the condition—the only sure title to success is to deserve it, and that we hope to do. We are well aware, also, that in this advanced age there is scarcely any field of intellectual enterprise which is not to a certain extent, and under certain modifications, already occupied, and that a natural jealousy is excited in the minds of those who so occupy the position of all who are supposed to meditate invading it. Allow me then, on the part of the council of this society, to invite the public to apply the most rigid scrutiny to our scheme. If they see that it is a good one, and likely to prove of use, let them adopt it; if otherwise, let them withhold their support. We know the result, and are prepared to abide by it. And with regard to all those, whether public bodies or individuals, taking an active part in anything relating to the interests of art, let us

MUSIC IN PARIS.—A monster concert on a scale of monstrosity never before heard of is projected for April next. 208 choral societies, numbering among them 7000 performers, are to be congregated within the walls of the Crystal Palace in the Champs Elysées. M. Delaporte, the President of the Choral Society of Paris, and M. Vautin, a *rédauteur* of the *Orphéon* and of the *Pays*, are the leaders of the enterprise, which is said to be patronised by Meyerbeer.

AFRICAN IMMIGRATION.—The commission on the immigration of negroes into the French colonies is about to examine the Bishop of Martinique and the Bishop of Gabon both of whom happen to be in Paris.

state that as we propose to occupy ground which we believe to be wholly unoccupied, to supply an action of a kind and in a direction which has not yet been attempted, so we propose—and almost as a natural consequence of that right line of conduct—to guard ourselves most scrupulously against rivalry or antagonism with any existing art body or art interest. Our object is not to destroy or impair the action of any fellow labourers in the great field of art; the strength of our position will not be increased by weakening theirs, and we can gain nothing by their loss. On the other hand, appealing as we do to the suffrages of the million for the success of our cause, using the intelligence of the public as our means, it is not impossible that our influence, by increasing and improving the feeling for art amongst the community at large, may be the means of promoting the objects and increasing the practical efficacy of all existing institutions devoted to art, a result of which we shall be but too happy to witness.

These statements were received with cordial approval, and must have disarmed opposition if any had been meditated. One observation, and one only, was added, which, though delicately put, might be taken as a suggestion of some reform tendencies as a possible result of the operations of the society:—"And if in any way, as a consequence, this should lead to the extension or improvement of the machinery of any such institutions, we should hail the fact as one of the greatest triumphs it could fall within our ambition to contemplate." After going into various details, the speaker threw the future charge and prospects of the society upon public opinion, and concluded, rather grandiloquently, by an adjuration to the future:—"Humble as are the hands by which the foundation of this institution have been laid, we are sanguine enough to believe that, supported by public opinion, it will become of utility and influence worthy of the arts of the age; and that this day upon which it is established may be considered entitled to honourable record in the history of civilisation and progress." Bravo, Mr. Ottley. Mr. Timbs, the learned compiler of the "Things not Generally Known," who happened to be present, will, doubtless, make a note of the event for some future edition of his "Curiosities of History." To conclude with this society for the present: there can be no doubt, we think, that it presents novelty and merit in its leading features; but its scheme is so comprehensive as to require high intelligence, indefatigable industry, and large and powerful machinery to keep it in action. A great deal will depend upon the men by whom all this is to be directed, and although it would be ungracious at this early period to canvass the merits of the several gentlemen at present upon the council, we confess that we heard with satisfaction from the chairman that at the earliest convenient period the constitution of the executive would be subject to revision, the officers being elected by the general body of the members.

Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper. Engraved on wood by F. J. Smyth, after a drawing by Thomas D. Scott. (Virtue and Co.)—We have here a remarkably fine specimen of wood-engraving, being, we believe, one of a series of copies of the great masters, intended to be produced by the enterprising publishers. The size is that of Raphael Morgen's well-known copper-plate engraving, the effects of which are copied with wonderful accuracy in a medium so different in its conditions. The work is evidently one in which Mr. Smyth, the engraver, has taken pride, and he has lavished upon it all the resources of his art. The delicacy of finish in all parts is admirable, especially in the expression of the faces, and all the textual treatment as to discriminating the varieties of surface in the hair, the glass, and other vessels on the table, the sharp folds of the tablecloth, &c. In some parts minute cross-hatchings have been introduced with great skill and effect. Though published at a low price, this really interesting print is well worthy of framing. We should like to see it followed by the cartoons of Raphael, and the Transfiguration, and other standard works of the great Italian school, produced in a similar style. We want some aids of this kind to counteract the vicious influence of maudlin trash, unfortunately too popular with the million.

Mr. E. H. BAILY.—This gentleman, the favourite pupil of the illustrious Flaxman, and the sculptor of one of the most poetic groups in English art, "Eve at the Fountain," has retired from the art he advanced—not too well off, we are sorry to hear—fuller of honour than of riches. His last work was the model for the St. Paul's statue of Mr. Ruskin's Turner. But the Turner statue was given to Mr. MacDowell, a younger sculptor, but one eminent in his art; and Mr. Baily has handsomely drawn his retiring mantle around him. He will be heard of hereafter as a master in his line.—*Illustrated London News.*

Theatres and Entertainments.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

THE result of the contest between the National Sunday League and the Lord's Day Observance Society, who have made the Sunday opening of the palace their battle-ground, is yet undecided. After the preliminary and dividend business of the half-yearly meeting was disposed of, and the chairman had congratulated his fellow shareholders upon having at last weathered the financial storm, a motion was made to rescind the resolution of last July, in virtue whereof the palace and grounds have lately been open to shareholders on Sunday afternoons. Each party professed to represent a majority of the proprietary, and, further, a very strong feeling throughout England. Both agreed, it appears, to regard the Sunday opening to shareholders as the thin end of the wedge whose thicker end might open the palace doors to the public on the Sabbath. The usual arguments, *pro* and *con*, were gone into, of course, at some length, and though the Archbishop of Canterbury, and 661 other ministers, and 900 shareholders, holding in the aggregate 62,000 shares, were claimed as allies by the "closing" party, unanimity seems as far off as ever. The chairman reminded the meeting that the company consisted of 230,000 shares, and that the House of Commons were only prevented by fear of their constituencies from a decision in favour of the question. The result of a division was as follows:—

For rescinding the resolution	...	81
Against it	...	105

Majority ... 24

A ballot was formally demanded; to take place at Sydenham, on Wednesday, January 12, and three following days; and stamped proxies were ordered to be sent, at the expense of the company, to every shareholder. The battle has, therefore, still to be fought; and it is to be hoped that all shareholders—whether in favour of Sunday opening or opposed to it—will now speak out, or hereafter hold their peace. Such a perpetuation of discord and scandal as was due for a long time to the bitter struggle about Sunday travelling in Scotland should surely not be permitted to obtain among sober Englishmen. Neither party may claim to have received direct Divine revelation upon the Sunday question. We may expect no such revelation. We own no infallible interpreter of the law and the tradition we have received. We are gravely at issue upon the meaning of the commandment. Logic, and talent, and virtue are arrayed in favour of latitude as well as of strictness. Church and State action upon religious matters is at a dead-lock. The question before us must therefore practically remain one of private judgment, and the majority of private judgments must be allowed to be "public opinion," and, unless we would push matters to extremes, must have the virtue of power. *Stet pro ratione voluntas* must for once be admitted for their own sakes by both parties of shareholders. Let them cease from the useless and unworthy exchange of such heavy shots as "fanatic," "Pharisee," "infidel," and "freethinker," and leave agitation to the outside public and the press, unless they would see that profit and loss account—which the speakers on both sides took such cheerful note of and put so prominently forward in the battle—appropriated to proxy stamps, Chancery suits, and other munitions of joint-stock war. When the ensuing ballot shall have been closed we cannot encourage them to make their palace the arena of fresh combats.

With others of our estate, we are in favour of a liberal—but not, we hope, irreligious—construction of the Divine law. Under the colour of Christian liberality we are prepared to triumph or submit without acrimony, and can put up, in either case, with the censure, pity, or prayers of our opponents. We sincerely believe that public opinion will be found, with the present majority, in favour of "the thin end of the wedge," and we hope, in time, to meet thousands on Sundays, where now but a few timorous individuals stand on their rights, and assert what we hold to be the good principle.

We gather from an amusing bill before us, which we have no room to transcribe, that the Crystal Palace direction are busy upon the preparation of Christmas revels. The fun commences on Monday, the 27th inst., under the management of the well-known and, in his way, inexhaustibly fertile Dykwynekyn. If we remember well, the Christmas festival of last year was produced under Mr. Nelson Lee, and we are glad to see the custom kept up, or rather, introduced. There are thousands, ay, tens of thousands, of parents in London, who will, if the direction are wise enough to give ample publicity to their intentions, rejoice at the opportunity of affording a day's Christmas to their youngsters, and of joining in it themselves; and we hope, therefore, that the said directors will, for the sake of their share-

holders as well as our clients the million, neglect no means at their disposal for ventilating their programme. Some old-fashioned friends of ours have observed that the character of the institution was likely to be lowered by the dissemination of handbills, the affixing of posters, and liberal advertising; but, to our thinking, these means must be far more widely adopted than at present if it is the wish of the board to advance the interests of their constituents. The Crystal Palace and its interesting contents are not "located" at Sydenham for the private delectation of shareholders, season-ticket holders, and the neighbouring nobility and gentry. That they are there is hard enough upon persons of taste whom the distance keeps away, and unlucky enough for their owners. But that they should be a select show were a disaster. The speculation can only look for prosperity to its popularity with the masses. Fine folks will find it fast enough; but it must go afield to catch the million; and the million must be called into the circle of its attractions by the old invocations. There is nothing but "printers' ink" for it—that good old recipe of Mr. Barnum and his legion of successful imitators, who make fortunes by "printers' ink," though they sometimes knock them down by "spekylatin'." The punning handbill before us is admirably calculated to diffuse among the million the knowledge of the Christmas doings at Sydenham, and if it be circulated by tens of thousands instead of by dozens, will no doubt produce a large and remunerative crop of shillings. It announces that each juvenile visitor will be presented with a Christmas offering. A giant pudding is to be cut and eaten by those who "come in pudding time." A monster twelfth-cake is to be cut in due season. Mimes and mummers in motley are to be seen; a Christmas-tree there will be, of course. The Lord of Misrule is to wave his Christmas banner in the "Hall of Mince-pie," and Mr. Punch is to take Judy for an aerial voyage. Fairy balloons are to soar in the transept by day, and a fairy ring of magic-lanterns is to shine upon the illuminated pudding at dusk, amid the strains of a grand Christmas musical *finale*. As we can be of more service to the Crystal Palace Company by one announcement than by half a dozen "reports," we have given the above extract from their Christmas bill of fare. For further particulars our readers must inquire elsewhere, and by this time we hope the town is covered with ample details. "Popularise! popularise! popularise!" is our continued advice to the directors, "if you would continue to divide, divide, divide."

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

Compressed into three acts and its story reduced to a thread incident in the cause of Oakley v. Oakley, Coleman's *Jealous Wife* was re-revived here on Wednesday last. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean sustained the principal parts in an admirable manner. The leading characteristic of Mr. Kean's performance was the well-bred absence of passion, though not of feeling, that we might suppose as natural to a finished gentleman of his epoch as to one of the present time, and which we can all believe would materially help to work up the nature of a jealous woman to the paroxysms so wonderfully portrayed by Mrs. Kean. The *Major Oakley* of the cast was Mr. Cooper, who presented an excellent and unexaggerated study of the old-school military gentleman; very far removed from the epauletted grotesque of tradition, whose function was usually in former days, and is sometimes, now-a-days, to shake a stick at the other characters, and say, "Damme, sir!" *Lord Trinket* was well dressed and neatly played, but without much colour, by Mr. Walter Lacy. Mr. F. Matthews made nothing of *Squire Russel*, and Mr. Saker no more of *Sir Harry Beagle*. Mrs. Kean was ably and satisfactorily seconded by Mrs. Winstanley, as *Lady Freckle*, and the ensemble of the comedy was—it could hardly have been otherwise, considering the perfect conception and unflinching exertions of the three principals—extremely agreeable and well received.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

The first of the Pyne and Harrison winter seasons at this superb theatre was inaugurated on Monday by the production in the most splendid and tasteful manner of Mr. Balfe's new opera *Satanella*, or the *Power of Love*.

Since the close of the last century, when M. Cazotte wrote his novel of the *Diable Amoureux*, the subject has been a favourite one with melodramatists, scene-painters, and composers, and has been treated over and over again. Its last appearance was, we believe, sixteen years ago, at the Adelphi Theatre, in the shape of a three-act piece called *Sathanas*, by Mr. Stirling Coyne. It now appears, prodigally overlaid with musical and scenic glories, as a mortally long and dreary opera-comique in four acts, of which two, or at least one, should in mercy be abolished.

The critic who remembers that librettists have, metaphorically, to dance in fetters, and that their "poems" are often subject to distortion to suit composers, stage-managers, and artists, is ever slow

to condemn; but this apology cannot be extended to page after page of consecutive prose talk of which the only apparent end is to wear away the time and patience of the listener. Let us hope the scissors will be unsparingly applied.

The story of *Satanella* runs, or rather limps, as follows. The young, wealthy, and fast Count Rupert (Mr. Harrison), beloved in secret by Lelia (Miss Rebecca Isaacs), but about to marry Stella (Miss S. Pyne), gives a splendid fête in honour of the latter. But incautiously embracing the former before the company, the Count comes to grief. A rupture takes place, which ends far more romantically than in a breach of promise suit, for the lady provokes her discarded to throw a main with her, and beggars him. The second act introduces us to a gothic library in the last of the Count's possessions, "the Devil's Tower," to his servant, Karl (Mr. St. Albyn), who is an humble admirer of the aspiring Lelia, and makes us better acquainted with his travelling Mentor, Hortensius (Mr. George Honey). Here, to relieve his fortunes and get a new sensation, our hero hits upon the expedient of summoning the Devil to his aid. On this appears the fiend, Arimanes (Mr. Weiss). In wrathful mood at being thus disturbed upon his throne of flame, he soundly rates the presumptuous mortal and strikes him senseless, leaving the familiar demon *Satanella* (Miss Louisa Pyne) in possession, with these directions:—

To question, do not dare:
My will is to ensnare
All woman in thy heart.
With woman's presence part;
In form be thou a page,
As such with him engage.

Satanella enters upon her duties by restoring Rupert to consciousness, giving him a first-rate supper, and "magic slumber" to follow, and then falling deeply, desperately, but, alas! hopelessly, in love with him. Abandoning the page's costume, she tries to fascinate in woman's guise, but here even her supernatural powers fail her, and she is tormented by the rivalry of Stella. This, however, she counteracts by the present of a mystic hat, which, though it enables Rupert to discern the falsehood of the *intrigante*, is powerless against his revived passion for Lelia. Restored to wealth and cured of his attachment to Stella, the Count now retires upon his *premieres amours*. We find him, in fact, on the point of being married to the peasant girl; but the united exertions of her rejected admirer, Karl, the desperate Stella, and the lovelorn *Satanella*, are too much for him. The first enlists with a gang of pirates, and carries off Lelia. The last contrives that Stella also shall be kidnapped, and herself takes the bride's place in the wedding march. But immortals, as well as mortals, seem doomed to slips 'twixt cup and lips, for almost at the altar's foot our enamoured enchantress is herself spirited away at the call of the master fiend, Arimanes.

The next scene in which the action progresses is the slave mart at Tunis, where we find Lelia and Stella for sale. Rupert, who has followed the object of his affections, is there too, and is on the point of seeing her purchased by a wealthy Turk, when, suddenly enriched by *Satanella*, he is enabled to redeem her. The gentle fiend, in virtue of an impromptu compact, goes vicariously into slavery, and the happiness of the lovers seems again all but secure. But, in the fourth act, poor *Satanella* again forbids the buns at the very altar's foot. She presents Rupert's bill for acceptance and claims his person in satisfaction; but touched by the devotion of Lelia, who offers herself instead, foregoes her rights and destroys the document. After this, by the aid of a holy rosary and the prayers of the faithful, she is delivered from the tyranny of the fiend, her master, and the curtain descends upon her apotheosis.

In attempting a meagre condensation of the story, we have left ourselves scant space for allusion to the beauties of the opera, which though they might richly furnish a short work, appeared on the first representation to be separated by long intervals of horrid dullness. The first act contains a successful ballad. "Our hearts are not our own to give," which rejoices in a graceful accompaniment, and was so feelingly given by Miss Isaacs as to secure a sound encore. That Karl's song, "Oh would'st thou but name the day," will be a drawing-room favourite, we have little doubt. It was well sung by Mr. St. Albyn, whose clear and true tones penetrating to the back rows of seats, where strains of several other voices were utterly lost, procured him much genuine approbation. The act concludes, or should have concluded, with "The power of love," a fine, flowing, expressive melody accompanied by the harp and supported by a chorus behind the scenes. This air and its recitative were deliciously sung by Miss Pyne, who would have made a great impression in them, but the enthusiasm of the audience was immediately damped by the intrusion of some vapid dialogue between its termination and the fall of the act drop. The appearance of Arimanes gives an opening for a few fine lines, which were delivered by Mr. Weiss at half

power, and Mr. Harrison's song, in the Balfan manner, in praise of champagne, fell as flat as the antithesis of that admirable liquor. Mr. Harrison had it quite under command, he treated it forcibly, and in his best manner, but it yielded him nothing. The opening chorus of peasants, nobles, and tenantry, as well as the short overture, were fresh and richly scored. The chorus of the gamblers also introduced a few charming bars; but on the whole the first act, though mounted with most superb scenery, and new and really splendid costumes, showed little promise of an unqualified success. The striking morceaux of Act II. are the bold andante, and, in parts, fine bravura with which *Satanella* opens it. The well-written ballad, "An angel form," for which again we may venture to predict some drawing-room popularity, would have been more effective had it not carried Mr. Harrison into falsetto. But there was no mistaking the thorough appreciation by all connoisseurs of Miss Pyne's original and beautiful "Let not the world disdain," with its charming prelude by Mr. Lazarus. The finale presented much beautiful instrumentation, in parts reminding us of Mendelssohn, and the excellent male part song, also in the German manner, with which it opens, was deservedly encored.

In Act III. portions of the duo between *Satanella* and Arimanes are well written and were effectively sung. The long buffo duo in the second scene was mainly a waste of time. It contains one elegant couplet of the light and sparkling school, in which Mr. Honey and Mr. St. Albyn gave satisfaction. The chorus and dance step sung in the Tunis bazaar is very pretty, and the quintet, "Oh woe! despair!" displays originality and successful thought. *Satanella's* song, "Sultana Zulena," which Miss Pyne can not help singing deliciously, seems a pasticcio of jigs treated Auber-esquely. This was succeeded, however, by a fine melody, also for *Satanella*, which, though it may never attain to the dignity of a street organ, ought, among amateurs, to become very popular. It is called, "Wouldst thou win me," and leads to a third song in waltz time, "Old man, thyself deceiving," in which the fair lessee gave a splendid specimen of her vocalising powers. Some good music preludes Act IV., but the opening serenade, "No prize can fate," was so common-place that the grave indiscretion of some applauding enthusiasts, who once or twice erred in this manner, met with a just rebuke in the shape of hisses. The finale, in which the composer has largely introduced the delicious strains of the French-horn, presents much instrumental power and beauty. The declamation of *Satanella*, "Oh! tenderness sublime," the splendid crescendo, "Weep thou no more," the ensemble which follows, and Mr. Harrison's "Great Heaven, accord," in which he was especially successful, were all much admired and warranted a general verdict of approval at the fall of the curtain.

We must not forget to mention that the public availed themselves of the new arrangements for their comfort with the greatest satisfaction, and we believe we are but echoing the general sentiment when we express the hope that the courageous abolition of booking and box-keeping fees by this management will eventually profit them and all who will follow their example.

We learn—but it is too late to cancel our previous remarks—that the shears have been at work with a will. So far, so good. If the management will set closer together the rare gems of musical poetry in *Satanella*, and the orchestral beauties which are more abundant, they will be nearer that success their industry and outlay would, had they been well advised in time, have secured for them at the hands of the very critical audience on Monday.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.

The material for Mr. Buckstone's forthcoming pantomime, entitled *Undine, or Harlequin and the Spirit of the Waters*, is supplied by De la Motte Fouqué. The story runs that *Undine*, the fair spirit, was left by her parents on the banks of a lake, near an enchanted forest, so that she might grow up among mortals until her eighteenth year, when, if during that time she could resist the power of Love, she would be worthy to succeed to the throne of her mother under the waters. Being discovered by an old fisherman, he brought her home, where she lived with him and his wife until her eighteenth birthday, when a young knight, who had braved the dangers of the Enchanted Forest, to prove his valour and please a lady to whom he was betrothed, sought refuge in the fisherman's cottage. *Undine*, on beholding the stranger, fell at once in love with him. The water spirits, on knowing this, were greatly incensed against *Undine*, but allayed their anger by the knowledge that, should the knight prove untrue to her, it was her doom to destroy him. In vain *Undine* sought her companions in their ocean home. In vain she absented herself to conquer her fatal passion. The power of love gave her a soul, and henceforth she became mortal, and subject to all the infirmities of mortality. The young knight, for a brief space, returned the passion of *Undine*, but, on

the arrival of the lady betrothed to him, *Undine* discovered his falsehood, and bade him a sad adieu. On his bridal night she sought his chamber, and, finding him there alone, flung herself into his arms and gave him the kiss of death. The sacrifice atoned for her weakness, and she became restored to her high station amongst the Spirits of the Waters. The character of *Undine* will be sustained by Louise Leclercq; *Translucia*, her sister, by Fanny Wright; and Mrs. Leclercq will personate the false knight. The scenery has been painted by Mr. Frederick Fenton, and the unrivalled pantomimists of last year—Arthur Leclercq, Charles Leclercq, Louise Leclercq, and Fanny Wright—will sustain the harlequinade, the comic portion of which is invented by Mr. W. Dorington. The scenery of this portion is painted by Messrs. O'Connor and Morris, and the entire pantomime produced under the direction of Mr. Leclercq.

STRAND THEATRE.

The extravaganza of *Kenilworth*; or, *ye Queens, ye Earle, and ye Maydenne*, which is very carefully prepared at this theatre, follows pretty closely, we understand, the novel by Sir Walter Scott, as far as the latter goes. But here Messrs. Halliday and Lawrence deviate from their authorities, or rather go ahead of them; for they unfold to their audience that poor *Amy Robsart* never died at all. She reappears, and is happily united to "ye Earle" in a superb "hall of dazzling light," wherein are illustrated three great epochs of English history—those, namely, of Queens Elizabeth, Anne, and Victoria. The leading characters of the burlesque are *Leicester* (Miss Swanborough), the *Queen* (Mrs. Selby), *Amy Robsart* (Miss Oliver), and *Sir Walter Raleigh* (Miss Marie Wilton). *Varney* is Mr. Clarke; *Wayland Smith*, Mr. James Bland; and *Tressilian*, Miss Charlotte Saunders, a lady more known at present to provincial than to metropolitan fame.

A slight, but agreeable comedieta, entitled *The Rule of Three*, by Mr. Frank Talfourd, was produced here on Monday night. The "rule of three" appears to be that, while "two are company, three are none;" and this is the conclusion to which the piece works up. The leading personages are: *Mr. Thistleburr* (Mr. Turner) and his young wife *Margaret* (Miss M. Ternan) are supposed to be agreeing in their little matrimonial nest like an amiable pair of turtledoves, when a shade drifts athwart their bliss in the form of an invading host of bachelor friends, who drive the uxorious Benedict nearly to desperation. But his troubles are of no long duration, for as there is little vice about his tormentors, the audience have the pleasure of seeing his deliverance from them before anything serious occurs.

PALACE OF THE PEOPLE, MUSWELL HILL.

Eighteen elaborate designs prepared for this project by Mr. Owen Jones, are now on view in the large room at St. James's Hall, and will well repay the trouble of a visit. The architect proposes a building 1296 feet long, constructed of iron and glass, having two towers of moderate dimensions at each end, and four others towards its centre, from which will spring a handsome mosque-like dome of 200 feet internal diameter. The roof will be ribbed, and the span of the nave girders 120 feet. The first five designs, which may worthily be called elegant water-colour drawings, exhibit the proposed south front, industrial nave, fine-art nave, winter garden (under central dome), and north front with terrace. It has been arranged for the public comfort that railway trains shall set down company absolutely under the grand north terrace, leaving them an ascent of but 24 feet by a flight of stairs to the floor of the building. This will be an undoubted advantage. A semi-circular concert and lecture theatre, designed for 9000 persons, is to project from the centre of one front, and refreshment corridors from the end of each nave. We have no space in our present number to do more than attract attention to the design-drawings which have evidently cost their talented author an infinity of labour and thought as well as time, and which afford strong presumptive evidence that the promoters of the scheme are really in earnest.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S ENTERTAINMENT, EGYPTIAN HALL.

As genial and fresh as ever, Mr. Smith opened his Chinese Campaign on Wednesday night, and favoured a crowded company with his impressions of a scamper to Canton and of Colonial and Chinese society. The little hall was very nicely decked with accurately coloured fac-similes of Chinese shop fronts, covered with quaint inscriptions, and other Chinese curiosities of all sorts, "neat as imported;" while a real live Chinaman mooned on the staring Britons as they passed the check-taker. We, unluckily, missed the first part, which comprehended glances at Cairo, the Sphinx, and Pyramids, with the Desert and Isthmian Railway. These subjects, however, were illustrated, we understand, by four scenes of merit, painted under Mr. William Beverley's direction, and the author's sketches of his fellow-travellers by land and sea were, according to our authority, most amusing. We can speak from autopsy upon the second part, the scenes of which are laid in China. No. 1 is the City and Harbour of Hong Kong; No. 2, a Waterside Bazaar; No. 3, the celebrated Hoqua Ports; No. 4, the late European Factories at Canton; No. 5, the Gardens at Howqua's country-house. These views are all pleasingly painted after warranted sketches by colonial and native artists;

and the touch-and-go commentary supplied by the facetious narrator was no less agreeable to those former residents in China who assisted at the representation than interesting and instructive to the untravelled majority of the audience. Mr. Smith has, as we are all aware, a happy knack of extracting grains of gold, if we may use the expression, from bushels of sand, and of presenting them to his hearers so attractively, that they seem for the moment as precious as nuggets. His description of the terrible heat of Hong Kong; his quaint remarks on the Chinese custom of ennobling a man's ancestry for his great deeds instead of his descendants, and on the number of antecedent Smiths to be affected by his own peer-ification; his comparison of Chinese and English wedding breakfasts; graphic account of the lunch on birds'-nests, frogs, snails, quails, &c., at the Chinese compradores; and his happy meeting with our old acquaintance, *Edwards the engineer*, were all received with lively approbation. The comic song, "Why don't you go to Shanghai?" apropos of the universal inquiry to that effect at Hong Kong, was deservedly applauded; and the enthusiasm with which great and small welcomed the elaborate and gigantesque set scene of a willow-pattern plate, furnished one more illustration—as if it were needed—of how very common, as well as pleasant, a thing it is "*desipere in loco*."

EXHIBITION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION.

Those who take an interest in photography applied to architecture will do well to pay a visit to this exhibition, which is just opened. The Association last year held their exhibition in Suffolk-street—their collection being confined to a few portfolios and four screens. This year they fill the spacious gallery rented by the Society of Painters in Water Colours, showing a great improvement in their prosperity and increased success in collecting architectural photographs. The number of subscribers is about eleven hundred, mostly at a guinea each, with power to choose photographs of a greater value than the amount subscribed on payments at the same rate as the subscription; so that it enables architects, antiquarians, and others interested in the fine arts, to obtain photographs at a much cheaper rate and of a superior quality than they could elsewhere. Many of the subjects exhibited here are quite new, and the catalogue tells us, taken expressly for the Association. Macpherson, of Rome, exhibits one hundred and twenty views of the most interesting parts of the Eternal City and its neighbourhood, amongst which we particularly admire fine views of "The Sybil's Temple," "Tivoli," and "The Coliseum." An "Interior of the Vatican" is a very clever production, and some views of the numerous triumphal arches that yet remain in Rome merit attention. Cimetia, a Venetian photographer, contributes some very large prints of all that is interesting in Venice. The "View of the Doge's Palace from the Canal" has a very good effect. Cade, of Ipswich, exhibits some small views of the Cambridge colleges and some views in Suffolk, all most successfully executed. Robertson and Beate, of Constantinople, whose Crimean views will be remembered, have this year illustrated Cairo and the Pyramids; their street views in Cairo are very fair specimens and give a very good idea of the domestic architecture in that city. Lonsada has some miscellaneous views from Spain, including the Alhambra and Escorial at Madrid. Cooke, of Salisbury, has some very good views of Salisbury and Ely Cathedrals, also a bird's-eye view of Westminster Abbey taken from the Victoria Tower. Some of the negatives of these, we are told, are in the possession of the Association. We hear, also, that the same artist is supplying the photographic illustrations to a catalogue which has yet to appear. Baldus, the well-known Parisian photographer, supplies a few views of the Louvre and the Church at Caen. Frith, whose Egyptian views are known to many, sends a very nice collection. His panoramic "View of Cairo," eight feet long, is a very interesting production. On two screens at one end of the room we find the productions of Bedford, whose sun glimpses of Tintern, Raglan, and Chepstow are the gems of the exhibition. These subjects were taken expressly for the Association, and deserve a great amount of praise for their delicacy and finish as photographs and as pictures. "The West Front of Tintern" is very beautiful; the other views by Bedford are from various parts of England, including Canterbury and Whitby Abbey. Some views of the churches in the neighbourhood of Padua and Milan are exhibited by Ponti on two screens. "The Grand Canal of Venice" is a most effective bit; the reflections in the still water of the canal are wonderfully distinct. Gutch, Sissen, and Smith also send some miscellaneous subjects, so that, altogether, this exhibition may be regarded as a rich and varied one.

ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

THE EXHIBITION OF FOREIGN AND ENGLISH PHOTOGRAPHS IS OPEN DAILY, at 5A, PALL-MALL EAST, from 9 till dusk; and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7 till 10.—Admission free to subscribers to choose their subjects; to the Public, One Shilling. Season Tickets, Half-a-Crown. Catalogue, Sixpence. Illustrated Catalogues, to Subscribers, Five Shillings; Non-Subscribers, Seven Shillings and Sixpence. ROBERT HERKETH, Hon. Sec., 95, Wimpole-street, W.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

GRAND CHRISTMAS CARIVAL AND REVELS, AND JUVENILE HOLIDAY FESTIVAL.

By DYKWYNKYN, of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.
Monday, 27th December, and during the Holidays:—
GIGANTIC TWELFTH CAKE, with Characters animated for the occasion, including Sprites and Mimes, Youthful Sports, Dances and Games, to delight JUVENILE VISITORS.
MONSTER PLUM PUDDING, in honour of "OLD FATHER CHRISTMAS."
The Visitors are requested when they "cut" to "come again"—daily.
Grotesque Mummeries, and Procession in the GREAT HALL OF MINCE PIE, summoned to attend OLD FATHER CHRISTMAS and his Court. Representatives from Foreign Courts in attendance.
TERPSICHOEAN and PANTOMIMIC REVEL by all the Courtly Characters.
ASTOUNDING FLIGHT of MASTER PUNCH amid the Tears of JUDY.
Revels under the disturbing influence of the LORD OF MISRULE, and general restoration of harmony.
Graceful Ascent of the FAIRY BALLOON, and distribution of FLORAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS.
Distribution of Magical Plum Puddings.
General Dance by the Visitors.
Laughable and Ludicrous Magic Shadows—at Dusk.
Exquisite COSMORAMIC EFFECTS, daily.
"Shocking Events" produced by Electricity.
In Lecture-room in Tropical Department, Lectures on Chemistry daily, with most Brilliant Experiments, by J. H. Pepper, Esq., and Splendid Dissolving Views, illustrating the time-honoured story of BLUEBEARD, the EGYPTIAN COURT, and the Ancient Temples of Egypt.
Natural Magic and Necromantic Tricks.
Illuminated Plum Pudding and Magic Lantern Transparencies.
Admission, daily, One Shilling, except Saturday, 2s. 6d., or by Winter Season Tickets, 10s. 6d.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

(Farewell Season of Mr. Charles Kean as Manager.)
Monday, December 27 (Boxing Night), THE JEALOUS WIFE. After which will be produced a New Grand Christmas Pantomime, entitled THE KING OF THE CASTLE; OR, HARLEQUIN PRINCE DIAMOND, AND THE PRINCESS BRIGHTEYES. Harlequin, Mr. Cormack; Clown, Mr. Hulme; Pantaloon, Mr. Paulo; and Columbine, Miss C. Adams.
Tuesday and Friday, MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING.
Thursday, MACBETH.
Wednesday and Saturday, THE CORSICAN BROTHERS, and the Pantomime every evening.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.

(Under the Management of Mr. Buckstone.)
On Monday, Boxing Night, and during the week, SHE STOOPS TO CONQUER. Tony Lumpkin, Mr. Buckstone; Harlequin, Mr. Chippendale. After which, a new grand comic Christmas Pantomime, founded upon the Baron de la Motte Fouqué's German legend of the same name, entitled UNDISCOVERED. Harlequin, Mr. Leclercq; Clown, Mr. Cole; Pantaloon, Mr. Leclercq; and Fanny Wright will appear. The Scenery of the Legend painted by Mr. Frederick Fenton, of the Harlequinade by Messrs. O'Connor and Morris. The overture and music of the Pantomime composed by Mr. D. Spillane. The scenes of the Harlequinade executed by Mr. W. Dorington.
Stage Manager, Mr. Chippendale.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.

(Manager, Mr. Edmund Falconer.)
On Boxing Day a Morning Performance of the Burlesque and Pantomime, commencing precisely at Two o'clock. Doors to open at Half-past One.
On Monday, December 27, and during the week, the new Burlesque, written expressly for the Lyceum Company, by Robert B. Brough, and entitled THE SIEGE OF TROY. With new and gorgeous scenery by Mr. William Calcott. And a numerous Corps de Ballet will also appear. After the Burlesque, the New and Comic Pantomime, replete with New Tricks and Mechanical devices, entitled HARLEQUIN TOY HORSE; OR, THE CREMONNE FETE.
The Performances will commence every evening with the comedieta of TOO MUCH FOR GOOD NATURE.
Madame Celeste will make her first appearance in a New and Original Drama on Monday, January 3rd.
Reduced prices.—Dress Boxes, 4s.; Upper Boxes, 3s.; Pit, 2s.; Stalls, 5s.; Gallery, 1s.
Box-office open from Eleven to Five daily. Doors open at Half-past Six, to commence at Seven every evening.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.

(Piccadilly, opposite St. James's Church.)
On January 3 (Monday), and every evening for a limited period (Saturdays excepted), Mr. and Mrs. HOWARD PAUL will reappear in their Comic, Musical, and Fanciful Drawing-room Entertainment, PATCHWORK.
Embroidered with New Songs and Characters. Mr. Howard Paul will introduce "Mr. Shellingham Pense, a Vegetarian," with a "stump speech" on Vegetables. Mrs. Howard Paul will likewise continue her marvellous imitation of Mr. Sims Reeves, in "Come into the garden, Maud," and "Who shall be fairest," which for 160 nights was received with enthusiasm at the Egyptian Hall.
Morning Representations every Tuesday and Saturday at 3. Stalls, 3s.; Area, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. Commence at Eight. Plan and Tickets, at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, Old Bond-street.

DR. KAHN'S ANATOMICAL MUSEUM, 3, Tichborne-street, opposite the Haymarket, OPEN DAILY for Gentlemen only. LECTURES at 3, 4, and 8 o'clock on important and interesting topics in connection with ANATOMY, PHYSIOLOGY, and PATHOLOGY (vide Programme). Admission, 1s.—Dr. Kahn's Nine Lectures on the Philosophy of Marriage, &c., sent post free, direct from the Author, on the receipt of 12 stamps.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY LANE.

(Lessee, Mr. E. T. Smith.)
Reduced prices as usual.—Private Boxes from 10s. 6d. and upwards; Stalls, 5s.; Dress Circle, 4s.; First Circle, 2s. 6d.; Upper Boxes and Pit, 2s.; Lower Gallery, 1s.; Upper Gallery, 6d. Second Price at 9 o'clock. Box-office open from 10 till 6. The grand, gorgeous, and effective Scenery of the Pantomime by BEVERLEY.
Boxing Night, Monday, December 27, those popular and celebrated artistes Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams, the original Irish Boy and Yankee Girl, will appear in their celebrated characters of Phil Mulligan and Widow Sprouts in the laughable piece entitled LATEST FROM NEW YORK. With double Irish Jig and Irish and Yankee Songs.
After which will be produced, on a scale of unusual magnitude and magnificence, a new grand pictorial Pantomime entitled ROBIN HOOD; OR, HARLEQUIN PRIAR TUCK AND THE MERRY MEN OF SHEPHERD FOREST. Harlequins, Signori Milano and St. Mayo; Pantaloon, Messrs. G. Tainer and Delevanti; Clowns, Harry Boleno and Delevanti; Columbine, Madame Boleno and Miss F. Brown; Harlequina, Miss Julia Lamb; Juvenile Harlequin, Clown, and Pantaloon, Master S. Lauri and Masters Delevanti; Columbine, Miss F. Lauri; Principal Danseuses, Mesdames Ferro and Magnay.
Stage Manager, Mr. Robert Roxby.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA, COVENT GARDEN.

(Under the sole management of Miss Louisa Pyne and Mr. W. Harrison.)
Great Success of Balfe's New Opera, which will be repeated every evening, with the New Pantomime.
On Monday, December 27th, and every evening until further notice, the performances will commence with the highly successful new and original romantic opera, composed expressly for the present management by Mr. W. Balfe, entitled SATANELLA, OR THE POWER OF LOVE. Count Rupert, Mr. W. Harrison; Hortensius, Mr. George Honey; Karl, Mr. A. St. Albans; Braccaccio, Mr. H. Corri; The Vizier, Mr. W. H. Payne; Pirate, Mr. Bartleman; Nobles, Messrs. Terrot and Kirby; Arimanes, Mr. Weiss; Lelia, Miss Rebecca Isaacs; Stella, Miss Susan Pyne; Bertha, Miss Mortimer; Lady, Mrs. Martin; and Satanelle, Miss Louisa Pyne. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.
After which will be produced a New Little Pantomime for little people, called LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD; OR, HARLEQUIN AND THE WOLF IN GRANNY'S CLOTHING. With new scenery by Mr. W. Beverley and Mr. Dawson and Sons. Characters in the Prologue: Music, Miss Mortimer; Italian Opera, Miss Cecilia Ranoe; English Opera, Miss Emily Burns; Pantomime, Miss Craukell.
CHARACTERS IN THE STORY.
The Very Wicked Baron (afterwards Wolf), Mr. W. H. Payne; Roberto (his head man), Mr. Frederick Payne; Corin (in love with Little Red Riding Hood, afterwards Harlequin), Mr. Henry Payne; Little Red Riding Hood (afterwards Columbine), Miss Clara Morgan; Old Granny (afterwards Pantaloon), Mr. Barnes; The Wolf, by a Great Brute (afterwards Clown), Mr. Flexmore. Rustics, Guards, Footmen, &c. &c. Queen Moss Rose (Protectress of Little Red Riding Hood), Miss Elsworth; Fairy Rosebud, Miss Franks; Cupid, Miss Williams; Wealthiana (the Evil Genius, aiding the Wicked Baron), Miss Morrell. Fairies, Sylphides, &c., by the Corps de Ballet. Five Sprites by Mr. Jameson and Sons.
Doors open at Half-past Six. Commence at Seven.
Private Boxes, 1l. 1s. to 3l. 3s.; Stalls, 7s.; Dress Circles, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 3s. and 2s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.
Box-office open daily from 11 till 5, under the direction of Mr. J. Parsons, where places may be secured FREE OF ANY CHARGE FOR BOOKING.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.

(Lessee—Messrs. F. Robson and W. S. Emden.)
Monday, December 27, and during the week, will be performed the new Drama, entitled THE PORTER'S KNOT. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, W. Gordon, H. Wigan, G. Vining, H. Cooper, J. H. White, J. Franks; Mrs. Leigh Murray and Miss Hughes. To conclude with a New Extravaganza founded on Lord Byron's Poem of MAZEPPA. Characters by Messrs. F. Robson, G. Cooke, H. Wigan, F. Charles, H. Cooper, J. Howard, and L. Hall; Mesdames Wyndham, Hughes, Marston, Cottrell, Bromley, and W. S. Emden.
Commence at Half-past Seven.

THEATRE ROYAL, SADLER'S WELLS.

(Under the Management of Mr. Phelps.)
Monday and Tuesday, THE LADY OF LYONS. Claude Melnotte, Mr. F. Robinson; Madame Deschappelles, Mrs. H. Marston; Pauline, Mrs. Charles Young.
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, THE WHEEL OF FORTUNE. Pennraddock, Mr. Phelps; Emily, Mrs. Charles Young; Mrs. Woodville, Miss Atkinson, &c.
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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 by publication, but as a guarantee of his good faith. It is impossible to acknowledge the mass of letters we receive. Their insertion is often delayed, owing to a press of matter; and when omitted, it is frequently from reasons quite independent of the merits of the communication. We cannot undertake to return rejected communications.

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MORNING HERALD.

The Leader.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 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.

OUR CHRISTMAS BELLS.

THERE are few of us but can reckon among our acquaintance some persons of advanced age, continually ready to tell us that the seasons are not similar to those which they remember in the days when they were young. Then, they say, the month of May was indeed merry, March always came in like a lion and went out like a lamb, April was all smiles and tears, August was golden, October ruddy, November one continuous fog; and there was always plenty of frost and plenty of snow at Christmas. Making allowances for the very different medium through which persons advanced in life regard an age which seems in almost everything changed to them, it must be acknowledged, even by those who have attained middle age, that the "seasonable" inclemency of Christmas has been frequently wanting during these latter years, and that it is now a thing more of conventional representation than of actual occurrence. The woodcuts of our illustrated journals, and the openings of our pantomimes, show us "Old Father Christmas" arrayed in all the panoply of a snow-brodered mantle and a beard hung with icicles; the booksellers load our library tables with gorgeously-bound volumes, the letter-press all *à propos* of Christmas, and telling us of "yule logs," howls of "lamb's wool," with crabs bobbing up and down therein, "bringing home the holly," carol-singing in the snow, snow-balling, skating, and such wintry festivities. These are, for the most part, harmless but vain imaginings, fitter for *Hone's Year Book* than for the record of the expiring days of eighteen hundred and fifty-eight. Christmas we have with us, ever thanks to its Divine founder. It is the same Christmas that we were wont to celebrate, the logs blazing in the grate, and the snow-flakes blinding the window-panes that the colonist at Hong-Kong or Melbourne keeps under a blue sky and a hot sun; keeps among verdure and flowers; keeps in a straw hat, a white jacket, and pantaloons. But what a rarity is a cold Christmas, in England, now. All the other accessories of the time when there should be tidings of comfort and joy for all men have come to hand. Leadenhall-market overflows with stubbled geese, prize turkeys, and fat capons, plentifully beribboned. Christmas beef enjoys all its blushing honours on the door-jambs of the butchers. In a million households the talk is of plum-pudding and mince-pies. The boys and girls come home from school for the holidays, shouting and chattering as they pour from crowded railway trains with such a contagious joy and gladness that the faces of the sternest of station-masters expand into broad grins, and morose porters are with difficulty restrained from bursting into cheers of three times three. Hampers of country good things, baskets of game cross and recross each other all over the land, in what Mr. Carlyle would term a Sahara waltz of luggage trains. There are Christmas parties, Christmas-trees, blind-man's-buff, forfeits, snap-

dragon, holly and mistletoe wreath every available part of our walls; everything, in fact, appertaining to Christmas, is present, except the cold. Where is it, this December-due frigidity? Where are the "frozen-out gardeners," and the boys to knock importunately at the door, to ask if we don't want the snow swept off the step and pavement in front? The "waits," indeed, yet disturb us in our matutinal slumbers, but their ministrations are a mockery with the thermometer at its present temperature; and "Old Father Christmas" is deprived of half his jollity when he is compelled to shield his holly-crowned head with an umbrella, pull off his skates, and yield the *pas* to St. Swithin, with his army of disciples in oil-skin and spatterdashes, plashing through the mud and the kennel-pools.

Yet, for all its unseasonable aspect, who will refuse to take Christmas for granted, and to thank Heaven for it? The old English peasantry had a beautiful superstition that the sun dances on Easter morning; our hearts indeed should dance for joy when from the belfries of churches new and old, with a thousand-toned brazen pæans, the Christmas bells proclaim that the happy time has come again. Yes, Christmas is once more among us. What matters it if the ground be half dissolved in mud or bound in icy fetters? The bells can ring, their sounds can reach our inmost spirit, whether they permeate dully through the fogs or are ringing out "Wild Bells across the snow," and sharply clanging through the icy air.

It is a very good and pious custom to ring the Bells at Christmas; and their voices are very eloquent and full of kindly lessons to all who listen to their chimes aright. They ring remembrance of all the happy things that should be associated with Christmas Faith—the cheerful, hoping faith in that Promise which Infinite Wisdom and Mercy keeps before us, brilliant but steady: the rainbow of the soul, the eternal reflex of the star in the East which the Shepherds saw in the plain before Bethlehem. Love—the kindness and affectionate forbearance, the meekness, and merciful long suffering, that gilded every moment of the Great Exemplar's life. Faith, and Hope, and Love, do the Christmas Bells say nothing more? They do indeed, if we will but tune our ears for the resonance to strike the chords of hearing fitly. They tell us of charity—they enjoin charity—they remind us that the anniversary of the Great Sacrifice of Unselfishness is the season for us humbly to walk by its example, by charity, not only in thought, forgiving our enemies, surrendering our hatreds, atoning for our evil thoughts, but charity in deed, material charity, charity to those who have an equal need and right to our help. Remember the poor and needy, the Bells should cry to every human heart. Remember the Soup Kitchens in want of funds. Remember the Coal Clubs. Remember the Poor-Boxes at the Police Courts, and the Blanket distribution societies. Haply for the very poor the mildness of the season mitigates in some degree the horrors of Christmas without food or fuel, but a dozen hours may cause such a change in the temperature that thousands may perish for want of that positive Black Bread of the poor, Coal.

Sir Robert Walter Carden, ex-Lord Mayor, wishes for penal enactments against those who stop a beggar in the street and give him sixpence. Those who listen to the Christmas Bells in a good spirit have never heard a prohibition against open hand-to-hand charity, not indiscriminate but discriminating; giving every rational being credit for possessing the perception enabling him to distinguish between a case of absolute distress and an impostor. But then the ex-Lord Mayor may hear the bells with very different ears to his fellows. Mayors have odd ears, sometimes. So had Midas. But the Christmas Bells will ring charity into men's hearts for centuries and centuries to come, we hope, in spite of all the mayors and Midases in donkeydom.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE United States are at peace with all the world, excepting with reference to one limited portion of this great globe, and that a very long way off from England. The President's Message has been criticised in this country, as a matter of course, because it is the stated rule to criticise the Message of the President, and commonly in a hostile sense. In former documents, within our recollection, the critic at least found matter for discussion in the turgid style and pretension of the writer; but the

present Message is invulnerable, at least on that score—nothing more clear, unpretending, and solid has ever been laid before the public, at least in its style. Mr. Buchanan has been assailed by English writers for asserting once more the Monroe doctrine. But, although we may find an allusion to that independent and dignified President, we fail to discover any assertion of the principle which is so disliked on this side of the Atlantic—the dogma, that the Republicans confederated around the central district of Columbia are to possess the whole of the New World, while the old fogies of the human creation may be left to contend with the Old. Nothing of the sort will be found in the Message of James Buchanan any more than it will in the letters of Washington, or the writings of Jefferson. The President again has been severely condemned for putting forward pretensions to the acquisition of Cuba. But here again, while he professes distinct opinions which are shared by the greater number of his countrymen respecting the advantages that would accrue in reference to a new disposal of that island, he distinctly disavows any violent course of action, places the grounds of his reasoning before the world, and has been equally consistent in his conduct and his representations. We shall, however, understand the position of the American Government much better if we keep our eye strongly fixed upon the map.

America has no quarrel in Europe. There are still questions with England. The Clayton-Bulwer Treaty remains in its position of unfulfilment on both sides—England reluctant to give it up, and yet incapable of enforcing its stipulations. But upon what substantial ground does the difference of opinion rest? It is the construction of a treaty regulating the relations of Great Britain and the United States jointly and severally towards what are called the Five States of Central America. The dispute originated, as everybody knows, in an untenable attempt by this country to attain possession of certain islands lying off the coast of Honduras. We, some time since, established ourselves on the coast of Spanish Honduras as squatters or trespassers for the purpose of cutting mahogany. Our power enabled us to make good our position, still as intruders, but we never succeeded in establishing any kind of sovereign rights. It is impossible, therefore, to plead the authority of public law if we were to claim any island lying off that portion of the territory which we actually occupy, for such a claim could only be recognised as involved in a sovereign authority which we do not possess. But the islands, of which Ruatan is the principal, lie off that portion of the bay on which our squatting is situated; they lie on the other side of the bay. In fact, after the islands were seized the British Government perceived that the claim was untenable, abandoned it, and authorised Sir Henry Bulwer to enter into the treaty with Mr. Clayton. It is needless to go into the complications which have been introduced into the subject by the several patronising preferences which have been given to certain of the Central American States—by England to one, by the United States to another. For our present purpose, all we have to observe is, that the sole misunderstanding between Great Britain and the United States turns upon the construction of a treaty originating in the dispute about territories in which we have no concern, the territories being of small value, and situated in that neck of land which unites the two continents of America. Our Government has given up the claim to search American vessels in order to ascertain the nationality of the flag, and really there remains no serious question between us, unless our Foreign-office should revive new questions about the flag, except that idle, tedious, and altogether fictitious got up dispute about the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.

With another European state President Buchanan has more serious differences. But again the substantial matter in dispute lies on the west side of the Atlantic. There are several subjects of dispute with Spain, but the principal consists in the refusal of Queen Isabella's Government to settle the long standing Cuban claims. In 1844 duties were levied upon American ships contrary to the stipulations between the two countries. The American Government has persevered in demanding justice for fourteen years. At last the Spanish Government has yielded; but, instead of offering satisfaction, it consents to pay a sum just short of 43,000 dollars—one-third of the sum claimed; and with a curious mixture of pride and meanness, it avows that this concession is made not in deference

to justice, but as a matter of special favour. Spain, in fact, affects to be giving the United States a trifle of money to get rid of importunity—a demeanour at once as irrational and humiliating to Spain as it is insolent towards the United States. It is a broader complaint that when any dispute arises in Cuba, it is necessary to refer it to Madrid; although the first step taken there is to refer it back to Cuba; that island, which Spain persists in treating as a colony, though the only advantage of the connexion lies in the revenues which Cuba yields to the most beggarly and ostentatious Government in Europe. In Madrid there is a strong fear of granting any efficient local jurisdiction to Cuba which would enable it to deal with its own actions on its own responsibility, for fear it should weaken the connexion and cut off a source of income for Spain. But that policy which keeps Cuba in so subordinate a position, and is felt to be injurious by the genuine resident colonists, is a still greater injury on those foreign neighbours who have to put up with the caprices of the official party in Cuba; and to seek redress in Madrid, when in the waters of Cuba, American citizens feel that they must suffer on the spot and get compensation across the ocean, perhaps, twenty years hence.

The direct quarrels of the United States are with neighbours who draw blood from the same Iberian stock settled in the same continent. Mexico is a prey to rival factions, and can hardly render war self-supporting, since it is kept up by a process of feeding upon itself. In order to eke out the means of slaughtering each other, Mexicans levy forced contributions upon foreigners—a gross violation of the national law. They have seized both person and property, and on remonstrance from Washington they render no redress; at the same time the authority of the Mexican Government is so feeble that it cannot keep peace on its own borders, nor even give satisfaction for injury. The United States have exhausted their endeavours to bring the Mexican Government to reason. Mr. Buchanan, in fact, has been waiting for the return of the constitutional party to power, and he has therefore postponed as long as possible anything like reprisals, which might easily be made by seizing some portion of the remote and unsettled territory claimed by Mexico. In order to take precautions against border outrages, he proposes a temporary protectorate over the provinces of Sonora and Chihuahua. It is assumed that these steps are not what they profess to be, the ordinary mode of exacting a redress from a foreign power which will not fulfil its obligations, but steps of encroachment towards a seizure of Mexico for annexation to the United States. Such an inference can only be made in defiance or forgetfulness of certain facts; for Mexicans of respectability and influence would some time since have negotiated an admission of Mexico into the federal union which centres in Washington, if American statesmen, Mr. Buchanan conspicuously among them, had been able to approve of any consolidation. But the purchase of Louisiana and the annexation of Texas bear no resemblance to a wholesale admission into the union of large territories peopled by a foreign race, and it is well known that Mr. Buchanan would absolutely disapprove of any such result.

There are disputes also with the States of Costa Rica and Granada, and there are claims on Paraguay which may have to be satisfied by force. Paraguay, it will be remembered, having before been violent in its conflict with Brazil. In fact, these Governments which lie between the two great bodies of the American continents are as irregular as the territory they inhabit. The Spanish blood in those districts seems capable of exercising a perpetual activity, without the power of organising an effectual Government. It cannot even perform its duties towards civilisation. The object of the line of military posts contemplated by Mr. Buchanan in Sonora and Chihuahua, the powers which he asks to protect travellers by the routes of Nicaragua, Panama, and Tehuantepec, are rendered necessary by the paramount duty of self-defence where the nominal Government cannot even furnish an effective police.

Here lies the difficulty: the protection of Americans within their own borders, on their travels, or engaged in peaceful commerce. There is nothing in the President's Message which is in the slightest degree aggressive. The proposal for immediate advance of money to purchase Cuba, not to seize it, is justified by considerations for the peace of the world, and even for the enduring

interests of Spain. Should that part of the globe be disturbed by anything resembling a general war, which is not impossible, it would be necessary for the United States at once to assume the military occupation of Cuba, which is really the outpost of the Mississippi mouth. It is well known that numbers of the islanders are ready for union with the powerful and prosperous republic, under whom their legitimate trade would prosper. At present their commerce is restrained by all the oppressions and caprices of Spanish barbarism; the one commerce which prospers is that denounced by England—the slave trade. In Cuba alone it finds its consuming market, and the United States are positively bound by treaty with England to maintain a fleet for the purpose of intercepting that transport of negroes from Africa to Cuba which would cease from the very day that Cuba should be privileged to enter the Federal Union. This country would undoubtedly benefit by the change; the necessity for maintaining the squadron for the suppression of the slave trade would cease, the function of the squadron would have expired, a considerable yearly outlay for this country would expire, and the cause of many complications with our best allies, Brazil and the United States, as well as France, would at once cease and determine. In this rapid survey of that portion of the President's Message which bears upon foreign policy, we have done no more than interpret his own simple and lucid language by a reference to notorious and obvious facts.

THE GRAND-DUKE CONSTANTINE IN ITALY.

It begins to grow clear what Russia meant by the hiring of Villafranca. Our *gobe-mouches* fancied they saw, through the haze that diplomatically overhung the negotiation for a lease of twenty-one years, ground-plans of fortifications and arsenals, all casemated and bomb-proof, designed ere long to form for the Czar on the coast of Italy what Gibraltar is for us on the southern shore of Spain. When assured that the little deserted port and dilapidated castle were strategically valueless, being superciliously commanded on three sides by the contiguous heights, and that, so far from being an insulated *point d'appui* fitted to menace the Sardinian and Tuscan seaboard, it was, in a military point of view, simply a hole in a hill in which, if caught, annihilation would be inevitable, our wisacres sought to discover new uses for the Muscovite coaling station, and sagaciously guessed that it was meant as a rendezvous for future armaments against Turkey, to act in concert with France. But the second surmise was as far-fetched as the first was absurd. The policy of St. Petersburg is pre-eminently, no doubt, one that looks ahead, but it is also one that has always shown itself eminently practical in its adaptation of available means to immediate and certain, not dim and remote, aims. It is plain enough now what the object was of becoming tenant of the ruined citadel and careening docks of Villafranca, and of the warehouses and wharfs thereunto appertaining.

There has probably never been an ambitious power in Europe which has at all times relied so much in its foreign policy on what is called "effect." Those who have resided in Turkey know the pains taken, not in the capital merely, but in every town of the undermined empire where a numerous Greek population exists, to win the admiration as well as attachment of the disaffected race. The churches are full of curious and splendid gifts of Russian princes, and all their benefactions are exercised on a scale and in a style not the best calculated to serve those to whom they are made, but to attract attention, beget suspicion, excite extravagant hopes on the one hand, and exasperate distrust and spleen on the other. In all their dealings with other nations, the system pursued by these profound strategists is the same. Cost and trouble are never thought of when the object is to create deep impression. Just now the Italians, heretofore spurned and despised by the haughty Muscovites, possess peculiar interest in their eyes. They are viewed as a vast magazine of combustibles, that may be used to blow in the gates and decimate the garrison of a rival empire. What becomes of the elements so used after the town is seized Russia cares not a rouble. Meanwhile, it is necessary to do two things: to familiarise the Italians with the power and professed sympathy of Muscovy, and to establish the means of constant communication and intercourse in a noiseless and

peaceable manner. The game of inciting to revolt has been frequently played nearer home, and where it has sometimes seemed, to our Western notions, to be of a dangerous kind. But in a distant land no hazard of contagion from revolution can be feared, and the calculation of Alexander II. and his advisers probably is, that insurrection, if duly fostered and guided, may be left to burn itself out after the Austrians have been humiliated and driven beyond the Alps.

Be this as it may, the last few days have shown what Villafranca was wanted for. It is to be converted into a grand arena for the regular display of the power and the will of Russia. For no other intelligible purpose has the Grand Admiral of the empire, escorted by three screw line-of-battle ships, two steam corvettes, and certain smaller vessels, visited the Sardinian waters. For more than a week the squadron lay in the harbour of Genoa, where its officers the more readily fraternised with the naval and military authorities of the place as both speak French. The Grand-Duke Constantine, having inspected all the public places, and praised everything he saw, proceeded to Turin, where he was feted and complimented in all conceivable ways. Steering along the Spezzian shore at the head of his formidable flotilla, he entered the lately acquired harbour. Not deeming it yet expedient perhaps to lay wholly aside the semblance of harmless intentions, orders were ostentatiously issued that his Imperial Highness would, during his stay, preserve his *incognito*, and that consequently no salutes should mark his landing or departure. But, as if to raise the corner of the veil worn in this *coquetterie de modération*, he proceeded, during his stay, to lay the foundation of a Russo-Greek church, with all the impressive ceremonials usual on such occasions. His other proceedings at Villafranca were equally indicative of future purposes. When minute examination had been made of every portion of the place, the Grand-Duke gave directions, which were carefully made known publicly, for the immediate commencement of great works of repair and improvement, calculated to render the long-silent fishing haven a centre of activity, and a place where a Mediterranean fleet might securely seek shelter and refit. The whole may be, in fact, regarded as the first of a skillfully planned series of impressive manœuvres intended to act upon the mind of Italy, and thereby to work out Russia's anti-Austrian designs.

STATISTICAL SOCIETY.

THE increased number of learned societies within recent years is a phenomenon of much more significance than is generally assigned to it. The old Linnean Society at one time claimed dominion of the whole kingdom of natural history, but she has given birth to a numerous progeny who now dispute her possession of every province and domain, however limited in extent. Some of her estranged children have long held dominant sway over zoology, others of them have been equally powerful in their rule of botany, a bold and ambitious few have aimed at even imperial dignity in their aggressive conquest of geology, while an aerial, and some say an ephemeral, portion have lately asserted their exclusive claims as an independent republic of entomology. She is even denied all voice and authority in ethnological latitudes, nor permitted to grow a single cabbage within horticultural boundaries, and some of her most cherished and favoured children actually, from being the seventh-born, allege to have a well-founded prerogative and exclusive right to the gift of second sight in a recently discovered microscopical region. Unless she can, therefore, soon bring to her aid the diplomacy of a Talleyrand or a Metternich, the supremacy of the Linnean must fall under the successive assaults of her rebellious children.

This dismemberment is, however, not confined to the Linnean Society. It has equally disintegrated others, but we shall now only refer to its last manifestation within the realm of the Statistical, certainly heretofore the most vigorous of all the scientific institutions of London. The subjects discussed by this society have had a more immediate application than those of any other to matters of public polity. Even questions which have divided the great contending parties in the State have here first found their true scientific solution. In consequence, it has enrolled amongst its members nearly all the greatest statesmen of the day, a large number of the most active minds in both Houses of Par-

liament, many of the leading members of the Church and the Bar, not a few of the most distinguished men in the medical and engineering professions, a considerable number of those holding governmental and other public appointments, and undoubtedly nearly all the boldest of those spirits who have taken a prominent position in questions of national finance and sanitary reform. It is not, therefore, surprising that a society so constituted and actively engaged in the discussion of not only the most grave, but also the most exciting topics of the day, should have displayed much vigour and great resources. It has been established just twenty-four years, and at this early period in its history the great economic principle of division and labour, which its own teachings have so fully illustrated in its application to manual industry has already begun to exhibit its operations in the distribution of its votaries into distinct sectional societies for independent fields of inquiry.

The twenty-one volumes of the *Journal of the Statistical Society* show that its members have been hitherto chiefly engaged on judicial, legal, military, and criminal statistics; on ecclesiastical, university, educational, and school statistics; on agricultural, mining, fishery, manufacturing, and commercial statistics; and on the statistics of population, health, the distribution and consumption of the commodities of life, public and private charity, and finance. Some time ago, the Epidemiological Society was established for the investigation of only a minor, although an important, branch of the general subject of the statistics of health; another society, the Institute of Actuaries, has also been formed, for the study of two of the questions which have, of all others, gained the most prominent place heretofore in the statistical, namely, health and finance; and last, though not least, we have the grand itinerating Social Congress, threatening to absorb nearly everything which the parent society in St. James's-square has to subsist upon. This greatest of all leviathans, destined to carry glad tidings to all ends of the earth, appropriates to her own use the whole range of judicial statistics, the entire scope of sanitary statistics, everything affecting industry, public instruction, provident institutions, and nearly whatever else can be supposed to have any bearing on the social fabric of society under every possible aspect in which it may be viewed, including the statistics of life, consumption, and enjoyment. In fact, nothing but the mere crumbs shall henceforth be left for the poor Statistical—most ill-requited parent! How, it may be asked, has this state of things arisen? A thoroughly practical illustration was furnished at the meeting of the society on Tuesday last, when a paper was read on the "Vital Statistics of the Society of Friends." The author of this communication quoted some figures showing the rapid declension of his society during the last one hundred and fifty years; and this decadency having been viewed through the medium of vital statistics, it might have been expected that it was intended to show that the physical powers and constitution of that peculiar but respected and sedate people had some influence on their decreasing numbers. It might have been expected that any formal inquiry of this sort would at the least have shown the actual ratio of births and marriages, and whether such unions were less or more fruitful than in other classes of the community; whether marriages amongst them were contracted at earlier or later periods of life; and whether celibacy existed in a higher or lower degree than amongst others. This was, however, not attempted.

Those who are in the habit of reading the reports of the Registrar-General cannot have failed to observe the pertinacious uniformity with which he perseveres to chronicle that in each of the districts, A., B., C., &c., throughout the alphabet, the births, marriages, and deaths, have been exactly equal to one per annum in so many of the population of the respective districts. To mere cursory and occasional readers, this kind of information may be perhaps ample and sufficient to satisfy their idle curiosity, but for scientific and useful purposes much more is required. In fact, unless more precise and accurate conclusions were submitted to the public, such statements, although strictly those of facts, nevertheless seriously mislead; and it is in this sense that facts may be truly said to prove nothing. No doctrine in vital statistics is now better established, or more generally admitted, than that the age of the individual members is the element which of all others exercises the most powerful influence on the ratios of births, marriages,

and deaths, in the communities to which they belong. Were any such inquiry instituted into the populations inhabiting the Greenwich, Chelsea, or Foundling Hospitals, it must be evident to every one that it would be ridiculous to compare the results with those for the whole of the kingdom, or any considerable district of it, placed under more normal conditions than those hospitals are; yet such would be a fair specimen, although intensified in degree, of the kind of information constantly issuing from the archives of the Registrar-General. For example, were it stated that the ratio of marriages to the whole population of the counties of Anglesea, Carmarthen, and Dorset, were to that in the counties of Lancaster, Middlesex, and Monmouth, as 8 is to 11, it would usually be concluded that in the latter three counties the tendency to marriage was higher by 37 per cent. It, however, happens that the population at the most marriageable ages in the first group of counties is to that in the second group in exactly the same ratio of 8 to 11, and, therefore, the tendency in both would be the same. The statements in the Registrar-General's reports are, however, usually made without regard to such necessary corrections. The preceding are not the only districts of the kingdom in which unequal distributions of the population according to age will be found. There are, in fact, no two districts in which there exists, in this respect, an agreement. Even in different divisions of the metropolis there are the most marked disparities. Were the tendency to marriage identical in Bethnal-green and St. George's, Hanover-square, there would still be an apparent increase in the one of 21 per cent. over the other. Still this is a true sample of the intellectual food supplied under Act of Parliament to the people. Why does some statistical Dr. Hassal not arise to analyse its impurities? Errors precisely similar in their nature vitiate the statements submitted to the public in respect to the ratio of births and deaths. If at the marriageable ages there is in any district a minimum of population, there will, under a normal tendency to marriage, be of necessity a low ratio of births in relation to the whole of its inhabitants; but should there be a maximum population at those ages, then the ratio of births will be high. So, in like manner, if the number of persons at the middle period of life be small, will the average mortality of the whole district be high, from the fact of death being more frequent amongst young children and aged people, and the contrary result would appear should there be a preponderance of inhabitants of middle age.

These observations will lead to a clearer understanding of the course followed by the author of the paper read to the Statistical Society on the 21st instant. Taking the average ratios given in the returns of the Registrar-General as exhibiting the normal conditions of the population at large, he proceeded, in the treatment of his subject, to deduce results in a corresponding manner from the data available in regard to the Society of Friends. If it be held that the objects of a learned body, meeting from time to time during the scientific session, be to evoke not only the truths and laws of nature, but to attain and employ correct methods of investigation, then the exhibition of Tuesday last is well calculated to produce, or at least lend force, to the causes which occasion the formation of so many societies bidding for the honour of scientific distinction. The mode of treatment was wrong in two discreditable ways. Firstly, the results furnished by the Registrar-General neither represent the normal conditions of any one district of the kingdom, nor of the whole population in the aggregate. At every census in which distinction of age has been recognised, it has been found that, owing to emigration and many other causes, there has been a somewhat remarkable difference observed in the distribution of population over the various terms of life, and hence, had the forces producing birth, marriage, and death been constant throughout the whole of the period under review, still the methods followed by the Registrar-General would have exhibited results quite as surprising, but less amusing, than the "Merry Monarch's" problem of a dead being much more ponderous than a living gudgeon; secondly, the mode of treatment was wrong in comparing things which were obviously, from the description of the facts themselves, not at all comparable. In reading the paper it was stated that owing to certain rules of discipline regulating the Society of Friends, out of every 105 marriages taking place amongst its members, 55 were contracted under such circumstances as to exclude them

from membership, and to cause them to pass from under further observation, and from that period of life their issue and the mortality amongst themselves and children cease to be recorded. More than a moiety of the most vital life and blood of the society being for a protracted period of years thus constantly draining off into the general mass of the people. The community of Friends must have for long been in a very abnormal condition in regard to the ordinary forces which regulate the phenomena of births, marriages, and deaths. In this respect it stands in a relation to the general population of this country almost as peculiar as the hospitals we have referred to. How then can a comparison, with any propriety or with any practical or useful end in view, be made between results derived from such sources and those deduced from the experience of the country at large? In both series of deductions, corrections should have been applied so as to make the conclusions truly represent the respective influence of the same causes and conditions in each. If the data at command were in too crude a shape to admit of this being done, then the attempt made proceeded either on an unpardonable ignorance of the present condition of the statistical mind, or on a bold hardihood equally inexcusable on other grounds, and still the effort was singularly successful in passing the ordeal of the Statistical Society. At the conclusion of the reading of the paper the most diligent and acute listeners were just as well informed, and no more so, than they happened to be before the reading commenced. It was impossible it could be otherwise.

The decession from the community of Friends of so many members, at the most vitalised period of life, was of itself sufficient to fully account for all the results assumed to be peculiar to it. The one stood in strict logical sequence to the other, and the fact of the disownments by the society, for what by its rules are considered as irregular marriages, having been once affirmed, the application of simple, well-understood arithmetical laws were of themselves only needed to disclose all the other phenomena in the discovery of which the writer of the paper expended so much valuable time, the society so long deliberated, and with the results of which every one was so mightily pleased. No physical, social, or moral condition peculiar to Friends could be detected which was calculated to exercise any influence on either the health or productive functions of the staid and exemplary Quakers. The relation of supply and demand by the statistical appetite is surely not so perturbed as to cause its committee of management to allow whatever may be offered in the market to go off at the fancy prices of Tuesday evening last. The London Statistical Society was the first formed in Europe—it was the harbinger of free trade, the authoritative organ of public health, the only true exponent of the great commercial doctrines of national finance, by which our commerce has gained a mastery over every rival, and it is the first public body which ever took any effective part in promoting sound and trustworthy benefit-provident institutions amongst the industrial classes. We have, therefore, too lively an interest in its prosperity, and too sanguine hopes of its futurity, to admit without more direct proofs than we yet possess that the epidemiological, the actuaries, and the monster leviathan of social science, can have possibly carried off from it the best papers of a statistical character so as to leave it the residuum only of a preferential selection. This can scarcely be possible—it is not at all convenient, nor, under existing circumstances, prudent to believe so without better evidence. It can be of no interest or service to statesmen, to legislators, to those standing high in either clerical or legal positions, to philanthropists devoted to the attainment of healthy moral and physical conditions for the people, to men earnest in their endeavours to establish safe and honest principles of finance, to allow, speaking comparatively, and without any intention or wish to reflect on the other institutions to which we have referred, that these offshoots could possibly have as yet exercised sufficient influence on the public mind to interfere with and mar the purposes and aims of the Statistical Society.

This brings us to the solution of the problem we had proposed to ourselves when first feeling constrained as journalists to step out of our way to discuss a question which at first sight seems to be uninviting, but which is of great and really national importance.

The circumstances which regulate and determine the selection of those papers fitting to be read to

learned societies are in almost all cases nearly the same. The great and signal efforts of the human mind, and by the results of which in after years society has thought itself honoured, have shown themselves in so unobtrusive shapes as to occasion wonder that men so signally gifted should not have attracted more attention in their own times. It is the operation of the same principle which accounts for the breaking up of societies formed originally for the development of results on a grand scale into sectional bodies confining their attention to questions having only a limited range of observation. The business of the meeting-rooms of too many societies has assumed more the character of a lecture in which effect is aimed at rather than sound scientific disquisition; the consequence is, that severe and accurate thinkers are driven away and disgusted. Finding important subjects handled so loosely and often their own more philosophical labours thrown into the shade by the gilded gingerbread made for the market throng, they are eventually driven to the unwise expedient of forming an independent institution to embrace more genial spirits than they can discover in the parent society. It is here the mischief, first engendered before the dismemberment took place, now shows itself in its worst forms. Every scientific body needs subscriptions to support it, a canvas for members becomes immediately necessary, the scientific standard or test of membership has to be lowered, the promoters soon exhaust their own stock of genuine discoveries and valuable papers, still, as the new society must keep up its meetings in imitation of the old, whatever offers itself must be read, to entertain the audience in the best way possible. Instead, therefore, of having well-digested scientific papers at these meetings, they are too often of but a crude and fragmentary character. Taylor's Calendar contains a list of no less than thirty-seven scientific societies in the metropolis. It is utterly impossible for all of them to acquire sufficient funds, after providing for ordinary expenses, to leave a surplus which shall be adequate to vigorously prosecute original inquiries. The evil originated in the parent societies themselves. If proper care had been taken to bring forward for reading—whatever else may be done by way of publication—only such communications as were of decided worth and ability, the best men would have been proud of such a distinction, and even membership itself would have been more prized, greater financial strength gained, and the cause of science would have been more effectually promoted.

THOUGHTS, FACTS, AND SUGGESTIONS ON PARLIAMENTARY REFORM. No. VII.

THE question of redistribution of seats is confessedly that which presents the greatest amount of difficulty in the settlement of the Reform question. From all we hear of late we are disposed to believe that Ministers are ready to propose a great extension of the franchise; and although two-thirds of the Liberal opposition may recommend the insertion of the ballot in the bill, they will not venture to refuse the measure after their recommendation has been rejected. The most protracted struggle will be in committee on the boroughs enumerated in the schedules. To schedule A, which will, we presume, consist of an enumeration of the places no longer deemed worthy of separate or distinct representation, there may not be much resistance. But when we come to Schedule B, which will probably contain the list of new constituencies, all the selfish interests and passions of family and of class will be called into action; and we may consequently prepare to witness a long and doubtful struggle. It will, indeed, be a struggle within the walls of Parliament, but one in whose issue far less concern than some persons imagine will be manifested out of doors. To the Duke of Norfolk and Earl de Grey nothing of course will be so interesting as the new appropriation of the seats for Arundel and Ripon; and if, as some suppose, Lord Derby means to suggest that the four or five nearest country towns to each shall with it constitute the electoral wards of a new incorporate borough, every owner or occupant of property in these will, of course, be full of new-born ambition and anxiety until the fatal clause in their behalf shall have been decided. Should Mr. Bright move as an amendment that the sequestered seats be

given to some particular parish of Birmingham, or the Tower Hamlets, excited meetings will, no doubt, be held in the localities he happens to favour, and unanimous resolutions in favour of petitioning in support of the amendment will be passed amidst "tremendous cheering," not unaccompanied, probably, with a supplementary vote that in case it be rejected Messrs. Scholefield and Bright, Messrs. Ayrton and Butler, be earnestly requested to throw out the Bill on the third reading. But the rest of the nation will look on at the fierce local contention with far different feelings. They will simply laugh at the vehemence of the conflict, and quietly pooh-pooh the indignant threat to kill the cow if she does not yield the additional pint of milk. Nor will the repetition some forty times over of similar controversy tend to generate national indignation, or even co-operative zeal, among widely scattered localities. The obtaining of special privileges by a certain number of isolated and politically unorganised fragments of great towns is not a matter in which national sympathy will ever be vigorously moved, and still less is it likely to be called forth, when clusters of hamlets and villages, whose very names are unknown beyond the boundaries of their respective shires, are the claimants of representative prerogatives. Nor can it be reasonably anticipated that Government would be so unwise as to advise that all the transfers of seats shall be made either to new segments of counties, or new confederacies of hamlets, or new fractions of great cities. We may take for granted that they will recommend a little of each; first, because that is plainly the right thing to do; and next, because it is the only course that would have any show of fairness about it. The metropolis will, we presume, be awarded some six or eight additional members. Kensington and Chelsea would have constituted a new borough had the bill of 1854 been allowed to pass, and had not its author been bullied and hustled by the anti-Reformers, who then as now would have no Bill at all. An equally strong case exists for the division of Marylebone, Finsbury, Tower Hamlets, and Southwark. Perhaps, on the whole, the best thing to be done would be to lay down anew the whole of the boundaries of metropolitan boroughs without regard to the map, already grown obsolete, of 1832. It were simply absurd to suppose that a House of Commons like that now existing would ever seriously entertain the idea of giving London anything like the proportion of members it might claim on the strictly arithmetical rules of property and population. The capital is, and will always be, regarded with too much jealousy by the country at large to render such a concession obtainable; and there is no doubt something to be said on the ground that proximity to the seat of Government, and still more the tribunitian power exercised by the press of the metropolis, render it less dependent on its parliamentary representatives for the protection of its local interests.

Let it be frankly owned, however, that there is too much truth in the plea so often urged against increasing the number of metropolitan members, namely, that those already sent to Parliament are not, as a body, entitled to be regarded as true or fitting representatives of the greatest city in the world. Without singling out individuals as examples, one may safely assert that the metropolis has never of late years given satisfactory proof that it really valued the privileges it already possesses. It is notorious that with two or three exceptions its delegates to the Imperial Legislature have no weight there; and it is painful to be obliged to add that, having regard to the wealth, skill, learning, moral energy, and intellectual refinement they affect to represent, they do not, as a class, deserve it. A habit has grown up during the last ten or fifteen years, whenever a vacancy occurs in any of the metropolitan boroughs, of privately hawking about the seat from one reckless or prodigal candidate to another. The scandalous sums, worse than wastefully spent in contests, tell but too plainly the purpose of these preliminary negotiations. The borough is virtually put up to auction without its knowledge or consent by some half-dozen individuals, who, though personally above the imputation of desiring to share the plunder they exact, are not above the weakness of desiring to have the scattering of it among their hangers-on and retainers. Few men of political mark or worth will listen to their terms. They go to one after another of the class whose names are inscribed in the books of the wholesale member-makers of the West-end, and lower their intellectual and

moral standard of requirements as they raise the figure of election cost. It is truly deplorable to think that while Manchester, Sheffield, Bristol, and other places far less populous and wealthy, insist upon paying by voluntary subscriptions the expenses of the candidates of popular choice, the elections for the metropolis should have become a by-word for shameful exaction. It is perfectly clear that so long as the present system continues, and that men are brought forward not for their proven merit or service, not for their talents or worth, not for their wisdom or eloquence, but simply and merely because they are supposed to be rich and squeezable, London can never hope to be efficiently represented. A handful of noisy and short-sighted busy-bodies assume to themselves the right of selecting candidates; and the mass of independent electors of every rank and station culpably surrender their equal rights in the matter. Good and able men, who might and would become candidates, are discouraged by the prevailing apathy, or deterred by the extravagant expense; a contest ensues between two or more incompetent but prodigal men; and then thousands who, if they had chosen to take but a little thought in the matter betimes, might have directed the whole affair otherwise, mutter in private their unavailing disgust, and flatter themselves they can wash their hands of all blame by not voting at all.

BIOGRAPHIES OF GERMAN PRINCES.

No. VII.

LOUIS III., GRAND-DUKE OF HESSE-DARMSTADT.

THE reigning Grand-Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt—at present in his fifty-third year—first assumed power in March, 1848, as co-Regent with his father. A few months afterwards he succeeded him, and became sole sovereign. Before the revolutionary year, he scarcely exercised any influence whatever in governmental affairs; and this is, indeed, the greatest eulogy that we are able to pass on his life previous to 1848—for in the epoch preceding that year of popular movements the Grand-Duchy of Hesse-Darmstadt, similar in this respect to its neighbour, Hesse-Cassel, was the chosen spot of the most infamous exercise of princely rule in Germany.

The education given to young Louis was not of a character to impress on him any very sacred obligations of morality. His father led a life which was far from serving "to point a moral, or adorn a tale;" and the consequences of the parental courses had been an enormous accumulation of debt, requiring frequent application to the Legislature for the means of liquidating—applications which, however, met with a refusal. The political examples held before the eyes of the young Prince were equally bad. The old Grand-Duke, from the very first year of his rule, pursued a course of policy which necessarily ended in the most flagrant crimes. In fact, no sooner had he mounted the throne than he rendered himself odious to the Chamber by his insolent demands of public money for the payment of his private excesses, and hateful to the people by the ferocious and sanguinary manner in which he quelled, in 1830, some insignificant outbreaks of dissatisfaction among the inhabitants of a few small frontier places.

The whole reign of the former Grand-Duke was, indeed, spent in the carrying out measures of terror against the Liberal and Democratic party. But few German principalities afforded examples of so many victims being offered up—of so many men imprisoned or driven forth to death and misery. The cruel proceedings against the respected and noble-minded Weidig, the Protestant minister of Obergleen, and his associates, form one of the most tragical episodes of criminal justice. Weidig, accused of high treason by the Grand-Duke for having laboured in the great cause of the unity and freedom of Germany on a democratic basis, was handed over to that hyena in human form, the Councillor at the Upper Tribunal, Georgi, a man by nature of a ferocious disposition, and whose ferocity was further increased by fits of insanity, brought about through delirium tremens. To this man was committed the custody of the political prisoners. He practised upon them tortures, unknown even in Austrian dungeons, and which can only be compared to the *cupo di silenzio* of Neapolitan prisons. One day Germany was horrified at hearing that the torments unable any longer to bear up against the torments inflicted on him, put an end to his life. He was found dead in his cell, drowned in his blood, having

opened the veins of his body with the broken fragments of a glass bottle. On his person were seen marks of the most horrible violence. His back was lacerated by the frequent application of the lash. The brothers of Weidig thereupon laid a charge of wilful murder against Georgi, and strove hard to bring about an inquiry on the fate of their relative. The Grand-Duke, however, hushed up the affair. Still, evidence of the strongest kind—proofs never refuted—oozed out of the fiendish cruelties practised on the unfortunate prisoner by his judicial executioner. It was shown that, in order to extort from Weidig a confession of his associates and his political plans, he was constantly flogged, his feet during the operation being fettered to the prison bed. A judicial protocol was even detected, in which Georgi, his examining judge, made a minute, bearing his own signature, that "he had had the culprit flogged until he barked like a dog." Sufferings so prolonged and extreme were more than poor humanity could bear. No wonder Weidig anticipated with his own hand—at least, so it was given out—the final scene, and put an end to a life which his brutal tormentor had rendered a long-drawn agony.

Of this character was the régime under which Louis III. passed the early years of his manhood. Could it have been wondered at if he, too, had imbibed something of the modes of administration in which his father so freely indulged? Fortunately for him, the outcry of outraged humanity, raised throughout Germany against the hideous crimes of Louis II., was such, that it afforded a very salutary lesson to his successor not to venture on a similar course. This, perhaps, more than anything else, contributed to render the Government of the present Grand-Duke more humane, or, at any rate, more prudent in its dealings with political antagonists. The Court of the present sovereign has consequently remained free from the more repulsive features that sullied the preceding Government. Darmstadt has returned to, at least, the semblance of civilized rule; and only occasionally the traces of the ferocity of former days are to be observed.

Reactionary policy, however, forms a main characteristic of the present Grand-Duke, and has done so from the first day of his stepping into power. His marriage with Mathilde, Princess of Bavaria, has rendered his ears open to the suggestions from the Catholic side. His intimate relations with the Russian dynasty have exercised as well their full share of influence. Louis III., like nearly all his relations and the greater portion of German princes, is little better than a Russian Knes. He not only decks his person in the regimentals of the troops of Belozersk, but is, at heart also, an admirer of the autocratic system. Since the marriage of his sister Maria—now Maria-Alexandrowna—with the present Emperor of Russia, the Court of Darmstadt has become the rendezvous of Muscovite intriguers of both sexes. A Græco-Catholic chapel has been erected; and quite a colony established of visitors in *vitch* and *ski*. During the late Crimean war, this Russian character of the Hesse-Darmstadt Court has often manifested itself in a marked manner.

In the popular struggles of 1848, Louis III. did not long hesitate in showing his true character. He was early in adopting some of the severest measures against the rising cause of freedom. In March of that year, when the *Vor Parlament* at Frankfort met, and vast numbers flocked thither to assist at the inauguration of the principles of liberty, this petty Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt mustered courage enough to plant loaded cannon at the railway stations on his frontiers, and to cause every one, going through his dominions to Frankfort, who wore arms—which was the prevailing custom at the time—to be stopped and relieved of such dangerous encumbrances. Perhaps this measure has not a little contributed to weaken the force of the Democratic party at Frankfort. Numerous bands of Democrats from South-Western Germany were thus prevented from expressing their wishes and sentiments at the meeting of the *Vor Parlament*.

Nor was the reigning Grand-Duke wanting in other devices for bringing about the diminution of revolutionary power. Large bodies of paid *claqueurs* in the reactionary interest were despatched at his cost from Darmstadt, in 1848, to ply their vocation at every popular meeting held in Hesse, Frankfort, Baden, &c., where they appeared armed to the teeth, and exercised great terrorism. They were conveyed from place to place with the utmost rapidity; and generally managed, by their perfect

organisation, to pack both in-door and open-air meetings with their partisans. Attending for no other purpose than to intercept and break up the meeting, they frequently attempted to storm the platform, and to assault the Liberals who might have collected there; and many a turbulent *mêlée* in those days is to be traced to their violent interference. Whilst they thus worked at their dastardly vocation, the troops of the Grand-Duke lent a hand to the butcheries going on at the time in Baden.

The course of internal reaction in Hesse-Darmstadt has been pretty well the same as in all the other German principalities. The same political promises were given with the same solemnity, and followed, as a matter of course, by the same perjuries; the same encouragements held out to the Feudalist and Catholic parties, although these latter are the most dangerous rivals of the petty monarchs themselves. Against Democrats there have been the usual persecutions. Mayence especially, the nursery of republican sentiments, has had the ranks of its champions thinned by proscription. To give a striking instance of the hatred with which the Grand-Duke, even now, looks upon Mayence, we need only refer to the recent catastrophe of the powder explosion in the fortress—a catastrophe brought about not merely by the negligence but by the positive malice of the highest authorities. For many years past the citizens of the towns had repeatedly requested the transfer of the greater portion of the combustible materials to the magazines outside the town. This most natural request would, even from a military point of view, have been feasible enough. But the Grand-Duke persisted in desiring his Government to refuse the request, throwing out hints that he "considered it proper to intimidate the population by keeping so formidable a cause of alarm always in their midst." At last the catastrophe came, and with it a frightful loss of life and destruction of property. Such is the paternal government of Louis III. of Hesse-Darmstadt, commonly reputed as among the most humane of the *Landesväter* of Germany.

COMING GENERAL ELECTION.—We are informed that an influential requisition has been made to Mr. W. Torrens Mc Cullagh (late member for Yarmouth), by the voters of Finsbury, soliciting him to stand for that borough at the next election.

AMERICAN PURITY OF ELECTION.—The New York correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—"Our municipal election is going on very quietly as I write. One of the vacancies to be filled is the Comptrollership, as I told you in my last, or city treasurer'ship. The salary is 1000*l.* a year only, but the 'chances' are enormous. An honest man ought to pocket nothing but his salary, but a dishonest one might very readily, by bribes and peculation, pocket 20,000*l.* a year over and above, without much chance of detection. The struggle is consequently fierce. The reform party has a highly respectable merchant in the field, who has never before meddled in politics, and the two sections into which the democratic party in this city is now divided, have each one, both local politicians, such as have too long managed our affairs. What the result will be it is hard to say; I am afraid that the reformers are hardly as vigilant and skilful as their opponents, and that we shall have the old régime on our shoulders for a little while longer. What this means you may guess, when I tell you that a recent examination shows defalcations in the city funds to the extent of 7,000,000 or 8,000,000 dollars within the last ten years. Shocking as this state of things is, the taxpayers and property-holders find it almost impossible to make head against the weight of the non-tax-paying vote, which, of course, is polled in utter recklessness as to its effects upon the finances of the city."

SECRETS WELL KEPT.—At the Society of Arts meeting, on the naval defences question, the lecturer, Mr. Reede, an eminent naval architect, pointed out a remarkable idiosyncrasy of Lords of the Admiralty; they consider it their special function to deny to the British press and the British public, and to the natives of minor states from which we have nothing to apprehend, information and facilities for gaining information which they cheerfully accord to officers of the French, Russian, and American Governments, those which can by any chance prove inimical to us. Mr. Scott Russell added something still more remarkable. He said that, by orders of the late Board of Admiralty, a report had been drawn up by a committee, as to the principles on which the future fleets of England were to be constructed. The existence of this report naturally produced great anxiety in the minds of Scott Russell and others like him, engaged in naval architecture, to procure a copy. He tried every means to obtain one, and failed. But at last he succeeded, and did get one—from the Continent!

A LISBON THEATRE.—I go in, one night, attracted by the crowds that are flowing to the doors, light steel filings flying to the arches of a magnet. The interior is rich, with hangings of topaz-coloured satin banded

here and there with purple. The seats in the pit are all of cane; there being every provision for airiness and lightness. There are, of course, some English middies and sailors in the pit; who talk very loud, and have a defiant contemptuous manner peculiarly national. The only thing I can decipher out of the snuffling nasal Jew Spanish of the stage dialogue which is called Portuguese is, that a certain Dom Jose Herriero de dos Santos—who is dressed like Lord Nelson, and who nearly kills me every time he enters by his absurd bows and grimaces, has come in the disguise of a poor artist to a family, with whom he is about to enter into alliance. The father, a little, prosy man with a dry drollery of his own, suspects him to be a swindler; a suspicion that leads to various complications; but is legitimately removed when the Dom appears in all his lustre, and claims his bride; at which the little diplomatic man takes snuff and rubs his hands as if he had seen through it all the time. The drollest thing was, that, at the end of each act, every human being in the pit, rose with one accord; without smiling, tied handkerchiefs to the back of their cane-seats, and retired to the lobby to hastily smoke a cigarette and eat stewed pears; which were in active sale at the buffet. I do not think there was one woman in the pit. Indeed, in some Spanish theatres, the women all sit huddled in a sort of omnibus box by themselves. Now, that the men with the yellow teeth, fallow full faces, and scorched fore-fingers, have untied their handkerchiefs, and are waiting for Lord Nelson in the white satin knee-breeches, with intense expectation, I look up at the boxes, beating the covert for a beautiful face. What? Not one? No: only fat and sensual faces, all run to nose, as if by perpetually smelling at greasy dinners; crisp, wiry animal negro hair; full brown red lips; mean chins, and foreheads villanously low. Bands and ropes of black shiny hair looped up with strings of pearl, ending in a top-knot strung with gold and coral. Not one beauty? Yes, one with fire-fly eyes and soft brown cheeks deepening to a peachy red; who, with rounded white arms, leans forward hanging upon the lips of Lord Nelson in the court suit, tail coat, and white satin breeches, entranced. *Household Words.*

FROM PUTNEY TO RICHMOND.—Near Putney is Roehampton, where Charles the First's lord treasurer, Sir Richard Weston, once kept a noble state, and had a fine mansion, where his son Jerome, afterwards Lord Weston, married the Lady Frances Stuart. A notable wedding! for an archbishop (Laud) officiated, a king (Charles) gave away the bride, and a great poet (Ben Jonson) wrote the marriage song. In this same house Hobbes the philosopher resided for many years, as tutor to the son of the Countess of Devonshire. Barnes once belonged to the canons of St. Paul, who, it may be, once possessed here a *barn* or *spicarium*. Barn Elms, the old house, we mean, belonged to Sir Francis Walsingham, who entertained beneath its roof his mistress, Queen Elizabeth. It afterwards belonged to Heidegger, George II.'s Master of the Revels, and still later to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the antiquary. Jacob Tonson lived in this neighbourhood, and frequently held at his house the meetings of the Kitcat Club, "originally named from a certain Christopher Cat, a pastrycook, who supplied mutton pies for the suppers of its members." Cowley, the poet, we may add, lived at the Old Barn Elms before his removal to Chertsey, and the New Barn Elms was the residence of the late Sir Lancelot Shadwell. Fielding and Handel were both, at different periods, inhabitants of, or rather residents in, this picturesque hamlet. In a field near Barn Elms was fought, January the 17th, 1667-8, the famous duel between the Duke of Buckingham and the Earl of Shrewsbury, the shameless Countess holding the Duke's horse during the fatal encounter. We pass on to Mortlake (whose etymology is somewhat affectedly offered by learned antiquarians as *Mortuus lacus*), once a possession of the archbishopric of Canterbury, and noted as the residence of the magician Dr. Dee, who died here in 1608. In the church and churchyard are memorials of Sir Philip Francis, the first Lord Sidmouth, Partridge, the almanack-concocter, and Pope's Sir John Barnard. And so we arrive at Richmond.—*Literary Gazette.*

EAST INDIA COMPANY.—A general court was held on Monday to receive the report of the committee of proprietors appointed at the general court of the 30th of August last, "for the purpose of consulting with the directors in reference to the measures to be taken for the future management of the Company's affairs;" Colonel Sykes, M.P., presided. Mr. Crawshaw read the report, and moved its adoption, which was unanimously carried. Mr. Crawshaw then moved a resolution claiming on the part of the Company the current and unclaimed dividends, on which a very confused and lengthened debate arose, and the court adjourned. On Tuesday the discussion on the resolutions of Mr. Crawshaw as to the future management of the Company, and acceptance of Lord Stanley's offer, was resumed. The debate was of a very personal and acrimonious character, but eventually motions were carried with reference to the payment of the current dividends and the unclaimed dividends (counsel's opinion to be taken as to the latter); as to the use of the India House, and payment of salaries to the secretary and Court of Directors, &c., for carrying on the business of the Company; the revision of the bye-laws, &c.

INDIA AND INDIAN PROGRESS.

THE "LEADER" AND EMIGRATION.

In advocating anything, however new or true, or however old and well established, which does not come within individual experience, progress must be interfered with by misconception, and success be retarded by misrepresentation. Although a proposition may contain within itself such elements that its absolute truth may be established therefrom, it is the way of the world not so to deal with it, but to seek without its terms, and to obtain a fanciful solution, which may suit the prejudices or prepossessions of persons or classes. To contend with these perverse influences seems, however, to be the fate of all undertakings, and as the public mind by the discussion gets a safer hold of the facts, and a deeper interest is thereby begotten, we must be content to submit to the effect, and, perhaps, ought to be well pleased with it. We have now brought the condition of Indian progress into an appreciable shape, and by directing attention to practical measures, instead of to political, sectional, and personal squabbles, we believe we have given a new direction to public opinion regarding India. India has been too much known to us as a skirmishing ground for cabinets, directors, and governors-general; while her vast material interests have only received a partial representation, and it has been our endeavour to show how vast these interests are.

In so doing we have more perseveringly than the rest of the press taken up the question of English settlement in India, anxious that such an important measure should not slumber from the time of the adjournment of the Parliamentary Committee of last session until the period of its reappointment in next spring. The result has been that, having been foremost in the task, we have been assailed for the part we have taken as fomenting a course of agitation dangerous to India and dangerous to the home community, more mischievous even, we are told, than greased cartridges, to such a degree of irritation have the sentiments of our opponents reached. To some of the so-called authorities on India, to write against the emigration or colonisation mania appears a chief duty to society; and every movement of the Government, of Parliament, of the press, or the public on this head, is angrily received and bitterly inveighed against. The opposition comes almost uniformly from Indians, many of them old authorities in clubs, who have been so long away from India that they do not know what it is now. Some come from Indians in India itself; but, nevertheless, the subject has made the greater advance, because, day after day, opponents are overcome and even brought to be zealous converts. The most obstinate antagonists have been a few officials at home and in India, who, with the traditional abhorrence of interlopers, fear that the sacred prerogatives of their caste are in danger from an influx of their countrymen. One reason why such opponents of English settlement make no way is—beyond the circumstance that they are contending against facts and the truth—that the Government and administration of India, so far from being actuated by such jealous views, are most earnestly desirous of fostering English enterprise throughout India.

It is most interesting to view the progress of this question. The notion is old enough, we may say as old as the hills, a favourite one with every Governor-General from Bentinck to Canning, and which each has taken some step to realise, but it had to work its way for years slowly and partially, for the publications of Julius Jeffreys and Ranald Martin, directed to medical and climatic topics, did not succeed in enforcing the conviction of a general policy. At length, just before the revolt, was produced the book on *Colonisation, Railways, and Defence in our Indian Empire*, by Mr. Hyde Clarke, in which the whole question of occupying the hills with a military and civil European population was propounded. This produced but little effect till the revolt was at its height, and the faithlessness of our native army was evident, when several leading members of the Legislature among the friends and connections of the author took the same view of the question, and at his request it was brought before Parliament. So tender was the ground then, that the first motion was shaped to open the question by asking for the papers and reports. Even this pro-

position was met by the ill-will of the then Board of Control and of the East India Company, and the motion was postponed, every effort being made in the mean while to gain political strength, and with such success that it was determined to apply for a committee of inquiry, although the Board of Control, by that time willing to concede the papers, threatened to bring the whole weight of the Government and the Company to resist the motion.

The motion was in the hands of Mr. W. Ewart, the member for Dumfries, who being strongly supported by members from all sides of the House, and by a large body connected with the Manchester cotton interest, who perceived the value of the measure, pressed it forward with the determination of sustaining a defeat that session rather than yield, with the certainty of arousing Indian interests by giving them the hope of attention, and with the fair prospect of a respectable minority in contesting with the Government that session, and of a majority on a second attempt. His short speech made a very powerful impression, and being supported by Mr. D. Seymour and several others, the vote for a committee was carried without a division, although the *locum tenens* of the Board of Control told the supporters of the motion that if they got the papers he was willing to concede them, they would be the fallacy of their ideas. Colonel Sykes, the great authority on India, said that the Indian Government had attended to it, and had obtained reports from every part of India, which, when printed, would show English settlement was not feasible; and the Chairman of the East India Company, in supporting these views, affirmed there was no land available in the Indian hills, and that a field one hundred feet square could not be found for the growth of any crop. They gave way, however, with a very bad grace, and the committee being appointed, in a very few days under the direction of the chairman, Mr. Ewart, and other active members, the proceedings assumed such importance that they were protracted to the close of the session, and being reported from time to time to the House, with the printed evidence, are recommended to be continued in the next sitting. In consequence of this committee, the Earl of Albemarle, who had taken up the measure in the House of Lords, gave notice that he should postpone the discussion there until the evidence had been carried further.

The evidence at first was directed to the climate and general resources of the hill districts, and then chiefly to the political, administrative, and social obstacles which have hitherto impeded the progress of the English settler. This testimony was from various quarters, from Government officials round to the Indigo Planters' Association, but the errors of the administration were laid bare in such a way that the mere publication has ensured the adoption by the Government of efficient measures for their remedy. The chief points discussed were the land tenures, the state of the law, the state of the police, and the use of the English language. In the next session it will be necessary to complete these subjects, including the application of English type, and to consider the hill districts in detail, and the commerce through them to Tartary, Thibet, and China. The committee will have before them not only the witnesses whom they could not examine last session, but many others, and some having special missions from India to represent particular interests. Whether the committee agree upon any report or not, is a matter of very little moment, for the publication of the evidence is quite sufficient to make the requisite impression on the Governments of India and the public. In the last session it would have been quite impossible to have obtained any favourable report from the committee, or indeed any report at all, as there was an antagonistic feeling on the part of the East India Company's representatives, who considered the character of their administrators at stake, and they were abetted by the representatives of the Board of Control. This state of affairs is, however, materially altered by the carriage of the India Bill, the abolition of the Company, and the constitution of a new Council for India, with Lord Stanley at the head of it. There is no longer any opportunity, therefore, of making out a case for the Company, or of resisting improvement, for the present administrators of India have shown themselves alive to the

interests of the country, and have taken steps for carrying out the required policy. They have already recognised the principle of a European army and of hill stations, of extending the railways and giving communication to the hills, and of favouring works of irrigation and of land improvement, with a general disposition to foster English enterprise in India.

It will be quite out of the question for Mr. Ewart to bring forward any bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and it is very likely that he will have no opportunity of bringing in any great measure, as he originally contemplated, with a view to yearly agitation, his functions being reduced to bringing in such subsidiary bills as will give completeness to the Government measures, and carry out in detail the whole scheme of policy as established by the committee. Indeed the whole course of operation has been that of the slow but certain influence of public opinion, which, under a Parliamentary Government, is communicated to the administrators before even the action of the Legislature can be obtained, which affects all that is administrative, all that here is below the law, and that which in continental countries is beyond the law.

The evidence was, as it appeared by instalments, eagerly read in India, and produced not merely a deep impression, but has raised hopes and stimulated the spirit of enterprise and improvement. We are already able to record how every mail bears evidence of the exploration of districts, the extension of plantations, and the commencement or advancement of hill towns, and the settlers look forward with interest to the next session of Parliament, when they hope that their case will be further stated, and further guarantees obtained for their encouragement. Officers of the Government, too, are looking with anxiety to know what measure of support they can obtain for the extension of settlement or the advancement of the condition of the local population by the help of the English co-operation.

Under such circumstances we can bear with calmness the invectives of our antagonists, the more particularly as we know from their own statements they have evidence to give in favour of the cause, and that the opposition has advanced a stage nearer to our conclusions. At first, the key of the *Saturday Review*, and the other opponents of English settlement, was taken from the great Indian authorities, and we were told that the hills could not feed a population. Simla and Nynce Tal, and Mahabuleswar, were selected by them as types of countries, which include some of the finest coffee and tea regions in the world, and not only embrace the granite steeps of the Himalayan wall, but fertile inner-bordering valleys and profitable mountain sides, and in the south table-lands of great extent. As there is no mistake that the hill and table-land regions have resources, and give them forth, this line of objection was surrendered, and then we began to hear very often about the failure of the Dehra Dhoon colony, and of military colonies, and the reports on military colonisation; but it is evident that, although the Dehra Dhoon experiment failed, as such experiments have failed in Canada, New Zealand, and the Cape, and will fail again, the settlement has taken a strong hold of India. The favourite assertion now is that the advocates of agriculture we represent propose to send English agricultural labourers out to India, and our opponents prove, to their own satisfaction, and not to ours, for we want no such proof, that an English labourer at native rates of wages must starve, and therefore it is a blunder to talk of sending out English agricultural labourers. Upon this text, page after page, and column after column, has been written, which the Indian press take little trouble to refute, and for this very good reason, that, so far as we know, it is not proposed to send out English agricultural labourers to compete with Hindoos. Mr. Ewart, Sir Erskine Perry, Mr. Seymour, Mr. J. B. Smith, Mr. Campbell, made no such speech; it is not put forward in the evidence; it is not to be found in the books of Mr. Martin, Mr. Jeffrey, Mr. Clarke, or Mr. West; and it is not a proposition of the Association for Promoting English Settlement in India, nor of the Cotton Supply Association. It is an assumption purely gratuitous.

It is amusing to find writers who are so busy in

opposing the system of English settlement as the Indian writers in the *Englishman*, the *United Service Journal*, the *Saturday Review*, and the *Star*, wind up by showing that there is in India a wide field for the employment of English capital in enterprise, and of the personal assistance of Englishmen, not as labourers, but as the employers and directors of cheap native labour. As one writer phrases it, "the proper position of the European in India is that of a *captain of industry*, and as such, how various are the functions assigned him, how vast his opportunities of doing good!" We could do well with no better encouragement than the writings of our opponents, but the day is not far distant when the hills of the north and centre of India will be filled with our communities, when a hundred thousand Englishmen will hold India, not by the bayonet, but by the power of moral qualities and their title to the gratitude and esteem of their native fellow citizens.

MADRAS IRRIGATION COMPANY.

ONE of the most important steps which have been taken by Lord Stanley and the Council of India has been the concession of a guarantee to the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company, after a considerable delay and resistance to its proceedings had been shown by the late Administration and the Government of Madras.

The terms granted are nominally a guaranteed interest on one million sterling, at the rate of five per cent. per annum; but, in effect, they amount to a guarantee of almost a perpetuity. For the Indian Government, which may only purchase the rights of the company at intervals of twenty-five years, must clearly, whenever it elects so to do, redeem for money not only the absolute guaranteed annuity, but also the shareholders' half of the surplus profits.

The Madras Government are to collect the water-rents as a part of their taxes, and will pay them over to the company. The Council think so strongly of the prospects of the undertaking that they have not only demanded to participate in the surplus profits, but have refused to allow the company to have the sole possession of the canal dues, as the promoters had endeavoured to provide. The arrangement is a liberal one for both Government and the company, and is likely to work well for both.

There is no hesitation in the minds of competent parties as to the profitable results of operations such as those of the Madras Company, for in India works of irrigation always pay, and the navigation is provided at the same time as the irrigation by regulating the river channels. As irrigation increases the weight of the crops and the value of the produce, so does it thereby provide traffic for the navigation, and, besides water-rents, generates further revenue in canal dues. On the rivers of Madras, as throughout India, passengers, as well as goods, are carried wherever a line of navigation is opened, increasing the revenue. Here again is manifest the contributive action of single operation to the general good: for mobility of the population, that is, the means of transporting labour from spot to spot, is essential to agricultural prosperity. However populous a district may be,—at certain times of the year, labour must be rapidly concentrated on each scene of operations: otherwise time is lost, and crops damaged or wasted. To say that water carriage is the cheapest and most effective mode of distributing labour, is to repeat a mere truism.

As is the languor, sluggishness, and depression of British Indian internal trade, for the want of such mobility, so are the prospects of the Madras Irrigation Company; and profits will accrue to shareholders in it as the movement of trade is fostered and promoted by the stimulants they may provide. The authorities of the Presidency have too long played "the dog in the manger." With a sum of no more than 700,000*l.* applicable within the year for military and civil public works, they would yet have delayed, and delayed, and delayed, on every manner of official and routine pretence. Increase of the revenue, and prosperity of the natives under their care, seem to have been less objects of their fond contemplation than the exclusion, *quocunque modo* of "outsiders." But the present chief of the Indian Council has, we are glad to learn, taken heart to cut the Gordian knot, and has sanctioned—nay, if rumour be true, has insisted upon—the fair trial by private hands of an experiment of vast imperial and colonial importance, The encouragement of private capital to try such an

experiment is a step in the right direction, which we might have looked for in vain from red-tapists of the old school.

NOTES ON INDIAN PROGRESS.

SEVERAL officers who had been staying at the Darjeeling convalescent dépôt, having recovered, are ordered to rejoin their regiments. They are Captain J. M. Smyth, 10th Foot; Captain J. J. Dudgeon, 80th Foot; and Lieut. J. O. Vandaleur, 35th Foot. A branch of the Association for Promoting English Settlements in India has been formed at Darjeeling.

At Dugshaie, Assistant-Surgeon J. M'L. Cameron, of the 27th, is appointed to take medical charge of the European depot.

At Kussowlie European dépôt, Hospital Surgeon D. Macrae, has taken charge.

For Mussoorie, leave has been granted to Lieut. J. S. Browne, Capt. C. C. Fraser, and Lieut. W. J. Hilkin.

For Landour, extended leave has been given to Assistant-Surgeon J. A. M'Munn, Royal Artillery.

For the Dehrah Dhoon and neighbourhood, leave has been granted to Capt. H. Strachey, to Mr. W. M. Alexander, Assistant Magistrate of Mynpoorie.

For Murree, leave has been given to Lieut. J. M. Green, Assistant-Surgeon J. T. Deakin, and Paymaster W. F. Nixon.

The news from the new town of Matheran is that Lord Elphinstone, the Governor of Bombay, arrived there on the 6th of November. This will make the fortune of the place.

For Mahableshwur, leave has been given to Lieut. W. H. Malden, and Capt. G. F. Taylor.

There is favourable news from the Neilgherries with regard to the Lawrence Asylum for the children of English soldiers. Although Sir Patrick Grant, the local Commander-in-Chief, has not given it the required assistance, he has allowed the army to be canvassed for assistance. The donations, up to the 9th of October, were 2002*l.*; yearly subscriptions, 283*l.*; and monthly, 34*l.*

Mr. G. H. M. Batten, who is well acquainted with the district, is appointed to officiate as Senior Assistant Commissioner of the hill country of Kumaon during the absence of Mr. B. W. Colvin.

Surveys of the following hill districts have been published by Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co., for the East Indian Government:—Dehra Dhoon (No. 48), Kumaon and Gurhwal (No. 66), Himalayas (Nos. 47, 65), Assam (Nos. 124, 129, 130, 138), Sylhet (No. 125), Munnipoor (No. 131), Mysore (Nos. 42, 59, 60), Coorg (No. 43), Neilgherry Hills (No. 61).

From the district of Kote Kangra, which will in time be one of the most important of the Himalayan hill settlements, we are glad to learn the successful progress of the tea plantations of Holta, which was founded in 1852, with only one European resident. The yield this year is worth 6000*l.*, and in 1859 will be 10,000*l.*, provided that in that thinly peopled mountain region labour enough can be got. There is, however, a village of 2000 people within a few miles. The manager of the tea plantation speaks most favourably of the healthiness of the climate, of its temperature, and of the produce. The mulberry tree grows well, and the culture of the silkworm has been suggested. If not equal to Cashmere, Kangra is nevertheless one of the most promising districts for English settlement.

An interesting illustration of hill trade is given by the *Lahore Chronicle*. Eight thousand Afghan sheep (doombahs) laden with gold-lace, rubies, silks, and other merchandise, on their way from Cashgar by Surat to the English valley of Peshawur, encamped in the neighbourhood of Surat, and sent an application to the Akhoond, the chief priest and ruler of Surat, remonstrating against the heavy duties which he levied last year on their merchandise, and stated that they would take another circuitous route rather than submit to the extortion. The Akhoond thought better of it, and made a bargain to take only two and a half per cent. This is a specimen of the way such things are managed, and the impediments to the trade with Central Asia which have to be overcome. Large batches of horses had already arrived at Peshawur.

From Upper Assam there is news that our local Government contemplate another expedition, and on a more effective scale, against the tribe in the Abor hills, which drove back a small force on the last occasion.

The last of the four new steamers for the Indus having been put together at Kemaroo on the 20th of October, was launched from the dockyard and named the *Outram*.

The Mutlah settlement was getting on but slowly at the last advices, on account of the unhealthiness of the jungle. Workmen are not readily got, and during the rains masons and others depart, so that it is only during the cold season that the works are proceeded with. Now that the railway has been guaranteed, this state of affairs will be remedied, as the railway will bring workmen down daily from Calcutta. A large agricultural speculation is proposed in this district.

Captain Hart has proposed a plan for supplying Poonah with water, which it is hoped will receive the attention of the Bombay Government. He proposes to construct a dam across the river valley near the village

of Upper Ambeygaun, and then to convey the water by mains or by an aqueduct to a reservoir near the Poona camp. An aqueduct would be seven miles long, but mains would be only five miles, and there is this facility for the use of mains, that they could be cast in England, conveyed by sea to Bombay, and thence by railway to Poona. The dam would be 1270 feet in length, and be about 60 feet above the bed of the stream.

Mr. L. Wray has urged attention to cotton seed for oil, cotton cake for feed of cattle, and cotton soap stuff. Five hundred thousand tons of cake could be made in India yearly.

At Bombay the project of a Gas Company has made progress, although the Government Municipal Commissioners refused to promise a contract as an encouragement. The capital is 50,000*l.*, in shares of 5*l.* each. It is very pleasing to find that the natives strongly support the undertaking.

The vote of the Madras Government for public works, in their budget for 1858-9, is fixed at 700,000*l.*, a sum miserable enough for the wants of so many millions of people; but this sum is not restricted to civil works but includes military works, of which the fortifications of Fort St. George will alone absorb 140,000*l.* We are glad that a considerable sum is to be expended on barracks for English soldiers, which will be the means of saving many lives. It is lucky that railways have been authorised in Madras, and that the Madras Irrigation Company has at length received its guarantee, so that something will be done for works of improvement.

On Wednesday night a discussion took place at the Society of Arts on cotton cultivation, when Mr. Leonard Wray pointed out the importance of irrigation for the cotton plant in India, and supported the Madras irrigation plan.

We may mention, by-the-by, that it has been strongly urged as an encouragement to the marriage of English non-commissioned officers and privates, that they should be allowed to purchase commissariat rations for their families at the usual dry batta rate.

At Kurrachee, the rate of wages in Sir Charles Napier's time was two annas, or threepence a day, and it is now largely increased. In Cachar, in the rice harvest time, as high wages are now given as 2*s.* a day, but this is at present exceptional, although a very good proof of the extent to which wages may rise when there is a pressure on the labour market.

While native labour is advancing in most districts, it is observed that the rate of remuneration for Englishmen is settling to a lower standard as more candidates are obtained, and instead of the extravagant salaries given to the lucky few, more reasonable rates are accepted. The consequence is small local banks and joint-stock companies, which could not be carried on because they would have been eaten up by the expenses of management, are springing up everywhere, and the aggregate of employment is now much increased. Never were there so many English employed in India, or so many wanted.

There are complaints throughout India for want of adequate municipal institutions, and the paralysing effect of the centralised administration; the outlying cities of course come worst off. At Singapore the town-hall has been left to be built by private subscription, and being now only half finished, and the Government wanting a new law court, it was proposed to make over the town-hall to the Government on condition that they completed the building. The local engineer officer has raised an objection to this, so that Singapore remains without either town-hall or law court. At Rangoon they complain that though the province has a surplus revenue of 250,000*l.*, the city has no hospital, no efficient drainage, and scarcely a public building. At Bombay the Government authorities prevent the merchants from obtaining the dock accommodation, which is so much required. At Madras the trade of that important centre of commerce is crippled because the Government are unable to encounter what they believe to be the enormous expense of a breakwater, but which the port dues would provide. A pier is now suggested by the Government authorities as a palliative, but it can easily be seen that this is a useless application of money, as it will speedily be swept away by the sea. One of the subjects Lord Stanley has to take in hand is a general municipal law for India, something on the system of the English Municipal Corporations Act and Board of Health Act, a general law for district or collectorate boards on the principle of the English quarter sessions or the Irish grand jury, and a Public Works Act to be applied in each Presidency on the basis of the New York General Railway and Public Works Acts, so as to give scope to local action.

The Cotton Supply Association has memorialised the India Board in behalf of various improvements in the Bombay Presidency.

A most gratifying event occurred on the 23rd of October at Ahmedabad, being the opening of a school for girls, erected and endowed at the sole expense of a native lady, Nek Namdar Sukhavuthee Bahadur Shetani Hurcooverbae, being the first instance of such a circumstance in India. The first stone was laid by Sir Richmond Shakespeare. The school will accommodate one hundred and fifty girls, is endowed with 1200*l.* in cash, and cost about 800*l.*

COMMERCIAL.

UNITED STATES—FINANCE.

WE were summoned last week, by the publication of the French budget, to notice the financial condition of France, and this week we are required, by the President's Message, to perform the same office for the United States. No mystification or "cookery" of accounts is attributed to him; and all his figures are implicitly relied on. Unfortunately, the Republican Government, like its monarchical rivals, has not known how to keep its expenses down to its income, and is now imitating the spendthrifts of Europe by running in debt. This is a new phase in its latter life; for, unlike them, it actually paid off its debts, and its revenue was so large that speculations were rife in the States as to the mode in which the surplus should be appropriated. Two years ago, in consequence, the rates of the tariff were lowered, taxation was remitted, the Government was encouraged by a plethora of wealth in carelessness and extravagance; then came the commercial convulsion of 1857; the revenue of 1858 declined; the Government could not immediately contract its expenses, and the consequence is that for the first time for several years it has again run into debt. It still shows, however, a very striking and favourable contrast in this respect to the two Governments of Europe with which it can best be compared.

The total unredeemed debt of this country, funded and unfunded, was, on the 1st of March, 1858, within a few pounds, 806,000,000. The funded debt of France is 348,000,000; the unfunded debt is stated to be 28,000,000, but this is below the mark. The debt of the United States, according to Mr. Buchanan's statement, is now actually 59,910,777 dols., equal to about 11,000,000. This includes Treasury notes as well as stock, or floating as well as funded debt, and is a mere fraction—though the resources of the nation are indefinitely great—of the mighty debt of either of the two monarchies. And lest we should be reminded that each of the Federal states has a debt of its own, let us add that almost every county, and every town, and many parishes of England, have large debts, while the future produce of industry here is mortgaged to a large extent to the clergy of a particular creed. We put this contrast prominently forward because we do not feel called on to become the advocates of the Government of the United States. On the contrary, we see with alarm—knowing how much the hopes of mankind have been centred on it—that it has of late been stigmatised as excessively corrupt, and has undoubtedly become very unnecessarily extravagant.

Between 1850-53 inclusive, the average expenditure of the Government was 45,000,000 dollars; in the financial year 1857-8, which closed on June 30th, it was 81,585,667 dollars, and the yearly expense had increased therefore 36,000,000 dollars in five years. Within this period it has been engaged in no war but that against the Mormons, and the chief source of the increase is the multiplication of office holders. Mr. Buchanan, much to the delight of the *Times* and other advocates of extravagance, says that "comparisons between the expenditure now and ten or twenty years ago are altogether fallacious." Additions of territory and increase of population make some additional expenditure unavoidable; but rapid as is the increase of people in the States, they have not increased at the rate of eighty per cent. in five years. As the States have no colonies nor territories to maintain against an antagonistic nation, such a rapid increase of expenditure seems wholly unjustifiable. Twenty years ago, when the expenditure was not more than a third of its present amount—we have Mr. Buchanan's testimony to the fact—the Government was efficient and the country prosperous; and now, when the Government has entered into a career of wild extravagance, he informs us that money is used to carry elections; of course, because success has for the candidates—by bestowing on them influence over the Treasury—a money value, and he is filled with apprehensions for the future fate of his country. Let him and other American politicians take to heart his own warning and not yield to the extravagance, nor encourage the corruption he justly dreads.

To meet the expenditure of 1858—81,585,667 dols.—the actual means were 87,983,983 dols.; but

17,710,114 dols. of this sum were a balance which was in the Treasury on June 30, 1857, and 23,716,300 dollars were borrowed in the course of the year. The produce of the customs duties, of the land sales, and of miscellaneous receipts on the actual revenue was only 46,557,569 dollars against 68,965,000 dollars in 1856-7. So low as in 1858 the revenue has not sunk since 1850, and the Government therefore would probably have had to borrow had it been even as economical as it was extravagant. With the loan of 23,716,000 dollars and the large balance in the Treasury last year, the balance for the year ended last June was only 6,398,310 dollars. At the same time the revenue has not recovered. The customs duties in the quarter ended September 30th amounted to 13,444,520 dollars, against 18,573,729 in the same quarter last year. The estimated expenditure of the year now commenced is 74,065,896 dollars, and the estimated revenue, including a further loan of 20,000,000 dollars, which the Government is authorised to negotiate and one-half of which it has already borrowed, is only 81,129,194 dollars. So that next June, after borrowing in all 43,000,000 dollars in the two years, there will only be in the Treasury a balance of 7,063,298 dollars. With all deference to the statesmen of America, this is very bad husbandry, and we apprehend that if they continue in such a career, they will bring the Republican Government into as many difficulties as surround all the monarchical Governments of Europe.

Mr. Buchanan says, "No statesman would advise that we should go on increasing the national debt to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government. This would be a most ruinous policy." He calls on the Congress, therefore, now to make provision for the expenditure of the Government for the present year and for the fiscal year 1859-60, and recommends an increase of customs duties, preferring special or fixed to *ad valorem* duties, which permit much fraud. At the same time he calls on all parties in their respective spheres to practise the "most rigid economy," and invites the Congress to "institute a rigid scrutiny whether the expenses in all the departments cannot be still further reduced." He is sensible, then, of the impolicy of the present course, and would fain alter it, if the multitude of office-holders and expectants of office will allow him. Were he a younger man he might succeed, but he has already alienated from him many of his supporters; his party is dwindling away, and he will have to leave to some successor the task of devising a plan which shall secure additional revenue with decreasing expenditure.

It may probably be considered fortunate, but it is a fact, that the founders of the American constitution have not provided any suitable means for securing it a revenue. It is authorised to sell land, and in imitation of the Governments of Europe, which sought to regulate trade by customs, to levy customs duties. But experience has shown that these divert trade from its ordained channels. If levied on articles of which none are or can be produced in the States—such as tea and coffee—which are very few, and which have been hitherto exempt from duty, they must be very high or the revenue will be insufficient. If levied on articles made or produced in the country, the whole sum taken from the consumer does not go into the Treasury. "The consumer," says Mr. Secretary Cobb, "pays the enhanced value not only on the quantity imported but on the quantity made in the country. The tax is paid not to the Treasury but to the manufacturer, rendering such a duty not only more burdensome but grossly unequal, the home producer being benefited at the expense of the consumer." Moreover, as these duties are levied rather on luxuries than on necessities, they increase rapidly when the people are prosperous, and fall off as rapidly when they are otherwise. Such duties, as we have seen in the case of the United States, flood the Treasury with wealth in one year and leave it nearly empty the next. They are, consequently, an unreliable source of revenue. Though popular with the few whom they enrich, they are too extremely unpopular with the many. The Republican Government is clearly disposed, like the monarchical governments of

Europe, to appropriate to its own uses the property of the people; and therefore we think it fortunate for the world that its authors gave it no other means of raising a revenue than by import duties, which are at once unsuitable to the condition of the Americans, and liked by only a very few of the people. It will be made economical in spite of itself.

The Government, however, has no other means of covering the deficit, and concludes that a modification of the tariff is necessary. Mr. Cobb, after reviewing the several objections made to the present system of *ad valorem* duties, decides contrary to Mr. Buchanan's wish to continue this plan, and recommends the duties on the articles contained in Schedules C, D, F, G, H of the tariff, to be raised respectively to 25, 20, 15, 10, and 5 per cent. This alteration he calculates will give an increase to the customs revenue of 1,800,000 dollars. He may find, like Sir F. Baring in 1839, that 5 per cent. on the rate, is not more than 2 per cent. on the yield. To raise the additional amount required, he is to select certain articles and transfer them from the lower to the higher schedules, taking care "to make such selections as will best promote the various interests of the country without doing injustice to any." With such a tariff as that of the United States this is impossible, and we can only expect that, as trade extends, the Government will again get involved in numerous difficulties. The people of New York, who have borne the brunt of the late convulsion, are resolved, it is said, to oppose the alterations of the tariff. We see in books and newspapers a just appreciation of its effects on the country, and we do not believe that the Federal Government has of late so advanced in public estimation that all classes will be extremely willing to submit to inconvenience and loss to increase its revenue.

The consequence, let us further say, of this alteration in the tariff, will be to disturb and injure the trade between America and all other countries. All tariffs have such an effect; and though they be only called for, as in this case, by the wanton or contemptible extravagance of governments, which exist only to protect the interests of mankind, they are passed generally with as much indifference, and assailed, too, with as much satisfaction, as if they were, like the cultivation of the earth, essential to human welfare. The bearings of such subjects on the commerce of every nation, and of the whole nations of the world, are not sufficiently considered, or commerce is too much slighted. Such a reflection makes us direct especial attention to the subject in this part of our paper.

It must not be inferred from the temporary decline in the revenue of the Government that the prosperity of the people is at an end. It is entirely the consequence of the commercial convulsion of 1857, which began in the States and was far more serious there than in any other country. It was the collapse from prodigious inflation. In the end it was merely an adjustment of accounts, a reduction of credit to the actual amount of goods to answer it; and though the people of New York, the American shipping, and many persons suffered temporary evils—suffered from failed speculations and deceived hopes—though many railways which had been deemed fortunes turned out to be losses, there was no general decline in the national progress. The sufferings and losses fell chiefly on one class—the speculative traders and their immediate connexions. Some protected industries too, such as those of the cotton and iron, suffered. But the bulk of the people, the great cotton-growing, food-growing, land-clearing, and other great industries, were not unprosperous. From this we learn how foolish and unjust it is for the Government to rely on one class from which to collect a revenue, and on one branch of business to yield it. We learn, too, from the decline of the Government revenue, while the people continued to increase and extend over new territories, that they prosper rather in spite of the Government than by its aid. Those who would seek to model the institutions of Europe on the institutions of America, seem to forget that no institutions can give to industry an unoccupied territory practically boundless, and to a people habits of industry practically skilful and unwearied in seeking wealth.

GENERAL TRADE REPORT.

London, Thursday Evening.

ACCORDING to the latest advices from the United States, both cotton and flour were dull, and the markets in favour of the buyers. To those who are well aware, as we have endeavoured to point out, that all trade depends on the quantities of commodities—or as the Americans say, "stuff"—produced, and who know that the convulsion of 1857 began in America, and was immediately brought on by short crops of cotton and grain, the present prices of these two articles in the States, and the condition of the markets, will appear satisfactory. They betoken a further revival of trade in America and better times. They indicate a comparative abundance of two of the great staples of trade. So much of the trade of Europe now depends on the States, and prosperity there, though momentarily interrupted, is so sure to expand, that its commencement is equivalent to further progress in Europe. Accordingly, we are told from Paris this week that the commercial report may be regarded as satisfactory. The retail trade is, as usual, lively at Christmas time, and it is anticipated that the transactions of the principal dealers will exceed those of the corresponding period of 1857. The stocks of European goods in the United States are nearly exhausted, and some inquiries have already been made for South American houses. The manufacturing advices are favourable from Rouen and Mulhouse, and large arrivals of cotton at Havre have caused a fall in the price of the raw material. The looms at Lyons are in active employment, inasmuch that they can only take orders for distant dates. A similar movement is reported at Amiens, Rheims, and Roubaix. Goods in general have risen in price in the seaports. Havre is recovering its activity. Raw colonial sugars are in demand there. Coffees tend upwards. Wine continues to arrive at Bercy in considerable quantities. Wool is scarce. Silks have an upward tendency. Oils are inquired after at increased prices. Soap has recovered from its recent decline. Leathers are at improved quotations, as also are hops. Tallow is in improved demand. This improvement abroad accompanies improvement at home, and as every progress there is advantageous to us, we see with satisfaction that a company, with Lord Ward at its head, to irrigate, by the waters of the Rhône, the vast tracts of ground from the Ardèche to Nîmes and Aigues Mortes, is on the point of being formed. These districts, naturally fertile, with a magnificent climate, are unproductive from drought. The enterprise for fertilising this parched soil has the support of the Emperor, and the best results are anticipated from it.

The late Customs returns in the *Moniteur*, for November, show a slight increase in the revenue for the month as against November, 1857. The shipping in the eleven months shows an increase of French tonnage, both entered and cleared, while in the foreign vessels there is a decrease in the entries and an increase in the clearances.

When people suffer they are sure to be heard of, and the quietness generally in our manufacturing districts is a certain sign that trade is not otherwise than flourishing. In comparison with last year, at this time, it is in a very prosperous condition. Our corn markets continue dull, notwithstanding a large consumption. The supplies, therefore, are abundant. Colonial produce, too, continues steady in price, though the demand is large. Jute, which is a substitute for hemp, has risen 15s. per ton.

The trade of the country generally may be said to be in a healthy condition. Our next report will be told in a new year, and then we shall begin to look for that increased activity which has been anticipated for so many months, and which, from present appearances, seems most probable. It is quite evident that the feeling which has actuated manufacturers, home buyers, and exporters throughout the year has been one of extreme caution. The discount houses and the joint-stock banks, which are among the best evidences of the condition of trade, all concur in the statement that the general dullness of the money market, the low rate of interest, and the abundance of money have not arisen from any indisposition on their part to afford full commercial facilities, but really and truly because manufacturers and merchants have cautiously abstained from speculative business, and have limited their transactions to what may be termed the ordinary requirement of commerce, which, of course, owing to the late crisis, has been more restricted than usual. But within the last few weeks trade has been very good at Manchester and other districts in which goods are made suited to the China, India, and German markets. The large purchases for India and China may be easily accounted for; they have arisen through the check given to business by hostile operations, which having nearly subsided, the markets, which are somewhat bare, have required to be thoroughly replenished. It must not be disguised, however, that an opinion is gaining ground that we are sending too many goods to the East—that we are likely, if more caution is not exercised, to establish a similar glut in the Chinese and Indian markets to that which has been effected in Australia. Be that as it may, there can be no doubt that the activity which has manifested itself is based on a sound foundation, and that the ship-

ments which have been made, and are about to be made, are the result of a careful calculation of the condition of the markets.

LIVERPOOL.—Business has been very fair, considering that we are on the eve of Christmas. Sales of cotton continue to take place at an average rate, and at the advance in price which has recently been established.

MANCHESTER.—There has been no decline in the active demand which has lately prevailed for cloths and yarns suitable to the Eastern markets. Shirtings, long-cloths, T-cloths, printers and lighter goods are all in request for India and China, and to those sellers who can furnish early delivery an advance of 1½d. to 3d. per piece has been conceded. We believe that stocks are unusually light, and that purchasers cannot provide themselves with what they require, and manufacturers will not enter into forward contracts very readily. From the appearance of the market, from the large orders on hand and in process of execution, the current opinion is derived that no very material change in the existing activity is likely to be expected until the turn of next spring. The demand for yarns of all qualities is steady and general. Those fabrics and qualities best suited to the India and China markets are especially in demand, and an advance of ½d. to ¾d. has been obtained. The open weather for the season has brought German buyers into the market, and cops for early delivery for home trade are in request at an advance of ½d. to ¾d. per lb. A ready sale is found for fine and doubled yarns at better prices.

LEEDS.—Stock-taking and balancing ledgers appear to be more thought of than business. Nevertheless, there has been a fair trade done during the week, and the attendance of buyers has been by no means sparing. The general condition of trade is throughout satisfactory, and the future appears to offer a very hopeful prospect.

NOTTINGHAM still continues to have a brisk trade for hosiery, though not quite so bustling as the last few weeks.

LEICESTER.—The lace trade still drooping, and without present prospect of activity.

BIRMINGHAM AND METAL DISTRICTS.—The trade, generally, is restricted, but good of its kind. The iron trade, especially the Welsh masters, are well employed. In the coal districts the strikes are dwindling away, but we are sorry to say the same folly is here and there exhibiting itself in some of the manufacturing districts. A temporary strike took place in Messrs. Ormerod's mills, near Todwarden, but we understand the operatives were very soon inclined to listen to reason.

GLASGOW.—The cotton market has been active and firm, and prices have advanced about 1d. per lb. The stock of goods and yarns has so sensibly diminished in consequence of recent purchases that the advance submitted to by buyers has been since very well maintained. The iron market has been affected by speculative purchases, but prices are firm. It is expected that the annual circulars will show a very heavy stock on hand.

RAILWAY INTELLIGENCE.

THE North, West, and South London Junction Railway Company, for uniting the Kent and Brighton lines with the Northern and Western lines at Hammersmith, have issued their prospectus. The proposed capital is 700,000l., in 10l. shares, of which the London and North-Western Company have agreed to take 100,000l., the Board of that company, as well as of the North London, having sanctioned the undertaking, each agreeing to nominate two of their body to join the direction. The intended route is from the Greenwich line at Spa-road, through Camberwell, Brixton, Clapham, Battersea, and Waltham-green, to the Hammersmith station of the West London Railway, whence communication will be effected to the Great Western and North-Western lines, and also to the North London, thus making the circle round the suburbs of the entire metropolis complete, with the exception of the break between the Fenchurch-street and London-bridge stations.

Paris advices allege that the new convention between the Government and the Southern Railway Company of France has been signed.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the North Eastern Railway Company was held at York, on Tuesday, for the purpose of considering the propriety of applying to Parliament for power to construct, in the West Riding of York, a branch line of railway to Patley-bridge from the railway from Leeds to Thirsk, and certain branch railways to connect that railway with the Church Fenton and Harrogate branch, and give Harrogate a through line of railway communication. After considerable discussion resolutions were carried empowering the directors to take measures for their construction.

COLLISION ON THE SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.—On Wednesday a collision occurred at the Basingstoke station of the South-Western Railway. The Southampton train arrived at Basingstoke shortly before one, just as the Salisbury and Andover train was being shunted. A collision was the consequence, resulting in the destruction of the break-van and damage to the carriages, besides injuries to several passengers, some of which, however, were of a very serious nature.

HOME, COLONIAL, & FOREIGN PRODUCE MARKETS.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

Mincing Lane, Thursday Evening.

THIS has been a kind of finishing-up week in most of the leading markets, in which the business of the present year has been brought virtually to a close. The transactions coming under review since our last, like those which may intervene between this and the opening of the new year, must be regarded merely as eddies, affording but an indifferent criterion of the broad current of trade. There are however some features even in these irregular operations which are not altogether without significance. One in particular is the marked absence of any important sales for immediate cash, which usually predominate about this period, especially in speculative times, and this may be taken as fair evidence of the *bonâ fide* character of the year's trading in the aggregate, as well as of the firm and healthy position in which most of our principal markets are left at its close.

CORN.—In the general dealings very little change has occurred this week, the buying being still confined principally to immediate requirements; but the tone of business has been better. With English wheat the market has been only moderately supplied, and a fair clearance was effected without difficulty, at quite the previous currency. Choice heavy old white samples brought 49s. to 50s.; prime selected new, 46s. to 48s.; good runs, 44s. to 45s.; damp, 41s. to 43s.; prime heavy red, 42s. to 44s.; runs, 40s. to 41s.; inferior, 37s. to 38s. Foreign wheat, of which the imports were by no means large, was more firmly held, the choicest Dantzic for 54s. to 55s.; prime, 50s. to 52s.; Brabant and Louvain white, 44s. to 46s.; red, 42s. to 44s.; French red, 40s. to 42s.; St. Petersburg, 40s. to 41s.; Archangel, 34s. to 35s. Flour has been sold rather more freely, although not extensively, and prices are generally firm, the top quotation of town made at 40s.; town households, 33s. to 34s.; country households, 32s. to 33s.; Norfolk, 27s. 6d. to 28s. 6d.; French, 33s. to 37s. per sack; American best brands, 24s. to 25s.; good, 22s. to 23s.; sour, 20s. to 21s. Malt barley is steadily supported, choice qualities being somewhat scarce. Grinding samples are however pressed for sale, and have declined 1s. per qr. Malt is without quotable change, select "ware" bringing 67s. to 68s., fine samples 64s. to 65s., the inferior grades being still neglected. Beans are again 1s. per qr. lower for any but the best qualities. Peas are less in demand, and barely supported in value. With diminished arrivals of oats, holders are firmer, but the demand is slow. The few sales effected have been at full prices. The foreign advices refer to drooping markets generally, but owing to the low prices ruling here, shipments continued upon a very limited scale.

SEEDS.—In linseed the business passing is of very moderate extent, but prices are pretty steadily maintained, fine Bombay seed commanding 55s.; Calcutta, 52s. to 53s. Rape seed moves off, in retail quantity at 54s. for Calcutta, and 63s. to 68s. 6d. for fine Bombay. Oil cakes are generally held for late rates, but meet only a limited demand. Trefoil and clover-seeds are more in request, and would command fair prices, but there is not much disposition to sell.

HOPS.—Fine qualities have been in improved demand, and rather higher prices have been obtained. In other grades there has also been more doing but without alteration in terms.

LIVE STOCK.—The stock at market this week has been of the ordinary average, and the Christmas markets having supplied the present demand, trade has been quite of a nominal character. Quotations are in all cases lower. The following were the numbers on sale, and the current prices:—

MONDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
3,260	10,750	193	380
3s. 8d. to 6s. 0d.	3s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.	4s. 2d. to 5s. 2d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.

THURSDAY.			
Beast.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
756	1,530	130	140
3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 10d.	3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.	3s. 0d. to 3s. 8d.

PROVISIONS.—The weather having been close, the show in the dead meat markets has been upon a smaller scale than would otherwise have been the case, although the quality has been of the usual Christmas character. For the season trade has ruled dull, and prices comparatively low. Beef, 8s. 4d. to 4s. 4d.; mutton, 8s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 8s. 8d. to 4s. 8d.; pork, 8s. 4s. to 5s. per 8 lbs. by the carcass.

SUGAR.—Considering that the buying at this period is restricted as closely as possible to the bare sufficiency for immediate requirements, a fair demand has been experienced, and with few exceptions prices have been well sustained. The public sales, although showing a slight increase on those brought forward of late, have been upon a strictly moderate scale, and the market closes therefore with signs of undiminished confidence on the part of holders. Good useful qualities of both grocery and refining descriptions are saleable at full terms, but inferior grades are neglected, and slightly cheaper. The deliveries continue favourable, and the stocks have so far shown but a slight increase from late arrivals. The sales of West India for the week are

2608 hds., including Barbadoes at 39s. to 45s. for low to fine yellow; Jamaica, 40s. to 41s. 6d.; and Crystalised Demerara, 40s. 6d. to 47s., the last named being rather cheaper; 2000 bgs. Mauritius in auction were chiefly sold, brown at 31s. 6d. to 39s. 6d.; yellow, 40s. to 44s.; 3200 bgs. Madras brought 42s. to 45s. 6d.; for grocery 4000 bgs. Bengal; Benares, 45s. 6d. to 47s. 6d.; grocery, 44s. 6d.; and dry brown, 31s. 6d. per cwt. The public sales of foreign were nearly withdrawn or bought in, 13,750 bgs. Manilla at 34s. to 35s. for middling to good unclayed; 1000 hds. and 180 brls. foreign Muscovado, at 38s. to 39s. 6d. for brown; 40s. 6d. to 43s. for yellow; but 1100 bxs. Havana (damaged), were mostly sold: florets, 46s. to 48s.; white, 51s. to 52s. per cwt., duty, 16s. and 18s. 4d. respectively. The private transactions have been small. A floating cargo of 3600 bgs. Paraíba sold for Hamburg at 23s. 6d. per cwt. Refined sugars are seasonably dull of sale, but supplies are moderate and quotations comparatively firm. Brown lumps, 52s. 6d.

COFFEE.—The market has a firm aspect, the public sales having gone off with animation at full prices. 750 casks, 300 brls. and bags plantation Ceylon brought 64s. 6d. to 69s. 6d. for low middling and middling; and 70s. 6d. to 74s. 6d. for middling to good middling colour. 169 bgs. good ordinary St. Domingo, 47s. 6d. to 48s.; 800 bgs. Madras, good ordinary to middling pale, 63s. 6d. to 68s. 6d.; and bold colour, 81s. 89 bls. long berry Mocha were held at 93s. to 95s. per cwt. Two floating cargoes of superior first Rio, new crop, have sold, the one at 46s. 9d., and the other at 48s., both for continental ports. The statistical position of the market continues satisfactory.

TEA.—The principal feature this week has been the public sales, in which 14,677 pkgs. were offered, comprising the unusually large proportion of 8600 pkgs. "without reserve." The sales went somewhat unevenly, black leaf Congous realising very full prices, but scented teas showing a decline of ¼d. to 1d. per lb. Of the above quantity put up 9100 pkgs. sold. The private transactions have been chiefly in the new teas per Robin Hood, and these have found a steady sale at about former prices. To day private telegrams have been received in anticipation of the China mails, but they have had no appreciable effect on the market, which closes decidedly quiet in tone.

RICE.—The demand runs almost exclusively upon low qualities, in which a steady business has been done at fully the previous currency. Rangoon has sold at 6s. 6d. to 7s.; pinky Madras at 7s. 3d.; good Nercranzie, 7s. 9d.; and low to good middling white Bengal, 7s. 4½d. to 9s. 3d. per cwt. The deliveries continue very steady, and the stock is still slowly decreasing.

SALTPETRE.—The market is exceedingly flat, and where sales are made lower prices have to be taken. Public sales were attempted in the early part of the week, but the bids fell much below previous rates, and the whole offered was withdrawn. Since this nothing of moment has transpired.

SPICES.—Cassia lignea has further advanced 1s. per cwt.; sales of pile 1 having been made at 100s. In other spices the dealings have been of a retail character, and have not altered prior quotations.

FRUIT.—The dried fruit market, as usual, so near to Christmas, has been quiet. Several public sales have been brought forward, but they have resulted in very little actual business. Holders in general are, however, firm, and in what has been done, quite late rates have been paid.

DRUGS.—The only sale of moment has been one of 500 chts. of camphor (a portion of the arrival per Onni), which met a partial demand at 61s. to 62s. per cwt.

DYES.—Indigo is firmly held, and it is difficult to buy except at higher prices. Some small lots of low and middling safflowers have sold rather cheaply, but the market in general is steady. 180 tons Savanilla Fustie in public sale realised 5½s. to 5½s. 7s. 6d., and some parcels red wood 4½s. 7s. 6d. per ton.

COTTON.—The market has been quiet, but holders having offered but small supplies, prices remain steady. At Liverpool a decline of 1.10d. to ¼d. has taken place, and the sales are 45,800 bales. The American advices bring increased receipts at the ports, and also a general inclination to a higher range in crop estimates, and to this the heaviness in the Liverpool market is mainly attributed.

HEMP.—In Russian hemp but a moderate business is doing, and quotations are unaltered, 20½ being the price generally named for St. Petersburg clean. East India hemp is also in limited request only. Jute continues in active demand, and prices have further advanced 15s. per ton, common to good selling in public sale at 16s. 10s. to 20½ 10s. per ton.

METALS.—The price of copper has been advanced 5½ per ton on file and cake, making the present quotations 107½ 10s. Best selected is worth 110½ 10s., and for Burra Burra 111½ to 112½ is asked. Sheet copper has been put up ¼d. per lb., the prices being now 1s. per lb. There have been several transactions in Straits tin at 125½, but very little in other descriptions. Scotch pig iron is steady in price, but inactive. On 'Chango to-day the quotation was 54s. 6d. In spelter rather a large business has again been done, principally for arrival, spring shipments bringing 22½. The exact terms of the

later transactions were withheld, but are supposed to have been at rather higher prices. In lead no change has taken place.

OILS.—Linseed, after being heavy all the week at 29s. 6d., closed to-day rather firmer at 29s. 9d. Rape oil sells steadily at previous quotations. Common fish oils meet but a limited demand. Spermin, on the contrary, finds ready buyers, and to-day 92½ (one lot at 92½ 5s.) was obtained for good colonial fish.

TALLOW.—There has been but a moderate demand throughout the week, but stocks are well held, and prices show considerable strength. The deliveries have somewhat slackened, but have been rather in excess of the importations. The prices quoted during the greater part of the week have been 50s. 9d. to 51s. on the spot; 50s. 6d. to 50s. 9d. for delivery up to spring; and 51s. 3d. for March only; and to-day the market closed rather flatly at these rates.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

AN extraordinary meeting of the Trust and Loan Company of Upper Canada is called for the 31st inst., to authorise the directors to exercise the company's borrowing powers.

The London General Omnibus Company (Limited) have issued an advertisement, in which they notify that on the 1st January next "the business of the French Company will pass into their hands, and that it will in future be conducted by an English board of directors instead of the gérants of a French company." It is announced, in vague terms, that "an extensive plan is under consideration for improving the system of working the omnibus traffic of the metropolis." One of the "plans" upon which the company have acted appears to have been perfectly unsuccessful—the issue of correspondence and contract tickets—which will be discontinued on the 1st of January.

At the adjourned annual meeting of the South Australian Banking Company, a supplemental report from the directors was read. Referring to the colonial profit and loss account for the year 1857, the directors express their regret at finding that the colonial manager's explanations are most unsatisfactory as respects the realisation of the securities on the pending account. The profits on the colonial account for the year 1857, amounting to about 50,000£, have been absorbed in the losses sustained. The assurance was given, however, that the unfortunate transactions referred to will be brought within the result of that year's operations, and that the capital and reserved fund remain intact. After some discussion, the report was unanimously adopted.

On Wednesday was held a meeting of shareholders in the European and American Steam Shipping Company who are opposed to the directors' proposal for winding up the undertaking; Mr. Austen was called to the chair. Resolutions were adopted, pledging the shareholders present to resist the directors' proposal, and referring to the election of a new board of directors.

At the special meeting of the African Steam Ship Company, there was an insufficient attendance to consider the resolution for altering the form in which the accounts are to be presented; but it was, nevertheless, intimated by Mr. Hadow, on behalf of the board, that the new system will be carried out during the next half-year. The change proposed is, that with a view of simplifying the accounts, the directors be authorised in future to charge the actual disbursements for wear and tear and insurance against the receipts of the vessels respectively, and to reserve 7½ per cent. per annum out of revenue on the cost of the company's ships, as shown in the books at the expiration of each half-year, to form a depreciation fund.

THE METAL MARKET.

WE copy from Trueman and Fry's circular the following statement:—We have not much to note beyond the fact that, notwithstanding a little contraction of business, which is generally felt, there is no expectation prevailing that prices will go lower; indeed, a confidence in the future, and of a healthy return of business at the commencement of the ensuing year, is entertained in almost all quarters.

COPPER.—Since our last the expected advance in prices has been declared, but even now the smelters are so fully engaged, that they are unable at present to take orders for unmanufactured descriptions, except on a very limited scale. The holders of foreign are for the most part intent upon higher rates, although the stocks of that description have had some little accessions. High comparative prices can be obtained for Burra Burra and other fine foreign copper.

IRON.—The reports from the iron districts are satisfactory, the improvement of the past few months having reached all the manufacturers. Some one or two of the first Welsh makers have advanced their prices within the past ten days; the majority, however, accept orders readily, without evincing eagerness. Scotch pig is at a stand-still; price to-day 54s. 6d. cash, as in our last.

TIN.—This metal is firmly held, and to all appearance the holders of foreign are justified in their course. English refined is in request, but common not so much so.

SPELTER.—There is an improvement in the position of this metal, and it is not obtainable on such favourable terms as it was a week ago, when some considerable transactions took place.

LEAD is still rather inanimate.

TIN PLATES are eagerly sought at low rates, which makers very reasonably decline, under the existing circumstances of the tin and iron markets. The demand at makers' prices affords fair employment.

RIF PIRATES.—The Brussels *Independence* asserts that England, France, and Spain have agreed to make a joint expedition against the Riff pirates next spring.

BELEIZE.—The *Shipping Gazette* publishes an elaborate judgment, which has lately been pronounced by Mr. Temple, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Honduras, in the case of "Plus v. Hyde and Co." The question at issue was, virtually, whether the colonial creditors of Messrs. Jame Hyde and Co., of Belize, should have a preference in the distribution of assets over which the creditors of Messrs. Hyde, Hodge, and Co., of London, the two houses being in reality the same. The court has adopted the common-sense view that there is no such law in that country, and that the estate of an insolvent must be distributed fairly and equally amongst all his creditors, wherever they may reside.

NEW COMMISSIONER IN BANKRUPTCY.—The newly-appointed Birmingham Commissioner, Mr. G. W. Sanders, took his seat in the Bankruptcy Court on Wednesday. He was met by a large body of the professional gentlemen practising in the court, but no courtesies were exchanged on the occasion beyond the usual obeisance to the bench and its customary recognition. The usual business of the court was at once proceeded with.

THE SHIPPING INTEREST.—Mr. Duncan Dunbar, chairman of the public meeting of shipowners held on the 15th inst., Mr. George Marshall, chairman of the General Shipowners' Society, Mr. George F. Young, and Mr. William Bonar, secretary, had an interview with Mr. Secretary Walpole on Wednesday, at the Home-office, and presented the address to her Majesty agreed to at the public meeting.

INCREASE OF RUSSIAN TRADE IN ASIA.—Russian navigation on the Amoor dates from 1854, when it was found necessary, with all speed, to convey troops and provisions to Petropawlovsk, Kamschatka being at that time menaced by the navy of the Allies. Since then shipping on the river has attained such development that a pud of wheat (40 lbs.) may now be carried for 1s. 6d. from the confluence of the Shilka to the shores of the Pacific, a distance of more than two thousand miles. So long as the Ochotsk and Ajan line of roads were the only available means of transit, a pud (40 lbs.) of wheat could never be purchased at Petropawlovsk for less than three roubles. Since the opening of the Amoor this price has sunk to one rouble, or sometimes not even quite so much. Gunpowder, formerly conveyed from Irkutsk to Ochotsk at a charge of five roubles per pud, is now delivered by Irkutsk merchants in Nicola-Jeffsk at the reduced rate of one and a half roubles. As to the progress of commerce on the Amoor, no more at present need be said on this topic. In order to give an idea of its growing importance, it will be sufficient to observe that the value of merchandise shipped on the river in 1857 had already reached 1,000,000 roubles.

JAPANESE WORKMEN AND WORKSHOPS.—We (writes the correspondent of a New York journal) visited several of the workshops of all trades, and we found that all work was carried on in an entirely different way from that in our own country. The carpenters and cabinet-makers all sit down to saw or plane their stock. We entered a blacksmith's shop. Here we found the forge in blast, while two men were sitting down, one on each side of an anvil, hammering out a large piece of iron. The one with the sledge-hammer seemed to sling it as easily in the sitting posture as our own smiths do standing. While they heat their iron, they hang to a hook in the roof of the establishment, over a fire, a pot in which they are at the same time cooking their rice. In one shop we saw a hole (or artificial forge) dug in the ground, in which was a coal fire, which was kept up by a small bellows running under the ground. In front of this novel forge sat a small boy, who was hard at work with both hands making nails, while the bellows he kept in motion with the toes of his left foot. It was a novel sight to see with what rapidity he kept up the blast, his toes working like a lady's fingers on a piano.

ENGLISH OMNIBUSES IN VIENNA.—On the morning of the 15th the first train left Vienna for Linz. Omnibuses built in England conveyed the passengers to the terminus, and great was the crowd assembled on the Stephan's Place to see and admire the new-fashioned vehicles and harness. The hackney coachmen, who are good judges of such matters, pronounced the English workmanship to be *finos* (excellent), but they say that not one Viennese in a hundred will ever peril his shins and neck by being an outside passenger. The well-known form of the vehicles produced a singular impression on the English, and it was increased on seeing them the words "Munich, Frankfurt, Paris, London." In a few months the journey between Vienna and London will be accomplished in less than three days.

SHARES AND STOCKS.

No. of shares.				Name of Company.				London.				No. of shares.				Name of Company.				London.			
No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.		No. of shares.	Amount of shares.	Amount paid up.	
84543	12	10	Ambergate, &c	64	64			48810	204	13	Ditto New	d32	d32			204	13	Ditto Bonds 1876	103	103			
Stock	100	100	Birkenhead, Lancashire, and	68	68				100	all	Ditto 1873 without op.	107	107			100	all	Ditto 51 p. ct. 1877, ditto	100	100			
			Cheshire Junction	984	944				100	all	Ditto Madras guar. 4 1/2 per cent	183	19			100	all	Ditto ditto 5 do.	203	203			
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter	45	45				25000	20	Ditto 4 1/2 per cent. Extension	d4	d4			50000	20	Ditto Thirds ditto	p4	p4			
Stock	100	100	Caledonian	174	174				25000	20	Ditto Fourths ditto	p4	p4			50000	20	Ditto New	p4	p4			
Stock	100	100	Chester and Holyhead	644	644				25000	20	Scinde	p14	p14			25000	20	Ditto Trinidad (limited) Scrip.	p4	p4			
Stock	100	100	East Anglian	40	40				25000	20						25000	20						
Stock	100	100	Eastern Counties	33	33				25000	20						25000	20						
Stock	100	100	Eastern Union, class A	14	14				25000	20						25000	20						
Stock	100	100	— class B	97	97				30000	10						30000	10						
28000	25	25	East Kent	694	694																		
Stock	100	100	East Lancashire	284	284																		
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh and Glasgow	108	108																		
Stock	100	100	Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee	94	94																		
Stock	100	100	Great Northern	134	134																		
			— A stock	1054	1054																		
Stock	100	100	Great Southern and Western (I.)	56	56																		
Stock	100	100	Great Western	90	90																		
18000	50	50	Lancashire and Carlisle	p13	p13																		
18000	163	143	— Thirds	p13	p13																		
24000	163	15	— New Thirds	p13	p13																		
Stock	100	100	Lancashire and Yorkshire	99	99																		
45444	16	6	— F. 167.	d4	d4																		
57500	9	7	— 97. shares	d4	d4																		
11900	113	113	London and Blackwall	64	64																		
Stock	100	100	London, Brighton, and South C.	1134	1134																		
Stock	100	100	London and North-Western	96	96																		
244000	124	73	— Eighthths	d2	d2																		
Stock	100	100	London and South-Western	96	96																		
Stock	100	100	Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincoln	394	394																		
50000	70	3	Metropolitan	1024	1024																		
Stock	100	100	Midland	70	70																		
Stock	100	100	— Birmingham and Derby	124	124																		
20000	50	50	Midland Great Western (I.)	67	67																		
22220	25	25	Newport, Abr., and Hereford	d3	d3																		
Stock	100	100	Norfolk	d3	d3																		
60000	50	34	Northern Counties Union	59	59																		
Stock	100	100	North British	94	94																		
Stock	100	100	North-Eastern—Berwick	d4	d4																		
64115	25	163	— G. N. E. Purchase.	454	454																		
Stock	100	100	— Leeds	774	774																		
Stock	100	100	— York	103	103																		
Stock	100	100	North London	d34	d34																		
168500	20	173	North Staffordshire	32	32																		
Stock	100	100	Oxford, Worcester, and Wolyn.	113	113																		
Stock	100	100	Scottish Central	284	284																		
Stock	100	100	Scottish N. Eastern Aberdeen Stk.	80	80																		
Stock	100	100	Scottish Midland Stock	47	47																		
Stock	100	100	Shropshire Union	374	374																		
Stock	100	100	South Devon	75	75																		
Stock	100	100	South-Eastern	18889	18																		
Stock	100	100	South Wales	15	15																		
27582	20	20	South Yorkshire and River Dun.	15	15																		
3273	20	18	Do do	125000	100																		
Stock	100	100	Vale of Neath																				
LINES LEASED																							
AT FIXED RENTALS.																							
Stock	100	100	Buckinghamshire	101	101																		
Stock	100	100	Clydesdale Junction	106	106																		
Stock	100	100	E. Lincolnshire, guar. 6 per cent.	145	145																		
8000	50	50	Hull and Selby	113	113																		
43077	123	123	London and Greenwich	674	674																		
11130	20	20	— Preference	1224	1224																		
Stock	100	100	London, Tilbury, and Southend	96	96																		
82500	54	54	Manchester, Buxton, and Matlock	24	24																		
Stock	100	100	Midland Bradford	101	101																		
Stock	100	100	Midland and Eastern, 5 per cent.	60	60																		
16862	50	50	Northern and Eastern, 5 per cent.	144	144																		
Stock	100	100	Royston, Hitchin, and Shepreth	104	104																		
78760	12	12	South Staffordshire	94	94																		
Stock	100	100	Wilts and Somerset																				
PREFERENCE SHARES.																							
Stock	100	100	Bristol and Exeter, 4 per cent.	98	98																		
Stock	100	100	Caledonian 10 1/2, 4 1/2 per cent.	105	105																		
ENGLISH STOCKS.																							

* Ex. Dividend, or ex. New.

JOINT STOCK BANKS.						JOINT STOCK BANKS.						
No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names.	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	No. of Shares.	Dividends per annum.	Names	Shares.	Paid.	Price per Share.	
			£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.	
22500	20½ per cent.	Australasia	40	40	0	00	20000	0½ per cent.	National Bank	50	25	0
10000	7½ per cent.	Bank of Egypt	25	25	0	28	25000	20½ per cent.	New South Wales	20	20	0
6000	5½ per cent.	Bank of London	100	50	0	47	50400	12½ per cent.	Oriental Bank Corporation	25	25	0
20000	0½ per cent.	British North American	50	50	0	..	25000		Ottoman Bank	20	20	0
32200	5½ per cent.	Char. of India, Australia, and China	20	10	0	d14	20000	14½ per cent.	Provincial of Ireland	100	25	0
4500	5½ per cent.	City Bank	100	50	0	04	4000	14½ per cent.	Ditto New	10	10	0
20000	0½ per cent.	Colonial	100	25	0	30	12000	0½ per cent.	Ionian Bank	25	25	0
25000	0½ per cent.	Commercial of London	100	20	0	21	12000	12½ per cent.	South Australia	25	12	10
25000	0½ per cent.	Eng. Scot. and Aust. Chartered	20	20	0	18	4000		Ditto New	25	25	0
35000	0½ per cent.	London Chartered Bank of Australia	20	20	0	21½	32000	10½ per cent.	Union of Australia	10	0
20000	12½ per cent.	London and County	50	20	0	30	5000	20½ per cent.	Ditto New	15	8	0
30000	22½ per cent.	London Joint Stock	50	10	0	32	10000		Union of Hamburg	50	10	0
50000	14½ per cent.	London and Westminster	100	20	0	50	5000	15½ per cent.	Union of London	100	50	0
10000	10½ per cent.	National Provincial of England	100	35	0	..	3000	3½ per cent.	Unity Mutual Bank	100	50	0
25000	10½ per cent.	Ditto New	20	10	0	..	4000	3½ per cent.	Western of London	100	50	0

MONEY MARKET AND STOCK-EXCHANGE.

THURSDAY EVENING.

We may venture to state that there has been no movement in the money market. The Bank rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. is maintained, and little, if any, speculative tendency is perceptible. Consols leave off at $96\frac{3}{4}$ to 3 , sellers, and prices from France come a trifle better, notwithstanding the result of M. de Montalembert's appeal. The receipt of certain telegrams caused for a time a demand for St. Petersburg paper, and at a late hour news arrived that the Oriental exchanges have assumed an unfavourable tendency against this country. With these exceptions the exchanges remain unaltered. The Eastern telegrams arrived too late to affect the share market, which, as respects all Indian guaranteed stocks and shares, had been firm, and was, to the ordinary shares and scrip, weak. East Indian stock, of which the market had been very bare, left off at 109 to 109 $\frac{1}{2}$; Great Northerns rule 106 to 107; Crystal Palace, $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$; London Omnibus $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$; Red Sea Telegraph Scrip, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ prem. Great Ship shares are at $\frac{1}{2}$ dis. to $\frac{1}{2}$ premium, but confidence is felt in the undertaking; and Victor Emmanuel Bonds are a shade flatter.

Money is about the same as to demand and as to terms as last week. The current rate of discount is that of the Bank, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

Stocks have not been animated. They were dull in the early days, but were firmer yesterday.

The Bank seems to have received no bullion in the week, but the money in it continues abundant.

We learn with regret that the telegraphic communication by the submarine wire between Cagliari and Malta is interrupted. The cause is not known, but in consequence of it the next telegraphic news from India will probably be delayed two or three days.

The rise in the exchange on St. Petersburg has given rise to a rumour that the Russian loan is to be brought forward. This is not unlikely, but we have no certain information on the subject. There is a report, too, that the party in San Domingo opposed to the Emperor Faustin has sent an agent to Europe to negotiate a loan. It is not likely to be successful.

The liquidators of the Western Bank have announced that on and after the 28th of December, they will be prepared to pay off in full all depositors whose claims have been admitted, and who have not transferred them to other banks. Those who desire their money to remain will be allowed interest at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., being $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the current rate. The sum at the credit of private depositors now to be paid amounted to 928,000*l*.

The *Times*, in its controversy with Mr. Chapman, seems to have overlooked the real accusation originally made against the house of Overend, Gurney, and Co. It could not possibly have been that it had got back warrants and kept them, in order to conceal their worthless character from the buyers of the spelter, for the fact of their proceedings was not known till long after the house had fallen very much in public estimation. The accusation was that the house continued to countenance Cole and Gordon to the public by dealing with them after Mr. Chapman had detected the frauds; and this accusation Mr. Chapman's explanation about the spelter amply confirms. He held out Cole to the public as an honest man, when it was his business to have denounced a rogue. Other persons, who were taken in by Cole, were justly irritated by such a proceeding, and threw the blame of some of their losses on the countenance given by the house to detected knaves.

We have reports every day of disputes between shareholders and directors of companies, of companies being wound-up, and of their quarrels with one another. It is natural, as companies have of late increased so much, that we should hear a great deal more of them; but independently of that, companies are not now regarded so favourably as formerly. It has long ago been found out that the zeal exhibited by the Legislature in 1826 for the establishment of joint-stock banks, though fanned by the great political economists of the day and embodied into a law, has answered no good purpose. More mischief has been inflicted through the instrumentality of one or two joint-stock banks than by all the private banks that ever existed. Those which have been tolerably successful have, in fact, departed from the principle of directorates involved in the joint-stock plan, and have wisely confided their business, under the fiction of a supervision by directors, to the hands of some one skilful and honest manager. Of late, accordingly, the French system, which recognises the limited liability of many persons in a concern exclusively managed by one, is becoming more popular amongst us than our own old plan. It cannot be denied, notwithstanding some lingering prejudices, that public companies with boards of directors are falling into discredit here.

The reason, we apprehend, is that there is no possibility of preserving in them the great principle of individual responsibility. This, however, is the law of nature. Life, with all its consequences, is strictly individual. The pains and pleasures of one, however influential by sympathy over others, cannot be transferred to them, and there cannot be vicarious responsibility. Directors of companies may have a common interest with shareholders, but these must still remain responsible for the confidence, whether it be foolish or wise, they repose in directors. Unable to get rid of responsibility, and every day bringing to light some mismanagement of directors, people naturally begin to doubt the validity of a system which subjects many to disasters from the misconduct of a trusted few. Before the modern legislation for constituting joint-stock companies has well come into extensive operation it has become of very doubtful repute.

Several new schemes of submarine telegraphs are suggested beside the vast scheme for uniting England, Africa, and South America with Brazil, to which we referred last week. In most of them, however, the very shortest accessible oceanic route between the Old World and the New is rationally adopted as a basis. One of them contains apparently as a lure an intimation that a line may be carried by Bermuda to Jamaica. It is, however, clear, whatever may now be proposed, that ultimately all the West India Islands, and generally South America, will be connected at the most convenient route with the rest of the world by telegraphs which pass through the United States to Florida, and thence to Cuba and the rest of the islands. Several years ago this route was suggested, both by gentlemen in England and the West India Islands, for the course of our mails, sending them by rail through the States. This route seems so reasonable that the political prejudices which prevent it from being adopted seem childish.

Now, when people begin to be tired and ashamed of the follies resulting from the antagonism between the old aristocratic Governments of Europe and the young democratic Government of the States, it seems worse than childish that such an antagonism should be allowed to stand in the way of realising this scheme. Its basis is to use the shortest sea route between Europe and America for the conveyance of mails, passengers, &c., and to make available the many means of locomotion and communication now existing in the States. To go to, and come from, Mexico and Central America to Europe, it is now common, not to say general, in spite of the bounty to mail-packet companies which divert the traffic to the route between Southampton and Greytown, to pass through the United States. As railways are there multiplied and extended, this route will be still more generally preferred, and will probably supersede all others. It will shorten the distance between many places, dispense with many long sea voyages, and unite in one bond Europe and the whole Western World.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

Tuesday, December 21.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.

RICHARD SMITH BULL, Newcastle-under-Lyne, confectioner.

RICHARD HENRY HAMLEN, Cardiff, farmer.

JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES WINDING-UP ACTS.

LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM IRON AND HARDWARE COMPANY.—A call of 5*l*. per share on the contributors, Jan. 13, at the Bankrupts' Court.

BANKRUPTS.

WILLIAM RICHARDS, Oxford-street, wire-work and blind manufacturer.

GEORGE PYE, Ipswich, flax dresser.

ARCHIBALD MONTGOMERY, Great Winchester-street, City, merchant.

ROBERT MASON, Brian--street, Caledonian-road, wholesale stationer.

JOHN HATFIELD, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, lodging-house keeper.

JOHN DAVIES, Tachbrook-street, builder.

WILLIAM ANSELL DAY, New Bridge-street, City, money scrivener.

FRANCIS SHARON, Acre-lane, Brixton, nurseryman.

JOSEPH HART, Water-lane, Blackfriars, licensed victualler.

WILLIAM SMITH, Runham, Norfolk, fish merchant.

EDWARD SHARP, Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, miller.

JOHN THOMPSON, Brough, Westmoreland, licensed victualler.

JAMES HYSLOP, Wellington, Somersetshire, draper.

WILLIAM BAKER, Cheapside, cattle-food manufacturer.

WESTERN BANK OF SCOTLAND.—The liquidators have issued a notification that after the 28th December they will pay off in full all those depositors whose claims have been admitted, and who have not transferred them to other banks. Those who desire their money to

remain with the Western will be allowed interest at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., being $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. above the current rate. After these payments have been made, the sole remaining creditors of the Western will be the other Scottish banks. By the last official report of the liquidators, the sum at the credit of private depositors which is now to be paid amounted to 928,000*l*.

CREDIT MOBILIER.—The Council of the Crédit Mobilier Society of Paris have announced the payment of 25*fr*. per share, being 5 per cent. interest, as usual at this period of the year.

PORT OF LONDON.—In the general business during the past week there has been diminished activity. The number of ships reported inward was 180, those cleared outward amounting to 108, including 14 in ballast. Of those now on the berth loading outward 45 are for the Australian colonies, 2 for Vancouver's Island, 3 for San Francisco, and 7 for China.

NEW FOREIGN LOANS.—There seems to be little doubt that the introduction of a Russian loan on the London Stock-Exchange is contemplated in the course of the coming year. The impression is that it will be for a considerable amount—probably 8,000,000*l*. The period at which it may be looked for, however, is uncertain. The new stock will probably be apportioned amongst the great markets of London, Amsterdam, Berlin, Frankfurt, and Paris, especially the four former; and in the event of liberal terms being conceded, the credit of the Government is sufficiently good to ensure the success of the operation. The expectation of an Austrian loan also gains strength, and in that case, too, the total is likely to be large. Possibly there may be some rivalry between Austria and Russia to see which can obtain the first hold upon the market. Advice from St. Domingo state that the party headed by Santana have sent an agent to Europe to endeavour to negotiate a loan. St. Domingo is at war with Hayti, a truce effected some time back being about to expire, and the republic is said to be in no position to resist permanently the resources of the Emperor Faustin. It is torn, moreover, with civil war, and is without funds or resources. Its paper money has become valueless, and specie has altogether left the country.

NORTH SEA TELEGRAPH.—The new submarine cable laid down in the North Sea, between the island of Nordey and some point on the coast of Kent, has been completed as far as Hanover. Twenty minutes only are required for sending a despatch and receiving an answer between the latter place and London. The line will be open for the use of the public within a few days.

GENERAL POST-OFFICE.—Notice has been issued that on Christmas-day there will be no delivery of letters, &c., within the limits of the London district post after twelve at noon. The collection of letters and newspapers from the branch offices and receiving-houses will take place in the evening, for despatch by the foreign mails and general post, as also the collection at ten o'clock at night, to be forwarded by the morning mails; but no business whatever will be transacted in the money-order department of the Post-office.

LIFE-BOAT FOR CALAIS.—The English Government have presented, through the French Minister, to the town of Calais, a life-boat on the plan of those adopted by the Royal National Life-boat Institution, in acknowledgment of the valuable services rendered by some sailors of that place to the crew of an English vessel wrecked off that town last winter. She is said to be a beautiful boat, thirty feet long, and is rowed with six oars single-banked. She will row fast in a sea-way, right herself readily if upset (which it is most difficult for her to be), and clear herself instantly of any water she may ship. On either side of the bow is a large silver plate in English and French, commemorative of the cause of her presentation to the town of Calais. She is, on the design of Mr. James Penke, assistant master shipwright in her Majesty's Dockyard, Woolwich, and was built by the builders to the Royal National Life-boat Institution, Messrs. Forrest, of Limehouse, London.

NEW ANGLO-FRENCH SCHEME.—The company for the irrigation, by the waters of the Rhone, of the vast tracts of ground from the Ardèche to Nîmes and Aigues Mortes, is on the point of being formed. This enterprise is admitted to be one of great importance and utility. These districts, with a naturally fertile soil and a magnificent climate, are turned into a desert by drought for a great part of the year. Manufacturing and agricultural labour is stopped, and Nîmes, one of the principal silk-producing countries, loses its great natural advantages for want of water. The enterprise is to be adopted by a chartered company, with a wealthy English nobleman, Lord Ward, as chairman, and M. Ferdinand Barrot, senator, for vice-president.

PRUSSIAN HORSES.—The attention of Count Puckler, the Minister of Agriculture in Prussia, having been directed to the deterioration of the present breed of horses in that country, a committee has been formed by him to inquire into the best means to remedy the evil. General de Willson, the grand equerry, and the chiefs of the Government breeding studs are to take part in the conferences of the committee.

HOLIDAY ON MONDAY.—The Committee of the Stock Exchange have resolved that Monday next shall be a close holiday. The day will also be very generally kept as a holiday throughout the City.

NEAPOLITAN INCIDENTS.—The correspondent of a contemporary, writing from Naples, says:—"I can but repeat in one letter what I had said in the preceding, but sing the old song of *Nuovi tormenti e, nuovi tormentati*. What have I to talk about, in fact, but arrests, thefts, injustice, stupidity, pride? Evil—evil—nothing but evil! Everything is Divine in this country but man, as Byron said of the East. String together some rumours respecting the marriage of the Duke of Calabria, the parsimonious preparations for that event, the probabilities of an armistice, the intrigues with Rome and Austria, the fear of war, cold, Vesuvius, &c., and you have the news of Naples. The incapacity of the upper classes, the stupidity of the pieces played at the theatres (for which, of course, the censors, not the authors, are answerable), the uncleanness common to the country, the dogs, the monks, the processions which come upon you at every corner of the street, one of the lazzaroni who overturns you, a gendarme who trips you up, a *shirro* who collars you on account of the colour of your cravat, or the shape of your moustache; beggars who run after you, threaten if you do not relieve them, and jeer if you do; Capuchins who offer you lottery tickets, promise to enrich you for a penny, or to sell you a place in Paradise, for yourself, your posterity, your grooms, and your dogs, for the small sum of sixpence, with plenary indulgence into the bargain; flaccos which knock you down, run over you, and then cry out, 'Hailo, there!' Such is Naples—such are its daily incidents, its amusements, its ordinary doings. A house of correction in England, with treadmill privileges, is an earthly paradise compared with this death in life."

THE SUEZ RAILWAY.—The line from Alexandria to Suez is completed and open to the public. When all the stations and the details incidental to them are completed and improved, we question if there will be a more comfortable railway to travel on in Europe than the one just finished through the "Land of the Caliphs." It is impossible to calculate the advantage it will produce to all connected with the East, whether it be India, China, Java, Manila, or the Australian colonies. But we do know that its completion has removed the only unpleasant portion of the "overland route," and which now is, as before remarked, "it would be," as comfortable as travelling by sea and land can be made.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Registrar General's return for the last week shows a continued decrease in the rate of mortality from the high point it attained at the end of November. The deaths, which were 1531 in the preceding week, fell to 1442. Scarlet fever, though declining, is still very fatal. Small-pox and measles increase. The births amounted to 1776.

TEETH—TEETH.

PROTECTED BY ROYAL LETTERS. PATENT, and received by the most eminent of the Faculty.—Mr. LAWRENCE'S IMPROVED ARTIFICIAL TEETH by the CLEO-PLASTIC process entirely supersede the Soft Gum, and every substance that become putrescent in the mouth. Their cleanliness, ease, and comfort render them available in every case, without springs or wires, at less than advertised prices.—PAINLESS TOOTH EXTRACTION by GRADUATED ELECTRICITY is always attended with certainty and success.—A Treatise on the above methods sent post free on application. Mr. LAWRENCE, Member of College of Dentists, U.S., 50, Berners-street, Oxford-street, London.

IMPAIRED DIGESTION

Is the certain result of imperfect mastication, and the source of an endless train of internal disorders. Mastication cannot be properly performed with unsound teeth, and hence the importance of their claims on our attention, and the necessity of extreme caution in the choice of a preparation which, while it shall cleanse and whiten the teeth, shall not injure the delicate surface of the enamel, that once destroyed can never be repaired, and is certain to terminate in decay.—D'ALTENBURG'S DENTIFRICE is an oriental preparation of great rarity, possessing extraordinary properties in preserving the teeth from decay and fixing them securely in the gums, on which also it exercises a salutary influence in rendering them firm and healthy. Its constant use will entirely prevent toothache, and preserve the teeth sound, white, and highly polished to extreme age; it speedily removes any discoloration, and renders the breath fragrant and pure. Price 1s. 1d. per box; free by post for 16 stamps.—D'Altenburg and Co., 39A, Lamb's Conduit-street, London.

RUPTURES.—BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

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

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ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c., for VARICOSE VEINS, and all cases of WEAKNESS and SWELLING of the LEGS, SPRAINS, &c. They are porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and are drawn on like an ordinary stocking.
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LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL,

Prescribed, in consequence of its immeasurable superiority over every other kind, as the safest, speediest, and most effectual remedy for CONSUMPTION, BRONCHITIS, COUGHS, GOUT, RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, DISEASES OF THE SKIN, INFANTILE WASTING, RICKETS, GENERAL DEBILITY, AND ALL SCROFULOUS AFFECTIONS.

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"I have frequently recommended persons consulting me to make use of Dr. de Jongh's Cod Liver Oil. I have been well satisfied with its effects, and believe it to be a pure Oil, well fitted for those cases in which the use of that substance is indicated."

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"NATURAL STRENGTHENER OF THE HUMAN STOMACH." NORTON'S PILLS act as a powerful tonic and gentle aperient: are mild in their operation; safe under any circumstances; and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use.

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Perfectly pure, nearly tasteless, has been analysed, 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. PERRIN, say, that "The finest oil is that most devoid of colour, odour, and flavour." Half-pints, 1s. 6d., Pints, 2s. 6d., Quarts, 4s. 6d., and Five-pint Bottles, 10s. 6d., Imperial Measure.—79, St. Paul's Churchyard, London.

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THEY ARE THE CHEAPEST IN THE END.

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

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12 Table Forks.....	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Table Spoons.....	1 18 0	2 8 0	3 0 0	3 10 0
12 Dessert Forks.....	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Dessert Spoons.....	1 10 0	1 15 0	2 2 0	2 10 0
12 Tea Spoons.....	0 18 0	1 4 0	1 10 0	1 18 0
6 Egg Spoons, gilt bowls.....	0 12 0	0 15 0	0 18 0	1 1 0
2 Sauce Ladles.....	0 7 0	0 8 6	0 10 6	0 16 0
1 Gravy Spoon.....	0 8 0	0 11 0	0 13 6	0 16 0
2 Salt Spoons, gilt bowls.....	0 4 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 7 6
1 Mustard Spoon, gilt bowl.....	0 2 0	0 2 6	0 3 0	0 3 9
1 Pair of Sugar Tongs.....	0 3 0	0 3 9	0 5 0	0 7 0
1 Pair of Fish Carvers.....	1 4 0	1 7 6	1 12 0	1 19 0
1 Butter Knife.....	0 3 6	0 5 9	0 7 0	0 8 0
1 Soup Ladle.....	0 13 0	0 17 6	1 0 0	1 1 0
1 Sugar Sifter.....	0 4 0	0 4 9	0 5 9	0 8 6
Total.....	11 14 6	14 11 3	17 14 9	21 4 9

Any article to be had singly at the same prices. An oak chest to contain the above, and a relative number of knives, &c., 27. 15s. Tea and Coffee Sets, Cruet, and Liqueur Frames, Walters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the patent process.

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DISH COVERS AND HOT WATER DISHES, in every material, in great variety, and of the newest and most recherche patterns. Tin dish covers, 7s. 6d. the set of six; block tin, 12s. 3d. to 27s. the set of six; elegant modern patterns, 35s. 6d. to 62s. 6d. the set; Britannia metal, with or without silver plated handles, 37. 11s. to 62. 8s. the set; Sheffield plated, 10s. to 16s. 10s. the set; block tin hot water dishes, with wells for gravy, 12s. to 30s.; Britannia metal, 22s. to 77s.; electro-plated on nickel, full size, 11s. 11s.

WILLIAM S. BURTON'S GENERAL FURNISHING IRONMONGERY CATALOGUE may be had gratis, and free by post. It contains upwards of 400 Illustrations of his illimited Stock of Electro and Sheffield Plate, Nickel Silver and Britannia Metal goods, Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes, Stoves, Fenders, Marble Chimney-pieces, Kitchen Ranges, Lamps, Gas-lights, Tea Urns and Kettles, Tea Trays, Clocks, Table Cutlery, Baths and Toilet Ware, Turnery, Iron and Brass Bedsteads, Bedding, Bed Hanging, &c. &c., with Lists of Prices, and Plans of the Sixteen large Show Rooms, at 39, Oxford-street, W.; 1, 1A, 2, and 3, Newman-street; and 4, 5, and 6, Perry's place, London.—ESTABLISHED 1820.

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26, Soho-square, London.—Established 20 years.—The Proprietor begs to call the attention of the public to the following very reduced List of Prices for LOOKING-GLASSES, of superior quality, fitted in carefully manufactured carved and gilt frames:—

Size of Glass.	Outside Measure of Frame.	Price.
40 by 30 in.	51 in. wide by 39 in. high from	37. 10s. each.
46 by 36 in.	48 in. wide by 53 in. high from	57. 0s. each.
50 by 40 in.	52 in. wide by 60 in. high from	67. 0s. each.
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Mahogany dressing and cheval glasses, gilt cornices, grandioses, picture frames, &c., at equally moderate prices.

Merchants and shippers supplied by special contract.

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Whitlow or Gathered Finger, Ulcers about the Nails, Bunions.—The growth of the nail into the flesh, generally occurring at the side of the great toe, is a very painful affection to bear, and a very troublesome one to cure. The part, after due fomentation in warm bran tea, should have Holloway's healing Ointment immediately applied, by which the disease will be instantly arrested, and the ulceration speedily repaired. Corns and Bunions (the offspring of cramping the feet into fashionable boots) are readily removed by the same means, so that he, that limped, regains once more his graceful deportment. Whitlows and all abscesses are wonderfully relieved, and all disfiguring muscular contractions prevented by this antiphlogistic, yet soothing, Ointment.

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MAPPIN BROTHERS, Manufacturers by Special Appointment to the Queen, are the only Sheffield Makers who supply the consumer in London. Their London Show Rooms, 67 and 68, KING WILLIAM STREET, London Bridge, contain by far the largest STOCK OF DRESSING CASES, and Ladies' and Gentlemen's TRAVELLING BAGS in the World, each Article being manufactured under their own superintendence.

MAPPIN'S Guinea DRESSING CASE, for Gentlemen.
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Ladies' TRAVELLING and DRESSING BAGS, from 27. 12s. to 100l. each.

Gentlemen's do. do., from 37. 12s. to 30l.
Messrs. MAPPIN invite inspection of their extensive Stock, which is complete with every Variety of Style and Price.

A costly Book of Engravings, with Prices attached, forwarded by post on receipt of 12 Stamps.

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Manufacture—QUEEN'S CUTLERY WORKS, SHEFFIELD.

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Warranted good by the Makers. Shave well for Twelve Months without Grinding.

MAPPIN'S 2s. RAZORS shave well for Three Years.

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MAPPIN BROTHERS, Queen's Cutlery Works, Sheffield; and 67, King William-street, City, London; where the largest Stock of Cutlery in the World is kept.

NICOLL'S NEW REGISTERED PALETOT

HAS all those advantages which secured such general popularity to Messrs. Nicoll's original paletot, that is to say, as it avoids giving to the wearer an outé appearance, that professional men, and all others, can use it during morning and afternoon, in or out of doors. Secondly, there is an absence of unnecessary seams, thus securing a more graceful outline, and a great saving in wear; the latter advantage is considerably enhanced by the application of a peculiar and neatly stitched binding, the mode of effecting which is patented.

In London, the NEW REGISTERED PALETOT can alone be had of H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, and 120, Regent-street, and 22, Cornhill.

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H. J. and D. NICOLL recommend for an outside Coat the Havelock and Patent Cape Paletot; and for ordinary use the Cape Suit, such being well adapted for young gentlemen, on account of exhibiting considerable economy with general excellence. Gentlemen at Eton, Harrow, and Winchester, the Military Naval Schools, waited on by appointment. A great variety of materials adapted for the killed or Highland Costume, as worn by the Royal Princes, may be seen at

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NICOLL'S PATENT HIGHLAND CLOAK is a combination of utility, elegance, and comfort. No Lady having seen or used such in travelling, for morning wear, or for covering full dress, would willingly be without one. It somewhat resembles the old Spanish Roquelaire, and has an elastic Capucine Hood. It is not cumbersome or heavy, and measures from 12 to 16 yards round the outer edge, falling in graceful folds from the shoulders; but by a mechanical contrivance (such being a part of the Patent) the wearer can instantly form semi-sleeves, and thus leave the arms at liberty; at the same time the Cloak can be made as quickly to resume its original shape. The materials chiefly used for travelling are the soft neutral-coloured shawl-proof Woollen Cloths manufactured by this firm, but for the promenade other materials are provided. The price will be two guineas and a half for each Cloak; but with the Mécanique and a lined Hood a few shillings more are charged. This department is attended to by Cutters, who prepare Mantles of all kinds, with Velvet, Fur, or Cloth Jackets, either for in or out-door use. These at all times—like this Firm's Riding Habit—are in good taste and fit well. Female attendants may also be seen for Pantalons des Dames & Cheval, partially composed of Chamolins. As no measure is required, the Patent Highland Cloak can be sent at once to any part of the Country, and is thus well adapted for a gift.

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NICOLL'S PATENT CAPE PALETOT offers the following desideratum: the Cape descends from the front part of the shoulders, and forms a species of sleeve for each arm; both are at perfect freedom, having to pass through enlarged apertures in the side or body of the Paletot; these apertures, however, are duly covered by the Cape, which does not appear at the back part of the Paletot, but only in the front, and thus serves to form hanging sleeves, at the same time concealing the hands when placed in the pockets. The garment is altogether most convenient and graceful in appearance, and can in London alone be had of H. J. and D. NICOLL, 114, 116, 118, and 120, REGENT-STREET; and 22, CORNHILL.

CAUTION.

IN consequence of many impudent attempts to deceive the public, it is necessary to state that all Messrs. Nicoll's manufactures may be distinguished by a trade mark, consisting of a silk label attached to each specimen; to copy this is fraud, and may be thus detected: if the garment is dark-coloured, the label has a black ground, with the firm's name and address woven by the Jacquard loom in gold-coloured silk; if the garment is light-coloured, the label has a pale drab ground, and red letters. Each garment is marked in plain figures, at a fixed moderate price, and is of the best materials.

H. J. and D. Nicoll have recognised agents in various parts of the United Kingdom and Colonies, and any information forwarded through them will be thankfully acknowledged or paid for, so that the same may lead to the prosecution of any person copying their trade mark, or making an unfair use of their name; that is to say, in such a manner as may be calculated to mislead.

(Signed) H. J. and D. NICOLL,
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SYDENHAM TOP-COAT, 42s.

Easy, warm, waterproof, and elegant; the most perfect overcoat out.—SAMUEL BROTHERS, Merchant Tailors, 29, Ludgate-hill.

SYDENHAM SCHOLAR'S SUIT,

complete for 43s. 6d., comprising Trousers, 17s. 6d.; Waistcoat, 8s. 6d.; and coat, 17s. 6d.—SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill.

SYDENHAM TROUSERS, 17s. 6d.,

universally admitted to be the most elegant, comfortable and durable that can be made.—SAMUEL BROTHERS, 29, Ludgate-hill.

Patterns and Guide to Self-Measurement sent free.

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COTING for the YOUNG should correspond with age, and juvenility should be studied in dress for Children, Boys, and Youths. Parents and Guardians are informed that HYAM AND CO.'S Juvenile Suits and Separate Garments display adaptation in style and make, besides being durable, protective in material, and economical in price.

Belt Suits for Children at 10s. 6d., 15s. 6d., and 21s. School Suits for Boys at 15s. 6d., 21s., and 25s. Cape Suits and Osborne Suits, newly introduced, 25s., 32s., and 38s.

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HYAM AND CO.'S CONJOINT GARMENTS for Gentlemen. These consist of the Guinea Coat and Vests. The True-fitting Trousers and Vest at One Pound, and the Coat, Trousers, and Vest, or suit conjointly, at Thirty-eight Shillings. The New Paget Jacket, Sac Jacket, Dress and Sartout Coats, half Dress and full Dress Suits, &c., are cut from materials which vary as much in quality and texture as in pattern, so that Gentlemen will find no difficulty whatever in suiting their tastes to the utmost nicety.

GENTLEMEN'S FASHIONABLE OVER-COATS at HYAM AND CO.'S ESTABLISHMENTS, 86, OXFORD STREET. The New Inverness Cape, Sleeve Cape, Redingote, and Silk-Lined Over-coats at a Guinea, Guinea and a Half, and Two and Three Guineas, are designed and made in all the Winter Materials by cutters and workmen in constant practice on this description of dress, and superior style and quality are guaranteed. The order department in connexion with each establishment is under efficient management, and offers various inducements to gentlemen.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is directed to the following Establishments with which HYAM AND CO. alone are connected: London, 86, Oxford-street, West End; Birmingham, 24, New-street; Leeds, 42, Briggate.

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NEW TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT for the Nobility and Gentry. Naval, Military, and Clerical Tailor and Outfitter.

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WM. CLARK, from H. J. and D. NICOLL. The NON-REGISTERED PERMISTIO CLOTH PALETOT: the cloth used for this graceful garment being made from the Lama and Astracan wools, has a great advantage over the ordinary Lama cloth, being finer and stronger, with a permanent finish, retaining all the softness of the Lama; it is an article of clothing that illustrates both in material and design, perhaps better than any other garment of the season, the prevailing and growing taste amongst the well-dressing part of the public for chasteness and simplicity of style in dress. It is made only in dark, fine cloths, or in dark colours slightly mixed with a lighter shade; some of these plain colours are of distinctly novel tints, and the few sprinklings of mixtures added in others to these original shades, produce a variety quite sufficient to give ample choice without impairing in the slightest degree the character required for a quiet and gentlemanly garment.

Two of these latter are especially adapted for Frock Coats for clergymen; one of them is so dark as not to be easily detected from black, but affording more durability for wear than can be produced in plain black. The other is a little lighter, and while it is equally well adapted for Frock Coats is also peculiarly suitable for clerical and other quiet professional paletots.

WM. Clark has also a very strong fabric of fine Doeskin, in exactly the same colourings for trousers, and which is more durable than ordinary cloth, in plain colours or mixtures; the price is alike for the Paletots, Morning, or Frock Coats, 42s., and the Trousers, 21s.; for Lounging, Travelling, or Business Suits, made from the Patent finished Cots-wold Angoras, at 60s.; Waterproof Capes and Overcoats of every description and novelty in material, from 21s. Full dress Evening Suits, Black cloth Dress Coat, White Vest, and Black Trousers, complete for 75s.; every other article of Dress equally moderate in cost. Ladies' Riding Habits, in Waterproof Tweeds or Melton Cloths, for morning wear, 60s.; do. do. in superfine cloth, 57. to 77. 7s.

WM. CLARK, Military and Clerical Tailor and Robe Maker,
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132, REGENT-STREET, W.

WM. CLARK'S CLERICAL SUITS, at 84s. Made from the permanent finished cloth, that will neither spot nor shrink. Clerical Gowns and Surplices equally moderate in cost.

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VISIT THE CLOTHING ESTABLISHMENT OF LAWRENCE HYAM,

MERCHANT CLOTHIER AND MANUFACTURER, CITY—36, Gracechurch-street, WEST—189 and 190, Tottenham-court-road, } LONDON. In the READY-MADE DEPARTMENT, such an immense assortment of MEN'S, BOYS', and YOUTHS' CLOTHING, consisting of garments of the most novel, durable, and elegant designs, can rarely be seen. The Public will effect a great saving, the prices being based on the most economical principles, consistent with sterling quality—the only test of cheapness.

BOYS' AND JUVENILE DEPARTMENT.—Nothing can exceed the variety and novelty of design in this department. For the winter season, such an immense assortment is provided as to exceed all L. HYAM'S former efforts. The prices, as usual, are framed upon the most economic scale, and have only to be seen to ensure that patronage which their intrinsic merits so well deserve.

The ORDERED DEPARTMENT contains a magnificent assortment of every novelty for the season. The Artists, who are celebrated for refined taste and style, are guaranteed for a good fit. Economy is the leading feature.

CLERICAL and PROFESSIONAL MEN are specially invited. The Black and Mixture Cloths being of a FAST DYE. An ordered Suit of Black for 37. 8s. Also the celebrated SEVENTEEN SHILLING TROUSERS in great variety.

L. HYAM marks every Garment in PLAIN FIGURES, from which no deviation is made; and no garment need be kept, when seen at home, if not satisfactory, but can be exchanged within any reasonable time, if returned in good condition.

THE 35s. INVERNESS WRAPPERS,

THE 50s. TWEED SUITS, & THE 10s. TROUSERS, ARE all made to Order from the New SCOTCH CHEVIOT, all Wool Tweeds, of Winter substances, thoroughly shrunk, by B. BENJAMIN, Merchant and Family Tailor, 71, Regent-street, W. Tatters and Designs, with directions for Measurement, sent free. The TWO GUINEA DRESS or FROCK COAT, the GUINEA DRESS TROUSERS, and the HALF GUINEA WAISTCOATS. N.B.—A perfect fit guaranteed.

DEAFNESS AND NOISES IN THE HEAD.

TURKISH TREATMENT.—A SURGEON from the Crimea, who was cured of fourteen years' deafness and most distressing noises in the head, is anxious to communicate the means of cure to others so afflicted. Full instructions to effect a cure sent to any part of the world upon receipt of a stamped directed envelope.—Surgeon Colston, M.R.C.S. and M.R.S.L., No. 7, Leicester-place, Leicester-square, London, W.C. Consulting hours eleven till four daily.

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